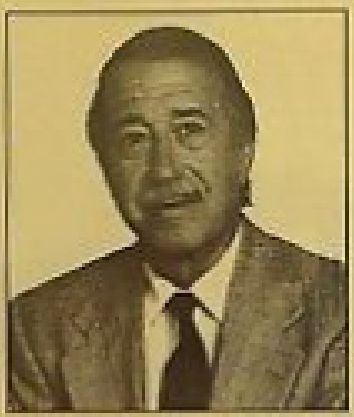
JAZZ THEORY

and

IMPROVISATION STUDIES

for

ACCORDION



By

Ralph Stricker

Editing and Special Arrangements By

Frank Marocco

$20.00

Jazz Theory

and

Improvisation Studies

For Accordion

by Ralph Stricker

Dedicated to Bernard Peiffer & Harry Leahy
Written by Ralph Stricker
Edited by Frank Marocco
Special Arrangements by Frank Marocco and Eddie Monteiro
Layout, Text Editing and Music Engraving by Ron Ostromecki

The copyright for this book was assigned in 2011 to Henry Doktorski: a gift from the late Ralph Stricker and his daughter Kathy to Henry after Ralph's passing. Ralph and Henry knew each other, on an off, for nearly fifty years. In 1963 Henry, at the age of seven, began his lifelong accordion career by taking lessons at Hi-Way Music, Route 18 in East Brunswick, New Jersey, where Ralph was employed as an Instructor of Accordion.

Published by Henry Doktorski. <henrydoktorski@gmail.com>

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Preface –Second Edition

It is very meaningful to give credit to people who have affected my life musically. The first is Dr. Earl W. Brown who took me as a bad accordion student and showed me how to study and learn the instrument. Doc Brown, as he was called, was Bill Evans' first piano teacher, so I don't have to say any more. The second person was Bernard Peiffer, the legendary French pianist. At the age of 17 Bernard became the pianist for Django Reinhardt. If you know the history of Django, then you can appreciate Bernard's genius. The last, but not the least person who contributed so much to the ideas in this book, was Harry Leahy. Harry was with the Phil Woods group when they won the Grammy for best jazz recording ("Live at the Showboat"). He also was with the Michel LeGrande orchestra. In my opinion Harry was one of the greatest all-around guitarists ever.

Frank Marocco was responsible for encouraging me to put my ideas and concepts on manuscript. When he first suggested that I write this book, I was hesitant. I didn't think that I had the energy to complete such a monumental undertaking. After all, nothing like this has ever been written specifically for the jazz accordionist (or other accordionists).

My special thanks to Eddie Monteiro, one of the great accordionists. He also encouraged me to write this book. He and Frank are special to me and have become dear friends.

I would also like to show my appreciation and gratitude to Ron Ostromecki. Ron did the book layout, text editing and music engraving. During this process he has become a dear friend. Without his help, patience and encouragement, there would not be a second edition of this book. The amount of hours he put into this project would be impossible to calculate in dollars and cents.

This book is not a lesson-by-lesson tutorial. It covers the full spectrum of jazz and how it can be played on the accordion. Except for the arrangements of Frank Marocco and Eddie Monteiro the songs used in the book are presented as "ideas". They are only examples of what can be used when learning a song or lead sheet. The reader and/or teacher should know how to use the many studies and adapt them to individual musical tastes and needs. I believe that this book contains more material that the accordionist should know, than any other similar book previously published

Frank Marocco

I believe that this is the finest book ever written for the serious accordionist. Diligent practice of the many scales and exercises will give you almost everything you will ever need to develop your musical skills to a professional level.

The many permutations of bass and chord fingerings that are now available to the accordionist, due to this book, open up a new vista in playing.

Ralph Stricker is a musician whom I admire and respect in the highest esteem. His knowledge and dedication to good music and the many years of both playing and teaching are evident.

This is a much needed book for the accordion and I am honored that Ralph asked me to contribute to this project.

Eddie Monteiro

Everyone should have a person like Ralph Stricker in their lives. I've been unfortunate in the fact that I've not known him longer—for if I had, I would have probably saved much time in my musical studies.

The book you have in your hands IS Ralph Stricker. It reflects the way Ralph thinks (that could be quite a scary endeavor at times, but it's always quite interesting and often times really humorous!). He is very analytical in EVERYTHING he does and, as you use this book, you will come to understand exactly what I mean. His outlook on things musical is very well thought out and logical, if one takes the time to think about his approach. Trust him...USE the book!

When I first met Ralph he sat and watched me play and immediately asked why my left hand was jumping all over the bass keyboard. He asked, "Why did you jump from here to there, when you could have achieved the same chord by doing this?" He has an uncanny way of looking at a musical situation and IMMEDIATELY 'scoping out' what is going on; in addition he has great 'musical ears'. He has been a treasured friend for over fifteen years; he is a fellow musician and has been my 'mentor' for things both musical as well as non-musical during those years. Ralph was my son's piano teacher. There is nothing more that I can say beyond that, except for the fact that I only regret not having his friendship for a longer period of time. I am honored that he asked for my contribution to this book.

---- RECOMMENDED ARTISTS AND THEIR RECORDINGS----

Frank Marocco	Appassionato Ballad for Anne Brazilian Waltz	Frank Marocco@Aol.com Discovery DSCD-950 Discovery DSCD-949
Eddie Monteiro	The Real Thing A Perfect Match Nova Bossa Nova: Jazz Influence	Transit Mix Productions (212) 315-5852 Denon 81757 9407 2 www.arkadiarecords.com 212-674-5550
Art Van Damme	Art Van Damme and Friends	Neofonic Music 3 Cross Street Westfield, MA 01085
Tommy Gumina	Joe Pass & Tommy Gumina	Polytone Records C865 Vineland Ave. North Hollywood, CA 91605
Lou Toby	"Bell Duovox" Sound	

The above artists are accordionists whom I admire and who have had a tremendous influence on me musically. They each have their own unique style and the serious accordionist will learn from each of them. There are certainly more fine accordionists, and I do not intend to slight any of them. I feel that the above group represents some of the "GIANTS OF THE INSTRUMENT".

Study Outline

I would like to state emphatically that there is no one way of recommending to the reader how to absorb the contents of this book. There are those who will attempt to learn this material on their own initiative, while others will have the guidance of a teacher. In either case there should be an understanding of the musical knowledge and skill level of the player.

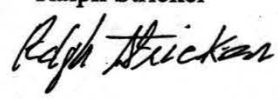
The intermediate student should initially learn the basic left-hand exercises and become familiar with studies that he or she has not yet become proficient. Certainly the reader who does not have an extensive knowledge of chords would study that segment of the book before trying to learn *Modes*. The exercises such as *Bass & Treble Independence* on page 29 and *Preliminary Exercises* on pages 122-127 should be learned in conjunction with knowledge of the major scales.

Certainly some readers will already have an extensive knowledge of chords and their alterations and some will have already developed their technique to a high state of proficiency. For these readers I recommend the *Exercises*, as these may prove to be most helpful. I also stress that readers learn to play the studies in this book in 12 different keys.

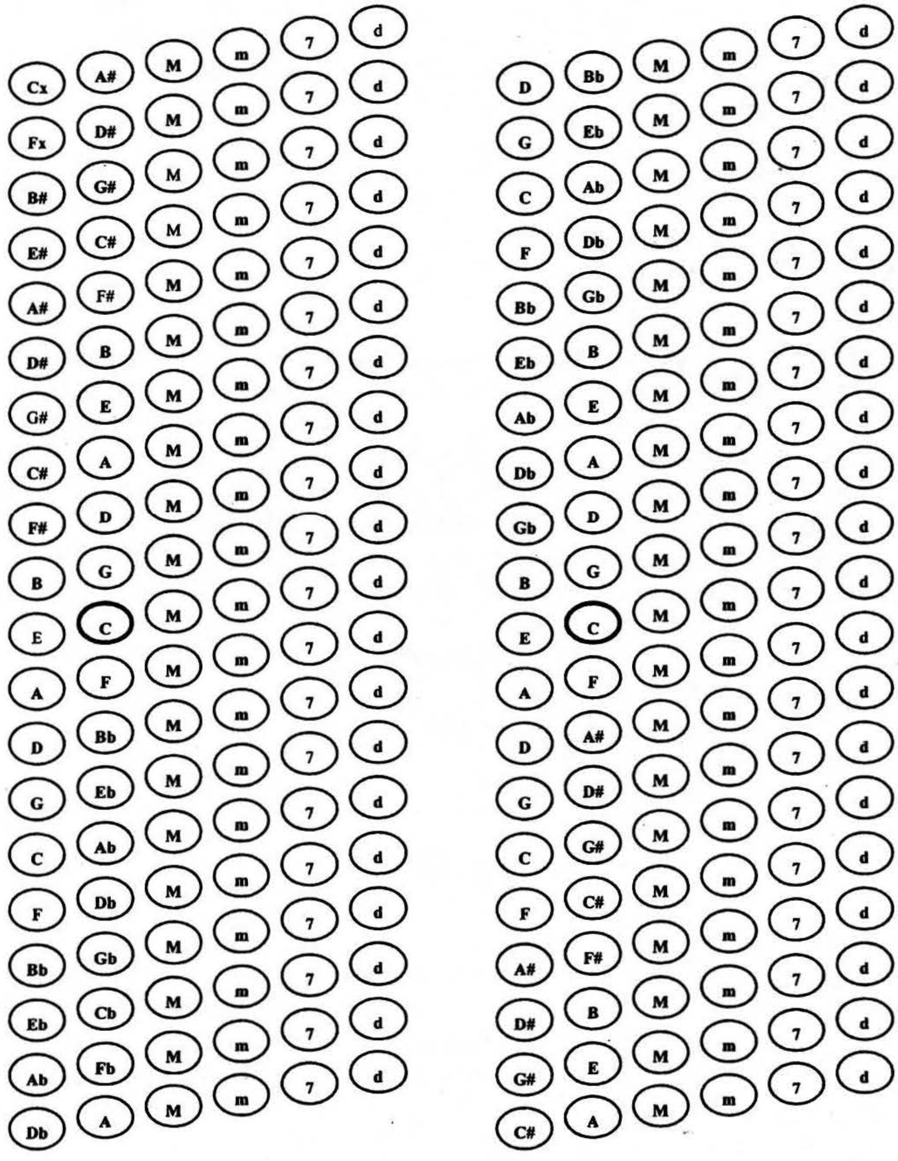
In the various studies in the book, the songs that I have used should only be considered as examples. The student should endeavor to use his or her own ideas along with those of a teacher who is familiar with the contents of this book.

