

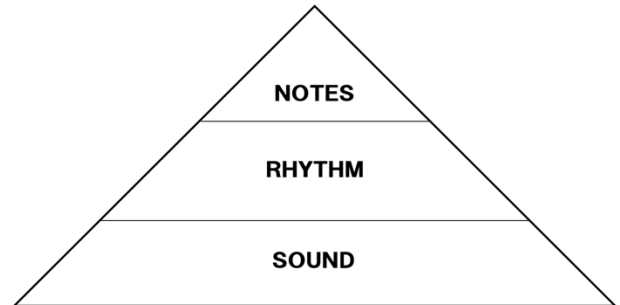
IMPROVISATION WARM-UP EXERCISE

NBA JAZZ READING BAND THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, 2022

By Ryan Kazda

Pyramid of Improvisation:

Most musicians tend to think that note choices are the most important part of an improvised solo. Even though they do hold significant value, they do not always have to be the number one priority. Rather than spending your energy questioning your note choice, focus on **Rhythm & Sound**. Simply think about playing in time with a quality sound. **Confidence!**



Improvisation Exercise:

This exercise is designed to help students to approach improvisation by prioritizing sound and rhythm first and foremost, which is why note choices have been provided below. Remember that improvisation is as simple or complex as you want it to be. This exercise highlights the strategy of trying to create a coherent and interesting solo, regardless of how many notes you decide to play. Let your ear guide you, trust yourself!

- 1.) Solo with ONE note (Bb)
(1)
- 2.) Solo with THREE notes (Bb, C, Db)
(1, 2, b3)
- 3.) Solo with FIVE notes (Bb, C, Db, D, Eb)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4)
- 4.) Solo with SEVEN notes (Bb, C, Db, D, Eb, F, G)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4, 5, 6)
- 5.) Solo with NINE notes (Bb, C, Db, D, Eb, F, G, Ab, A)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4, 5, 6, b7, 7)

Bb Blues Form:



"One thing I like about jazz is that it emphasized doing things differently from what other people were doing"
(Herbie Hancock)

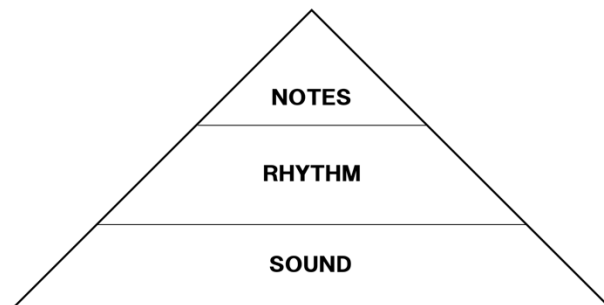
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- 1.) Solo with ONE note (C)
(1)
- 2.) Solo with THREE notes (C, D, Eb)
(1, 2, b3)
- 3.) Solo with FIVE notes (C, D, Eb, E, F)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4)
- 4.) Solo with SEVEN notes (C, D, Eb, E, F, G, A)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4, 5, 6)
- 5.) Solo with NINE notes (C, D, Eb, E, F, G, A, Bb, B)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4, 5, 6, b7, 7)

Bb Blues Form:



"Improvisation is not a matter of just making any old thing up. Jazz, like any language, has its own grammar and vocabulary. There is no right or wrong, just some choices that are better than others" (Wynton Marsalis)

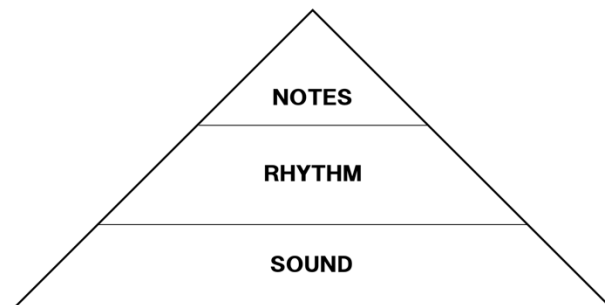
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- 1.) Solo with ONE note (G)
(1)
- 2.) Solo with THREE notes (G, A, Bb)
(1, 2, b3)
- 3.) Solo with FIVE notes (G, A, Bb, B, C)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4)
- 4.) Solo with SEVEN notes (G, A, Bb, B, C, D, E)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4, 5, 6)
- 5.) Solo with NINE notes (G, A, Bb, B, C, D, E, F, F#)
(1, 2, b3, 3, 4, 5, 6, b7, 7)

Bb Blues Form:



"I cannot play a lie. I have to believe in what I play or it will not come out"
(Stan Getz)