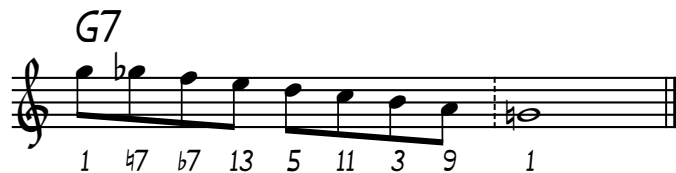


The Bebop Scale

by Magnus Bakken

The bebop scale makes chord tones land on downbeats. In the example you see that the 1, 3, 5 and b7 all land on the downbeats.



First step is to practice the bebop scale in all 12 keys. Always start at a tempo so slow that you can play the notes evenly.

The next step is to apply the scale to jazz standards. This is the first section of "All The Things You Are" with the bebop scale written out on every single dominant chord. When there's a ii-V that only lasts for one bar, you can play the bebop scale that belongs to the dominant chord in that entire bar.



Now practice starting the bebop scale on all the different chord tones.

First you should practice this in all 12 keys, starting from all the various chord tones.

Then it can be applied to jazz standards. The exercise below is the same as on page 1, except we're starting the bebop scale from the third this time. Do this with the fifth and seventh as well.



For the final exercise, we are going to begin the bebop scale on the upbeats. For this to work as intended, placing the chord tones on the downbeat, we have to start on a tension on the upbeat.



This exercise can be done starting on different upbeats and tensions. The possibilities for generating your own exercises with this concept, are endless.