I always remember what a dear friend and great musician once said, "Music is next to God. I wouldn't lower God, so why music?" I wish all of you the best in the study of music and I thank you for using this book as a source of your knowledge.

Ralph Stricker



Bass Chart



x - denotes double sharp

I have written two bass charts; the notes are the same in each. The left chart is the original chart for the accordion; the right chart is the same except that the sharps above the central C bass are written as flats, and the flats below the central C bass are written as sharps.

I believe it is important for the player to be able to play anywhere on the bass keyboard and not change position because of a sharp or flat progression. It is ludicrous to play below the central C bass just because it is now a FLAT CHORD OR BASS. When playing in a position do not be conditioned to move unless the sequence requires it.

I urge the reader to become familiar visually and mentally with the left hand bass chart. You will see from the bass exercises that I make you play from any position.

Left Hand

The left hand (Bass) on the accordion has been an enigma for many years, particularly in the playing of jazz. This is due to several reasons:

1. Bad teachers
2. Pre-conceived ideas
3. Lack of a comprehensive method
4. Numerous permutations

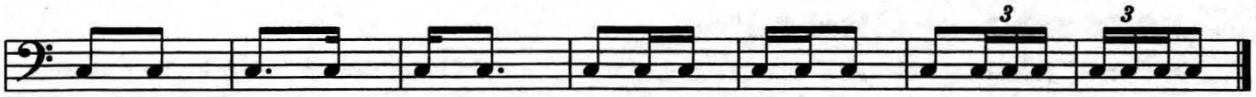
I would like to address the first point, 'Bad Teachers'. I can remember as a student (many years ago) having teachers that did not know very much about the instrument. They treated it as an 'individual instrument' rather as an instrument evolving from the piano. Many of these teachers believed that the accordion had to be taught and played as they knew it to be.....according to their ethnic background. Polkas and Marches were thought to be the ultimate as far as music was concerned. In the 30's and 40's when jazz was starting to be in vogue, not much had been written for the accordion. Another problem is that the endless combinations and permutations that are playable on the left hand intimidated many players.

It is not my intent to denigrate the forefathers of the accordion. Without them we would not have such a remarkable instrument.

Bass Exercises

I believe that the left hand bass study has been the most neglected part of the accordion. I have developed a series of exercises that will help the serious student develop the technique necessary to play jazz. I am a firm believer of technical studies, but too many times we practice exercises that do not relate to the goal for which we are striving. The following left hand studies will aid in becoming as familiar as possible with the different ways that the bass can be used in jazz.

You will notice that I do not always start a C scale from the fundamental C bass. You should be able to play a scale from any position or note. The following exercises should be played in different rhythm patterns.



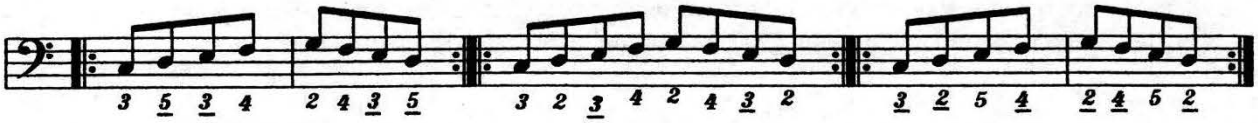
I would advise the student to become familiar with the previous pages before starting the physical study of the left hand. On the following pages are some preliminary exercises that will help develop the left hand before playing the scales.

I am not assuming what the student knows or does not know. If you have previously learned these exercises then you may skip to the page that you feel is pertinent. I caution you not to assume that the exercises that I have outlined are any that you have previously learned.

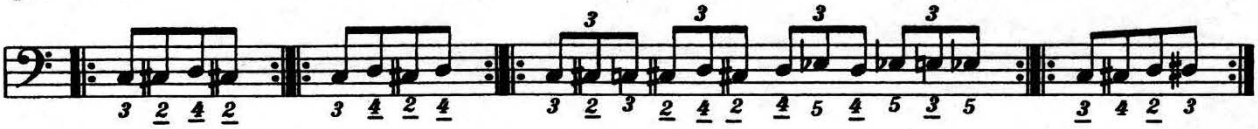
I also recommend that you apply the different rhythm patterns that are on page 2. We do not always play the same downbeat on the same note of the scale. These patterns will help in being able to play jazz lines on the left hand.

Bass Exercises

[Major Scale Exercises ----------] [Stretching Exercises----------]



[Chromatic Scale Exercises----------]



[Blues Scale Exercises----------

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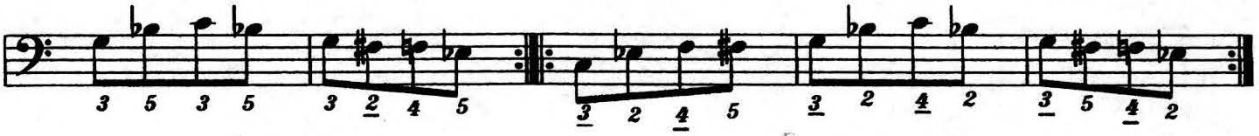
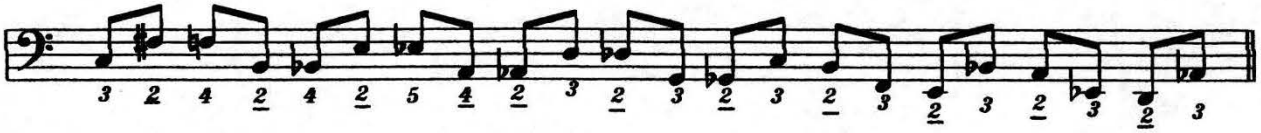


[Flat five (b5) Sharp nine (#9) Exercise----------]



All the above exercises should be practiced by starting on different notes.

Scales (Left Hand)

The next page encompasses the following scales:

Major
Seventh
Minor (natural)
Melodic Minor (ascending)
Lydian b7

The student will notice that I have notated different fingerings for the above scales. The reason for this is the manner in which the bass side of the accordion is laid out. A major problem is that most students never learn any alternate fingering or positions for the bass. This is a disadvantage in the playing of jazz, as the player is always 'jumping' all around the bass keyboard when there is no need to do so.

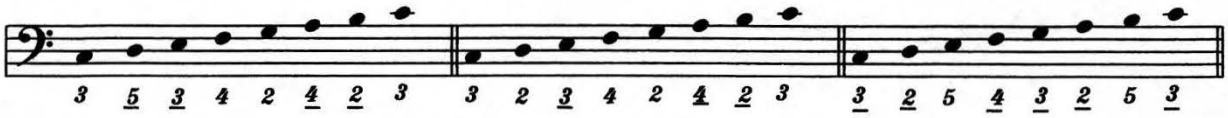
The first scale that is written is the C scale. The accordionist has an advantage in that, once the C scale is learned, all the other scales can be readily played. I have written two different fingerings for this scale. The first starts at the C fundamental bass; the second scale is written starting from the C counter bass of A flat. This will help in learning the many different combinations that can be used in the playing of jazz.

These scales should all be played in double octaves ascending and descending. You should start on different basses as the I of the scale; for example, do not always start on C. You will be surprised at the different perspective that you get by doing this.

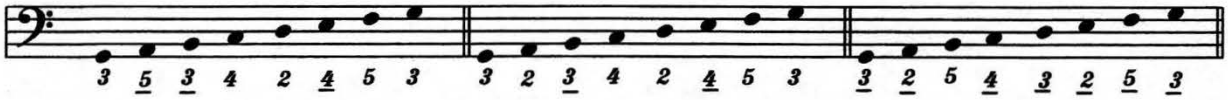
I also recommend that you play in different rhythms so that the down beat does not always fall on the same note. Also try to say the notes of the scale as you play.

Scales

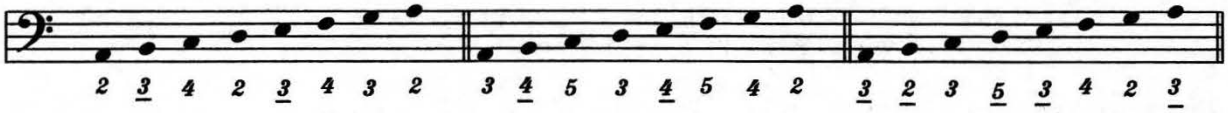
Major



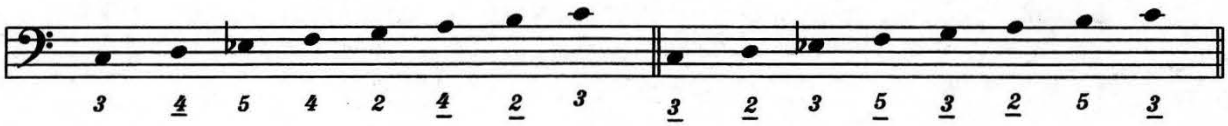
Seventh



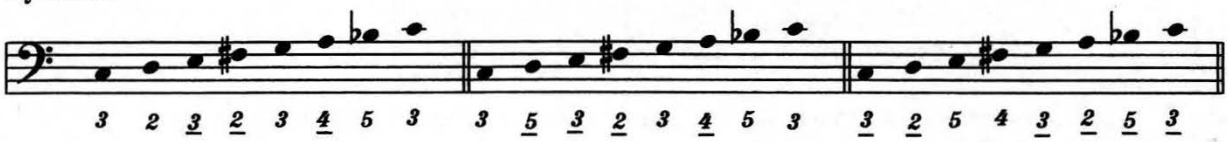
Minor (natural)



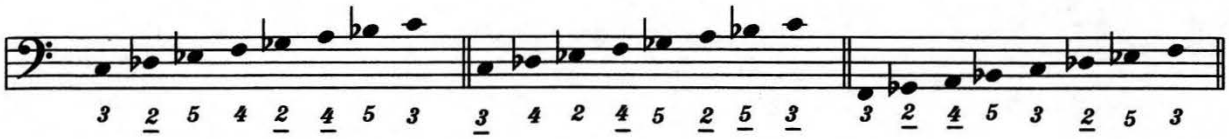
Melodic Minor



Lydian b7



I have added the following scale because I believe it to be an excellent scale to be used against a minor seventh b5 chord. It is the Bb Harmonic Minor Scale starting on C (second step of scale). The last measure is the same scale starting on the fifth step of the Harmonic Minor Scale; it can be used for 7b9 chords (e.g. F^{7b9})



1. Play in different rhythms
2. Start on different notes of the scale
3. Say the notes as you play each scale
4. Play scales ascending and descending

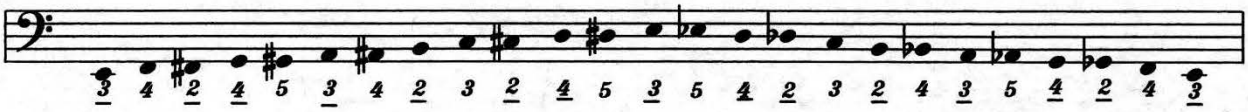
Chromatic And Diminished Scales

I have included the chromatic and diminished scales on the same page, as I believe technically they complement one another.

I remember studying the accordion as a child and being intimidated by the chromatic scale. I can still visualize learning "Pietro's Return" and struggling with the left hand, and sliding fingers on the chromatic scale in triplets. There is a more efficient way to practice and play this, so as not to slide fingers. The exercises on the preceding pages should have prepared you for this.

You will notice that any chromatic scale can be played from one position so that you do not have to move all over the bass keyboard.

For example:



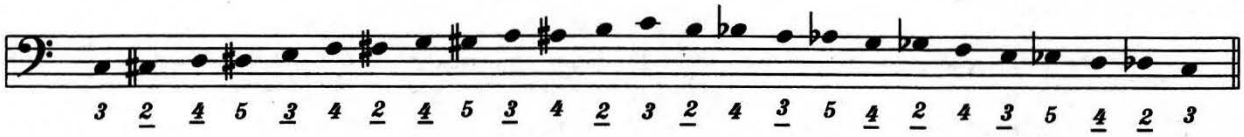
The diminished scales are an integral part of left-hand jazz accordion. They are among the most versatile of all the scales because of their multi-substitution possibilities (which will be explained in greater detail).

There are actually only three different diminished scales; they repeat themselves every one and one/half steps. The [C, Eb, F# (Gb), A] diminished scales can be played from one position. Naturally this includes the [Db, E, G, Bb] and the [D, F, Ab, B].

I have also included fingering for starting the diminished scale on the counter basses.

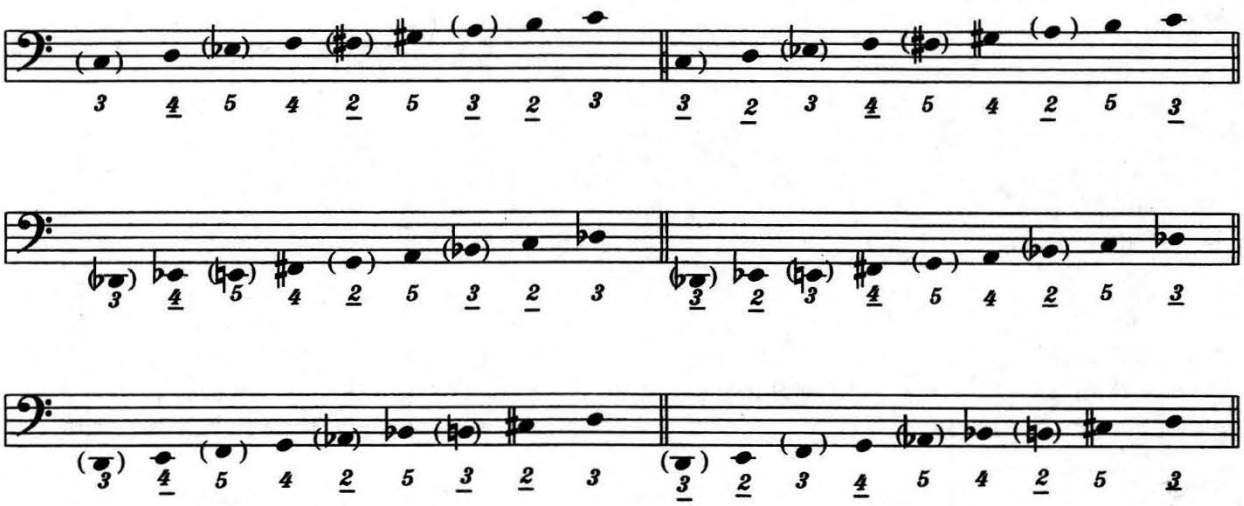
1. Play in different rhythms
2. Start on different notes of the scale
3. Say the notes as you play each scale
4. Practice scales ascending and descending.

Chromatic Scale



Start the scale on different notes.

Diminished Scales



The notes in parentheses form the diminished seventh chord ($C^{\circ 7}$). The notes not in parentheses also form a diminished seventh chord ($D^{\circ 7}$). The diminished scale is a combination of two diminished chords.

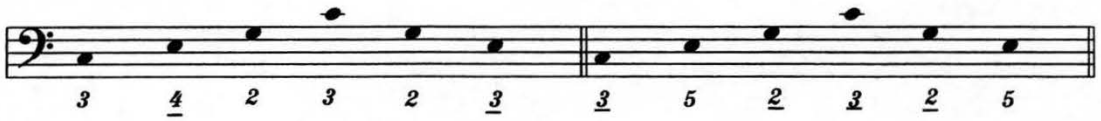
Practice in double octaves----ascending and descending

Arpeggios

The study and practice of arpeggios is of immeasureable value, not only in developing technique, but also in the learning of chords. I have used only broken chords in my arpeggio study. This is not to say that the student should not practice other types of arpeggios; I just feel that these serve a more useful purpose.

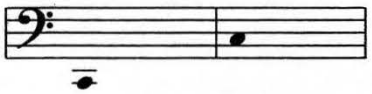
I have divided the study into two parts so that the student gains proficiency by starting in both the fundamental row and the counter-bass row.

C Major **Starting on the counter bass of A flat**



I know that practicing scales and exercises in fingering different than previously learned is initially quite difficult for some students, particularly those who have developed good technique. I also know that the one who devotes the time to become proficient using these new fingerings will feel it was worth the extra time.

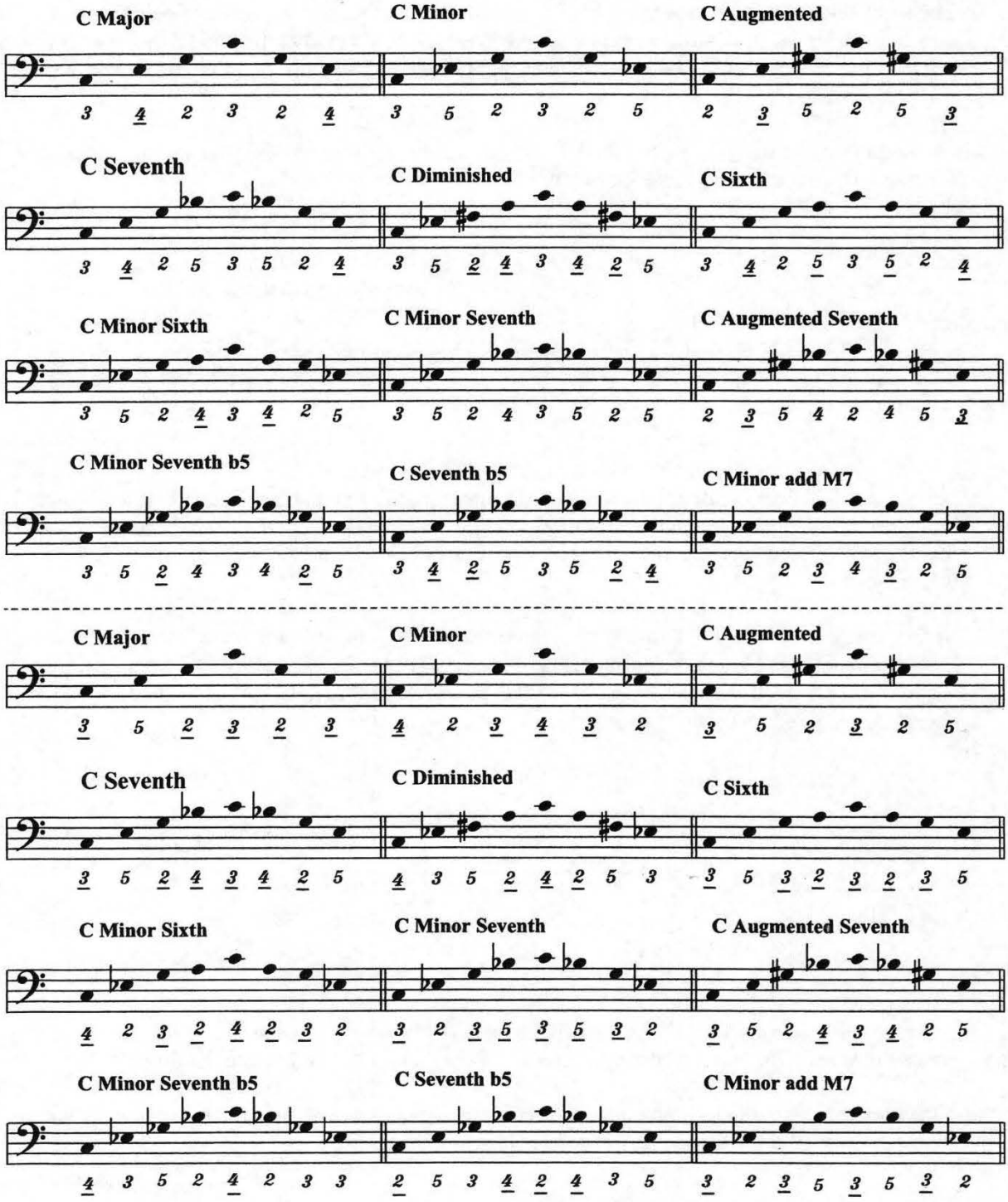
Before going on, I would like to clarify a particular point. You will notice that I am writing the C bass in a certain octave. I know the correct octave is an octave below, according to the tuning of the accordion. The accordion has only one octave, however, so for readability and continuity, I have chosen this way of notation.



Once you have developed playing the arpeggios in one octave, you should then play them in double octaves. The same fingering is used; it is only a matter of repeating the fingering.

When you practice it is recommended that you say the notes as you play them. This gives you a mental picture of the left hand and expedites learning the chords.

Arpeggios
(cont.)

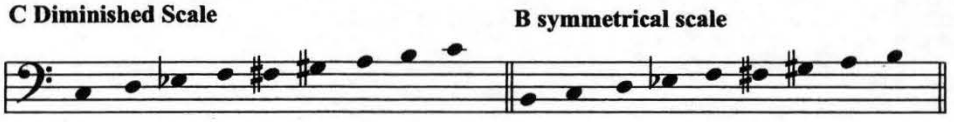


Diminished and Symmetrical Scales

I have previously covered diminished scales and how they repeat themselves every one and one/half steps. We also learned how to play them in other positions. These diminished scales are actually diminished seventh scales. (C_{o}^{7})

I like to refer to them as diminished scales because they repeat themselves, as we have learned. In subsequent sections I go into greater detail explaining these useful scales. The student has enough work practicing the new fingering that I have outlined previously without being confused at this stage. Your knowledge will "catch up" with your technique.

I am now introducing the Symmetrical scale. It takes very little effort to understand it and practice simultaneously as you work on the diminished scales. Once you understand the diminished scale, you will have no problem playing and understanding the symmetrical scale.



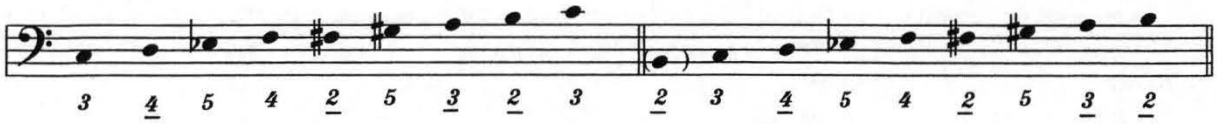
Notice that the symmetrical scale contains the same notes as the diminished scale, except that you are starting a half step before the first note of the diminished scale. In other words, for any symmetrical scale, just start a half step before any note in the diminished scale.

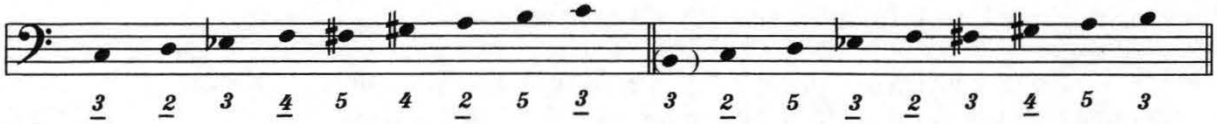
The diminished and symmetrical scales are two of the most versatile scales that can be used in the playing of jazz accordion.

I suggest that you play these scales in double octaves ascending and descending. You should sustain chords on the right hand if possible. You will learn later what chords fit the symmetrical scale. Once you know how to play one diminished scale you can play all of them. this is the advantage with the accordion (although you should try to visualize the notes as you play them and not become mechanical).

Apply Different Rhythms

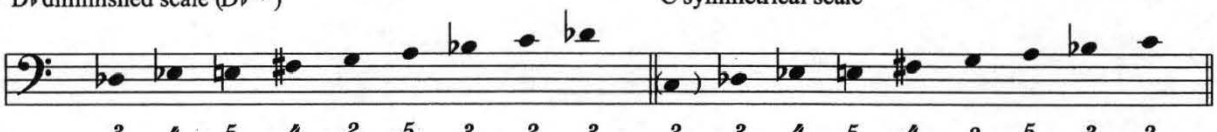
C diminished scale ($C^{\circ 7}$)

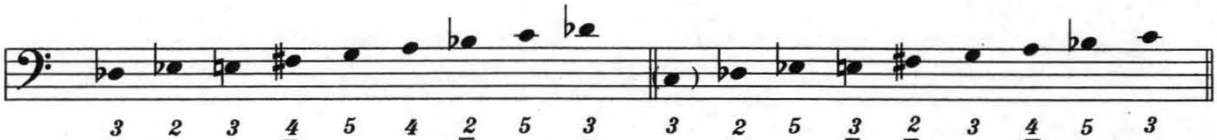




B symmetrical scale

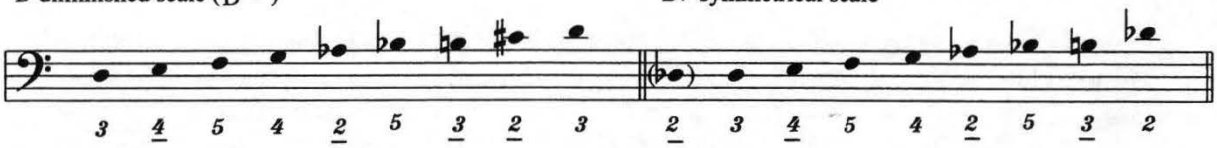
D♭ diminished scale ($D\flat^{\circ 7}$)

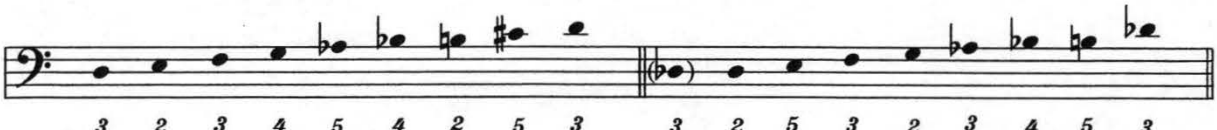




C symmetrical scale

D diminished scale ($D^{\circ 7}$)

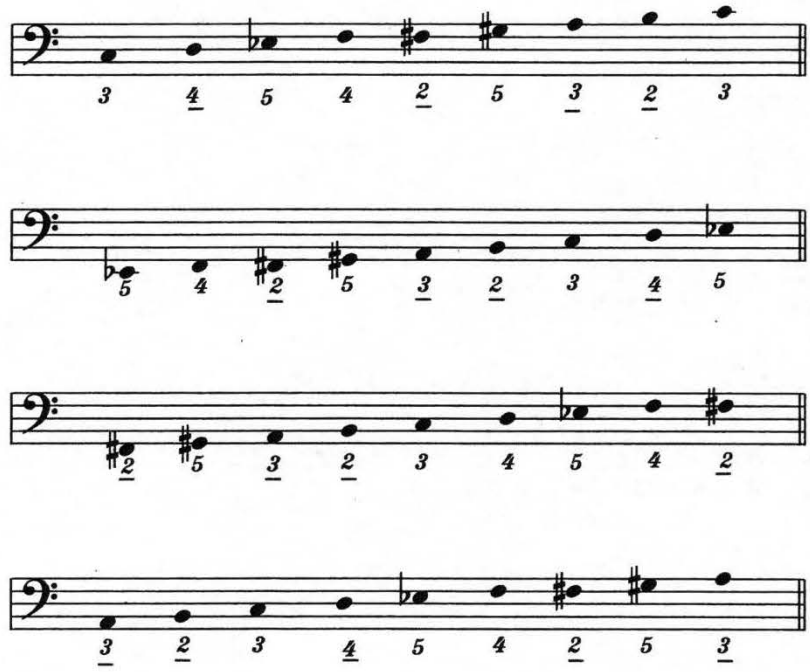




D♭ symmetrical scale

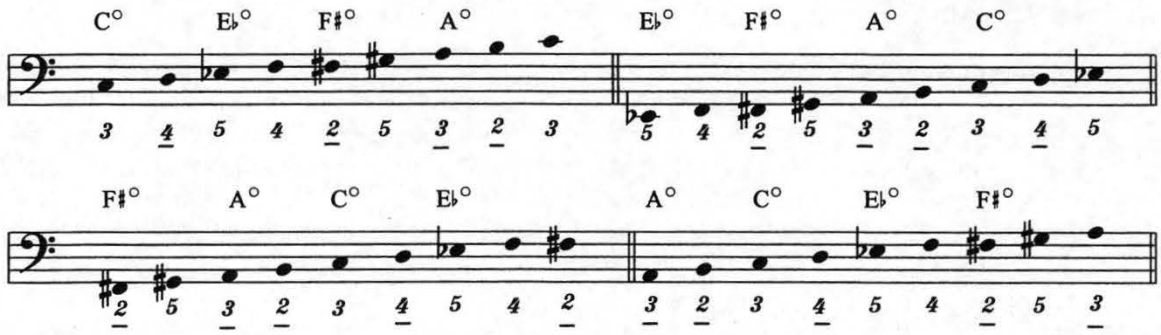
Variation of Fingering on Diminished Scales

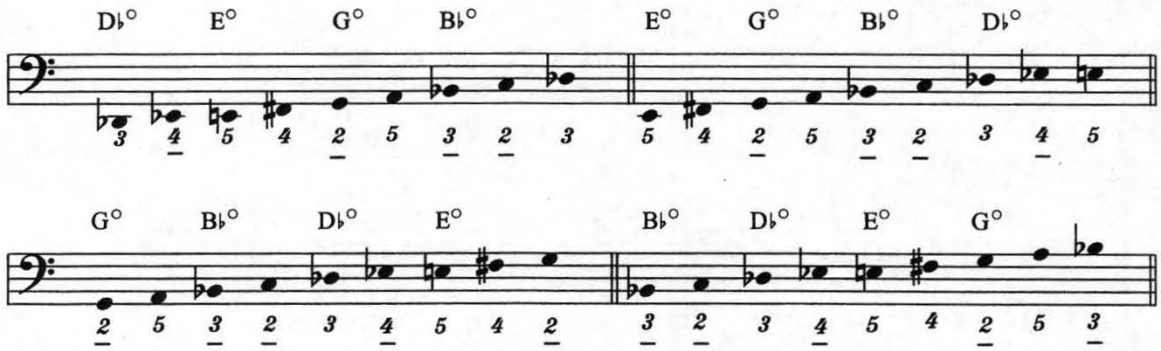
I have previously stated that if you can play one diminished scale, you can play any of them from one position. Let us scrutinize the $C^{\circ 7}$ scale and the possibilities. The notes that form the $C^{\circ 7}$ chord are C E♭ F♯ A ; by using any of these notes as the starting note we can play the C° $E\flat^{\circ}$ $F\sharp^{\circ}$ A° all from one position.

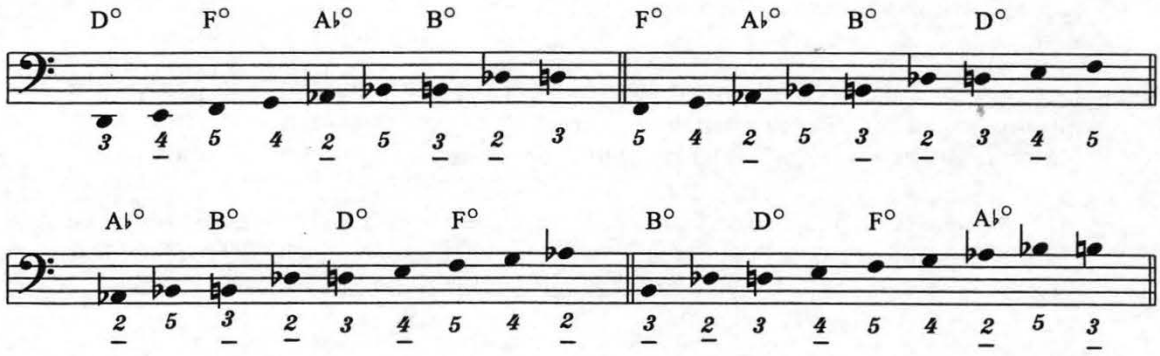


This proves that you can play all scales from one position and avoid having to move to other positions on the left hand. I believe it opens a whole new dimension to playing jazz accordion. The student is not locked into one way of playing the bass as before.

The above examples and those that follow allow the player to execute a bass progression from any position that he or she is at. For example, if you are playing a Db chord series and the next series of bass figures are through a series of C scale patterns, you can execute them from C counter bass of Ab.


C° E♭° F♯° A° E♭° F♯° A° C°
3 4 5 4 2 5 3 2 3 5 4 2 5 3 2 3 4 5
F♯° A° C° E♭° A° C° E♭° F♯°
2 5 3 2 3 4 5 4 2 3 2 3 4 5 4 2 5 3


D♭° E° G° B♭° E° G° B♭° D♭°
3 4 5 4 2 5 3 2 3 5 4 2 5 3 2 3 4 5
G° B♭° D♭° E° B♭° D♭° E° G°
2 5 3 2 3 4 5 4 2 3 2 3 4 5 4 2 5 3

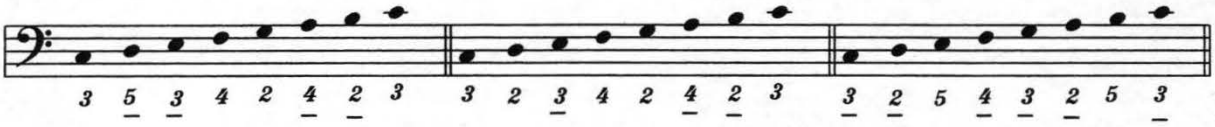

D° F° A♭° B° F° A♭° B° D°
3 4 5 4 2 5 3 2 3 5 4 2 5 3 2 3 4 5
A♭° B° D° F° B° D° F° A♭°
2 5 3 2 3 4 5 4 2 3 2 3 4 5 4 2 5 3

Major Scales

The following page will be the culmination of what I have attempted to convey to you in the previous exercises. I am not the innovator of this way of playing the left hand. I can remember a man from the 1950's who was teaching the accordion. He was regarded by many as the master teacher; his name was Sobolsky. He was an advocate of the Free Bass method. I remember him well because he threw me out of his studio and refused me lessons because I cancelled a lesson on Christmas Eve. Nevertheless he was a genius at developing unorthodox methods for the technical study of the accordion.

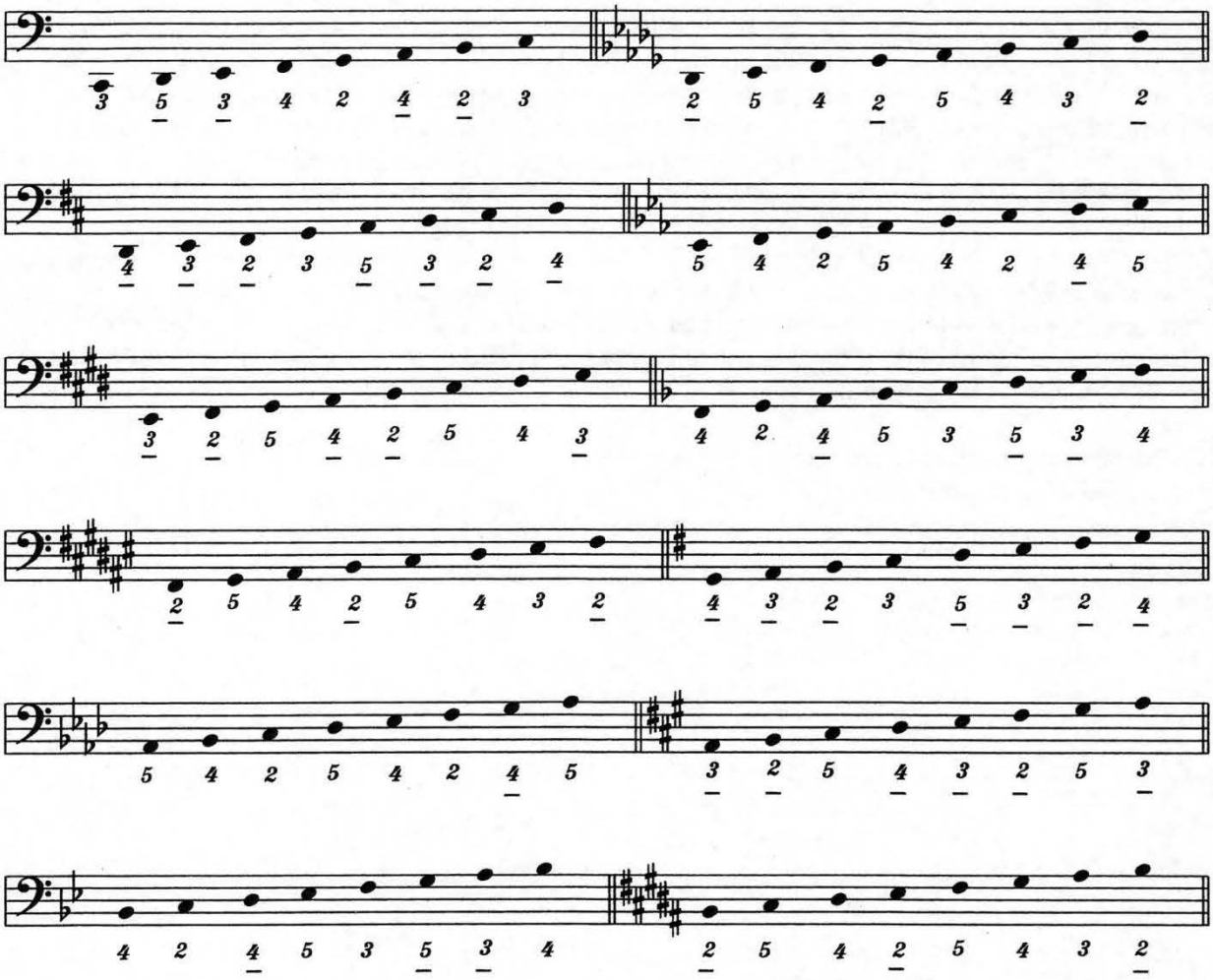
Unfortunately I lost all of his studies and had to work many hours to find consciously and sub-consciously what he had done. In this book I have attempted to implement some of his ideas on bass technical studies. Most of the work is my own except for the next page where you will learn how to play all 12 Major scales from one position.

The format of my work is derived from Sobolsky's concept. I am also adding the playing of all scales from any position of the left hand.



You now have three different ways to play the Major scale. The one you would use depends on the location of the left hand. I strongly urge the student to become familiar with each of the above. Practice starting the scale on different roots, such as D E Bb Gb for example. I also suggest saying the notes of the scale as you play them.

12 Major scales from one position



It should now be apparent that a familiarity with the bass chart and a command of the previous bass exercises will enable you to play from any position on the left hand.

1. Start on the C Major scale and play the other scales in a chromatic sequence. C Db D Eb etc.

2. Start on the C Major scale and play C, G, D, A, E, B, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb.

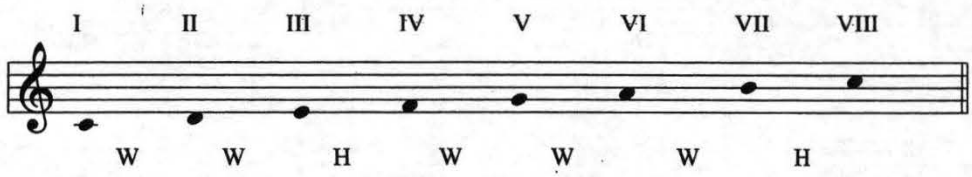
It doesn't matter which scale you start with--you are able to go to any of the others without moving!

Major Scales

The foundation of music is the knowledge of the Major scales. They encompass everything that we need to be successful----technique, theory, chord substitution and improvisation. Everything musically starts here and builds from this point of reference. I cannot emphasize too strongly how important it is to have a complete understanding of the 12 Major scales.

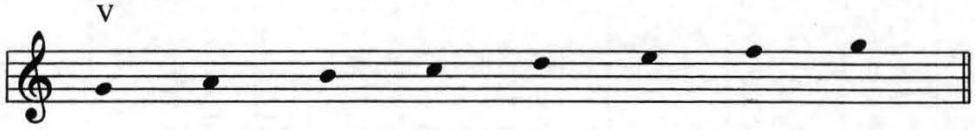
The formation of a Major scale is based on a simple rule; by knowing this one rule, you are able to formulate each scale.

There is a whole step between each step of the scale, except between the 3rd and 4th steps and the 7th and 8th steps, which are half steps.



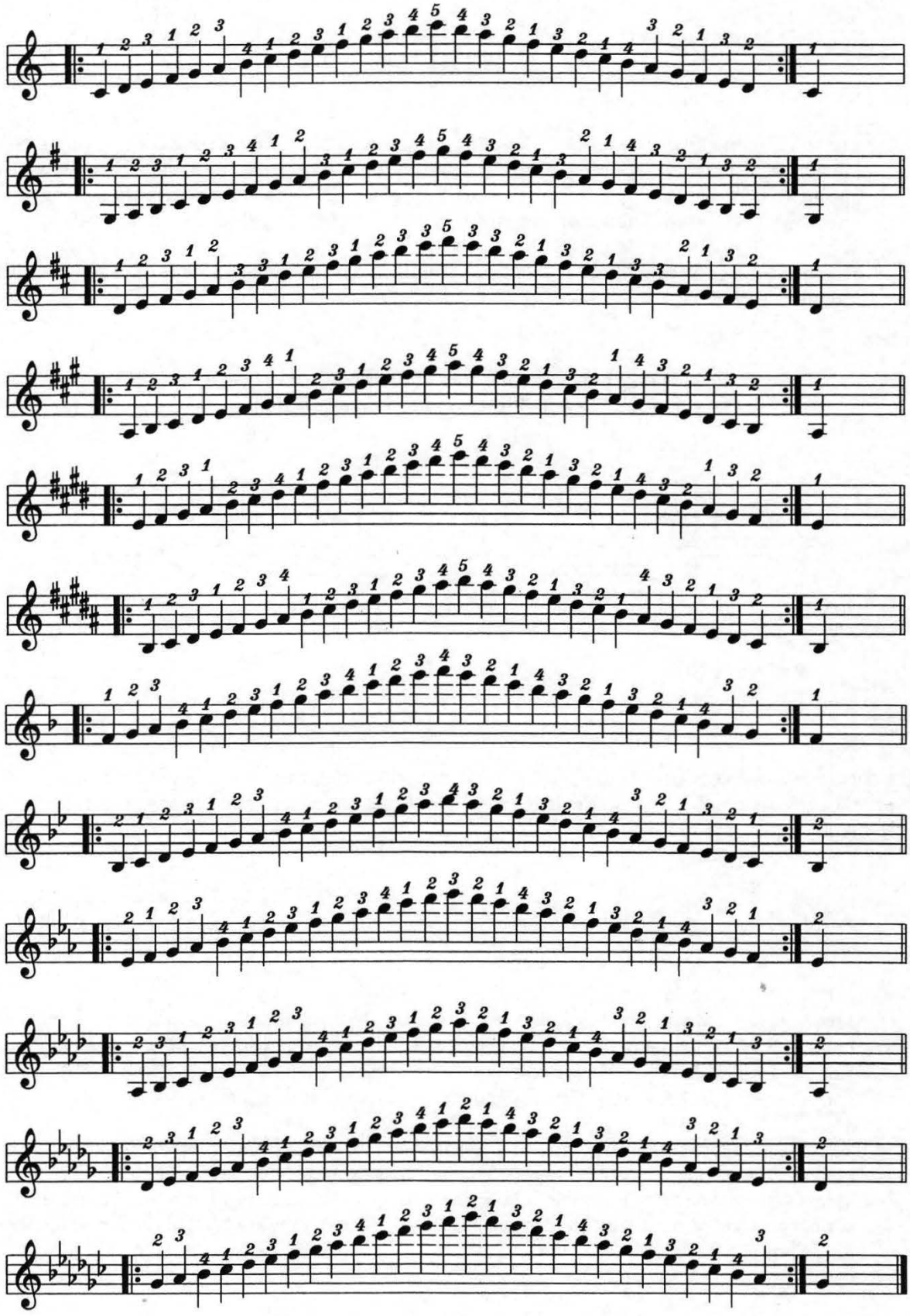
W = Whole Step
H = Half Step

You must not only be able to play the 12 Major scales, you should also know each step of the scale (intervals). You must also be able to play the scales starting from any note in the scale.



I recommend that you sing the scale to help develop your ear, which is necessary for improvisation in jazz. Sing each note of the scale as you play it. When you can do that, play the first note and sing the scale without playing the rest of the notes. Check yourself and see if you ended on the correct note. I will cover Ear Training more extensively in subsequent sections.

Try to learn a few scales at a time and be proficient with each of them before going on to the other scales. Practice them in single octaves first and, when you feel that you are comfortable with them, start playing them in double octaves, ascending and descending. Once you have mastered a scale, apply the different rhythm patterns that I have written previously. This is important because we do not play in one beat structure.

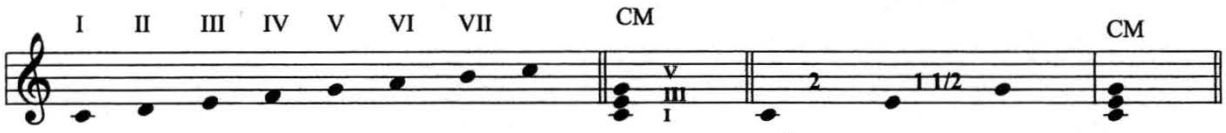


Chord Structure

I previously stated that the Major scale was the basis of most everything in music. We now have an opportunity to examine this in depth. There are two methods for the formation of the Major chord:

1. Take the 1st, 3rd and 5th steps of the Major scale.
2. There are two whole steps between the 1st and 3rd of the chord and one and one-half steps between the 3rd and the 5th of the chord.

I prefer the first rule, as it applies to the Major scale, which is our foundation. Let's examine these rules.



We are now able to form any chord from the Major scale. The Major scale is our source of reference, just as it was our initial starting point.

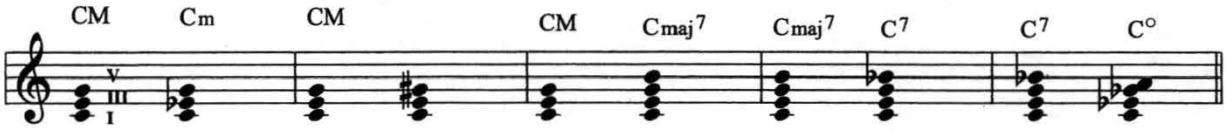
The Minor chord is derived from the Major----"Lower the 3rd step of the Major chord one half step".

The Augmented chord----"Raise the 5th step of the Major chord one half step".

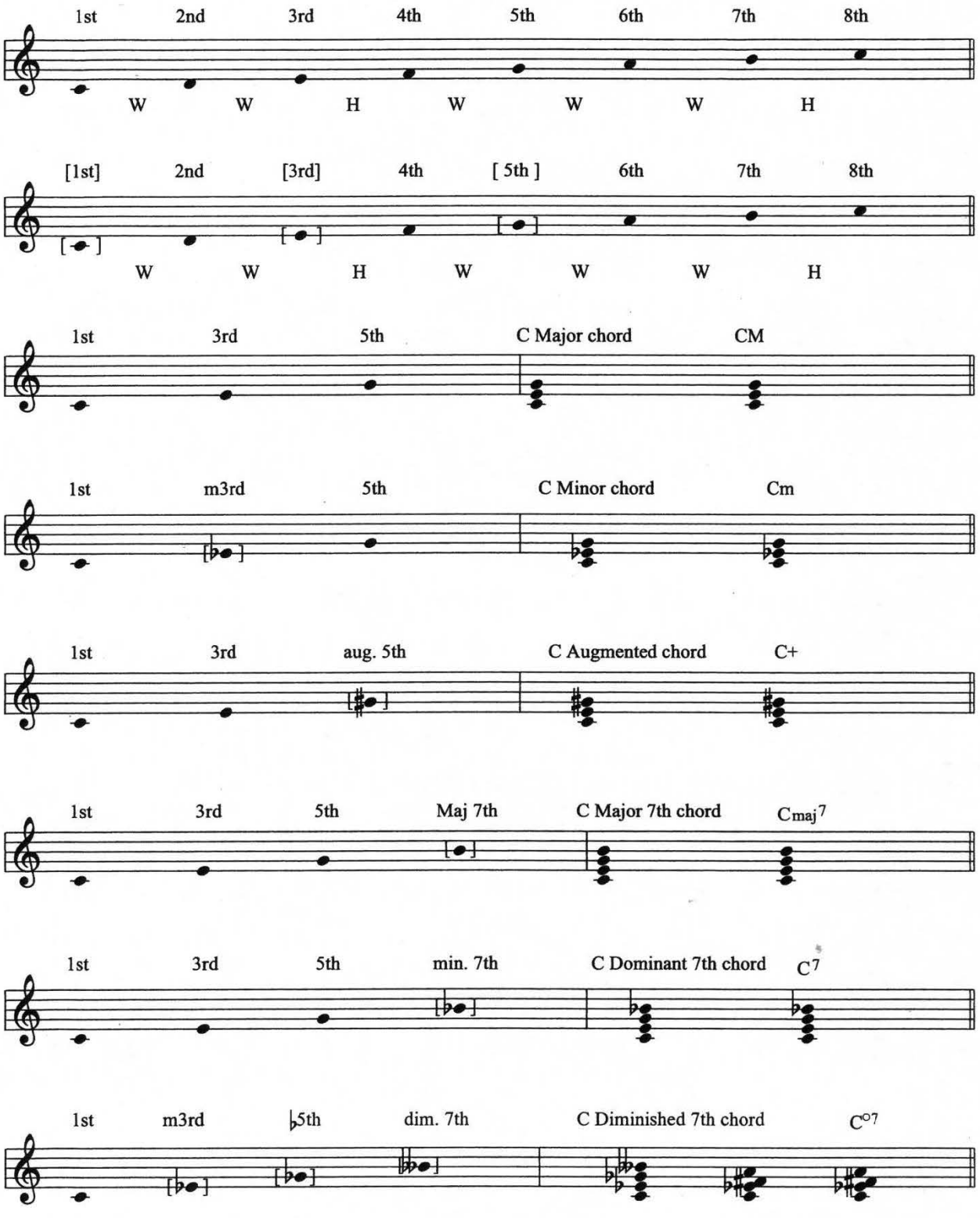
The Major Seventh chord----"Take the I, III, V and VII steps of the major scale".

The Seventh chord----"Take the I, III, V and flatted VII steps of the Major scale".

The Diminished Seventh chord----"Lower the 3rd, 5th and 7th of the seventh chord one half step".



These are your basic chords; you must learn them and their inversions before you can start studying the altered chords used in jazz. You will have a better knowledge and understanding of chords if you relate them to the steps of the Major scales.



M = Major m = minor + = augmented 7 = seventh o or dim. = diminished

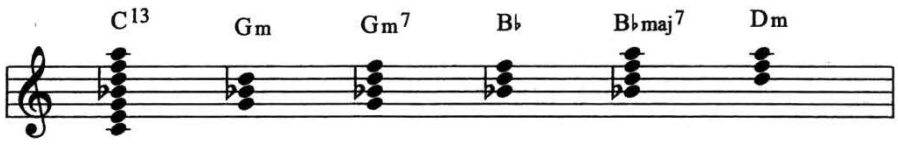
Altered Chords

I would hope that before learning the altered chords the reader has at least mastered, in part, the basic chords discussed previously. The best way to understand altered chords is to visualize a building block, because that is exactly what we are doing. We are building on top of the foundation chord, adding notes on top of notes.

Let us look at the sixth chord, in which we are adding the sixth step of the Major scale to the Major chord. The example on the first line of the following page illustrates this. The minor sixth, minor seventh and augmented seventh are based on the same example.

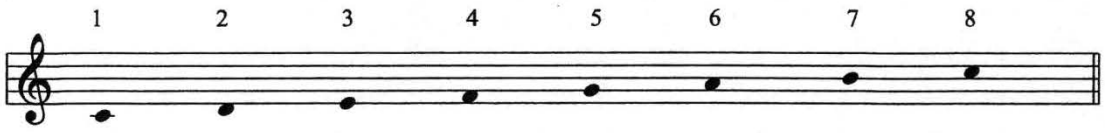
We must now understand that each note of the scale has another number value. For example, as we ascend the scale to its next octave, the C becomes the eighth step (octave meaning eight), the D becomes the 9th, the E becomes the 10th, etc. etc. The easiest way to remember this is by adding seven to any step of the Major scale.

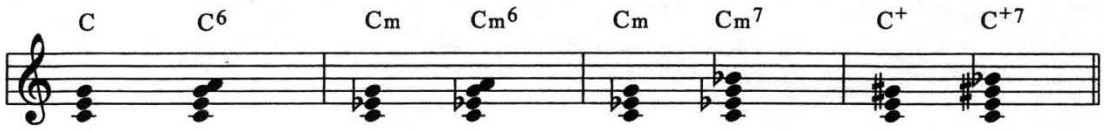
I advise the reader to be able to name the notes of the chromatic scale ascending and descending as the example shows on the following page. The way to best understand the building of chords is to take the C Major chord and build on that chord until you are able to form each and every chord outlined on the following page. You will start to see a combination of chords as you build on a chord. Do not become concerned if at first you do not recognize the many combinations.

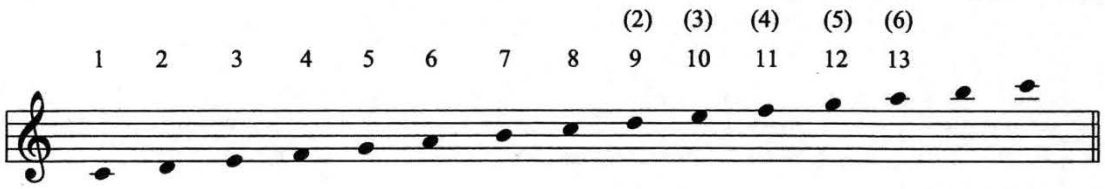


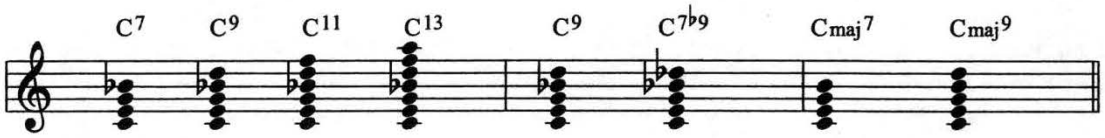
These are just a few of the chords that are within the C13 chord; there are more but this is just an example of how chords are built.

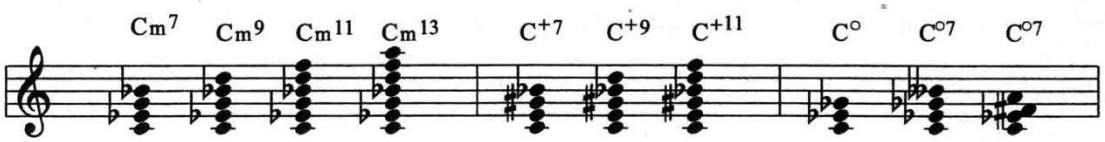
You must learn these chords in all keys (12). That is one of the reasons I suggested saying the notes of the scales as you played them. I also suggest studying the Major scales visually as well as physically so that you may know what step of the scale each note represents. Another way is to lay the keyboard of the accordion down and face it, saying the notes and each step that it represents.

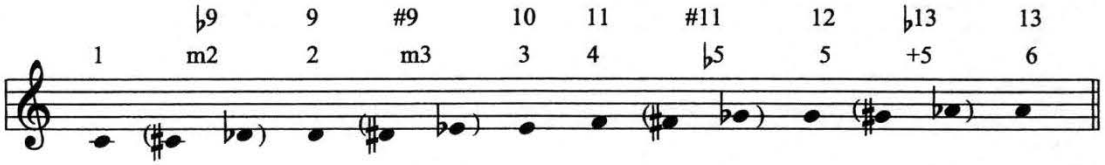




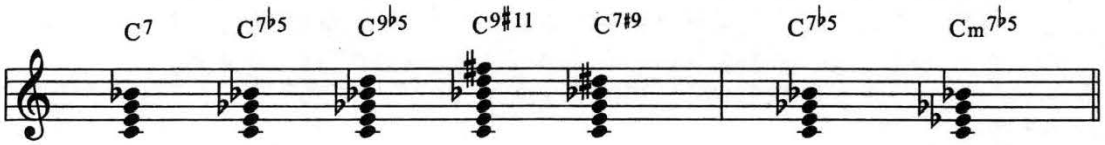








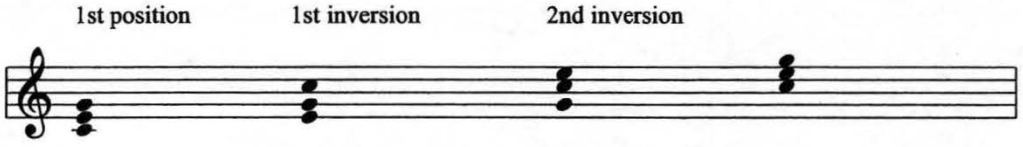
(add 7 to each step of the scale) 2=9 4=11 6=13 etc.



Chord Inversions

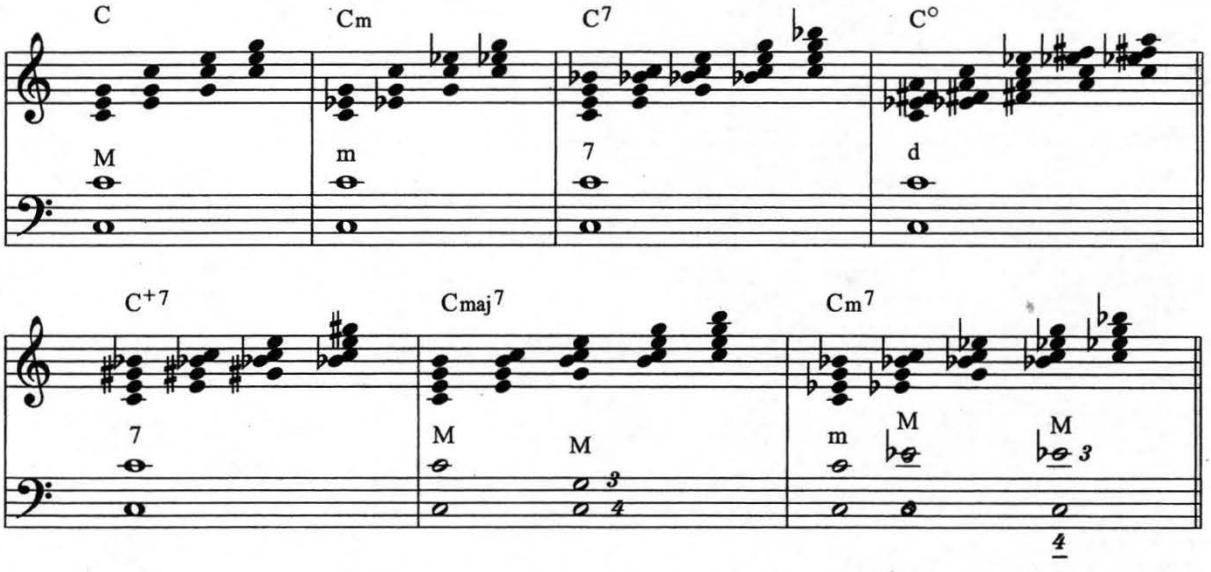
We not only have to know the chords in their original positions, but we also have to be able to invert the chords. I can commiserate with the novice accordionist who must think that there is no end. Well, to be truthful, there is no end. Someone once said "Music is a labor of love". Notice the word 'love'; if you don't love it, leave it.

We must learn to invert chords in order to be able to play them under melody notes or as background accompaniment. The most productive way to start is by playing the chord in its original position and then moving the bottom note to the top of the chord. Continue doing this until you come back to the original position.

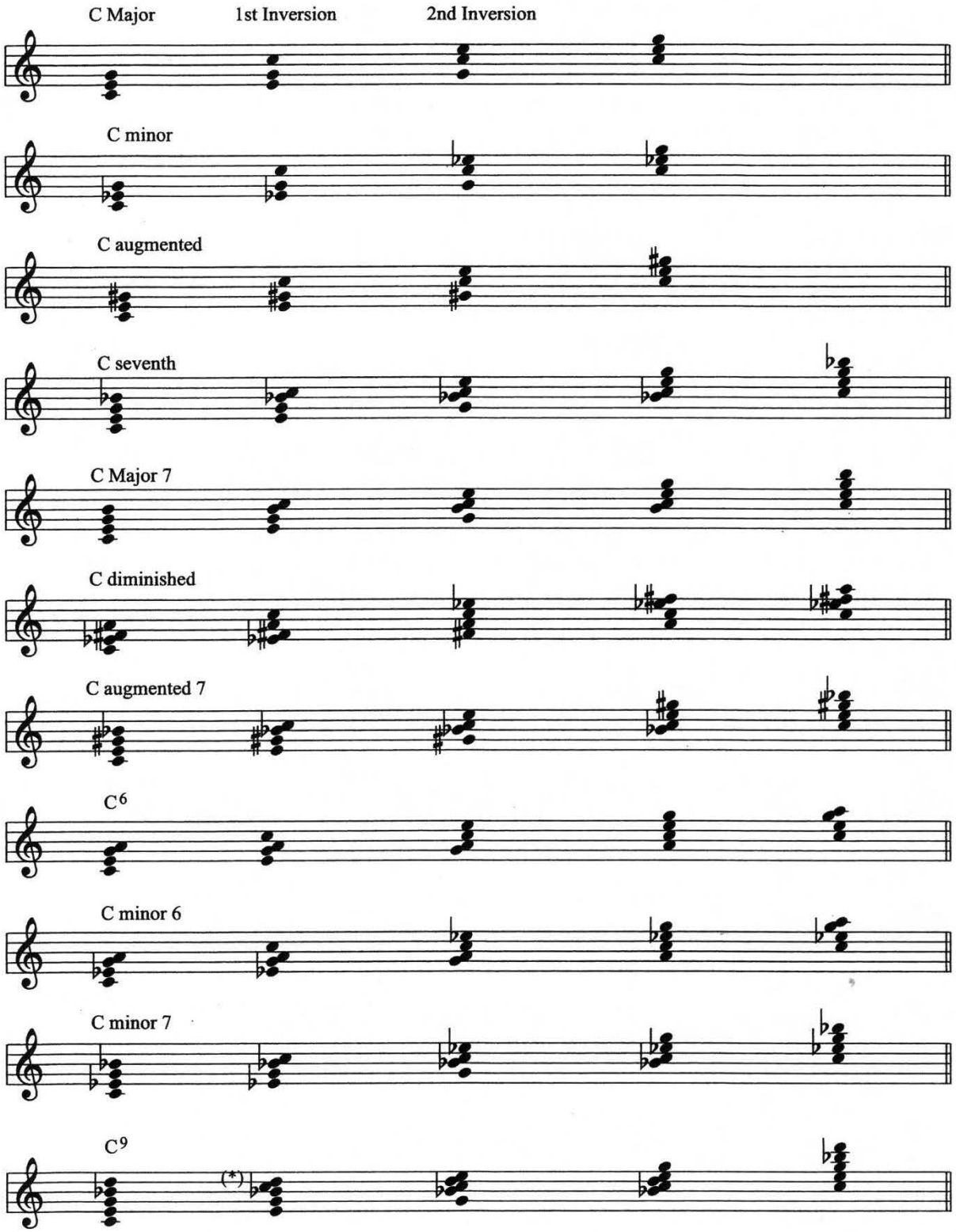


Notice that you have arrived at your original position, but an octave higher. You must do this with all of the chords on the following page. I have just written the basic chords as a starting point. You will eventually do this to all chords.

I would now start to add the left hand to the playing of the chords. This will help you to hear the chord in its fullest sound and help develop your ear.



These are examples of sustaining the left hand as you play through the inversions. Notice on the Cmaj^7 and the Cm^7 that I have added an optional bass and chord pattern. This will be explained in subsequent sections.



(*) This cannot be played in a sequential inversion

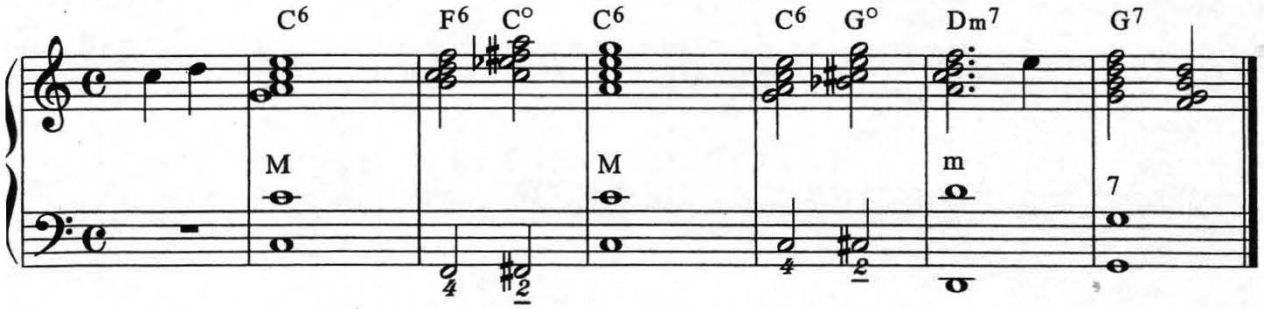
Chord Chart

The following page contains the majority of chords for all root positions. I have purposely left out the 11th and 13th chords, simply because they are extensions of the 9th; we will eventually learn them as we progress further in the book. All of these chords must be played in all inversions, as we eventually will learn in "Voicing of Chords".

I suggest that you learn two or three sets at a time and not progress further until you are absolutely comfortable with those. I know that for the reader who has not yet learned all of the chords, it seems like an awesome task. Let me assure you that you will eventually become proficient in the mastery of this work, if you take one step at a time.

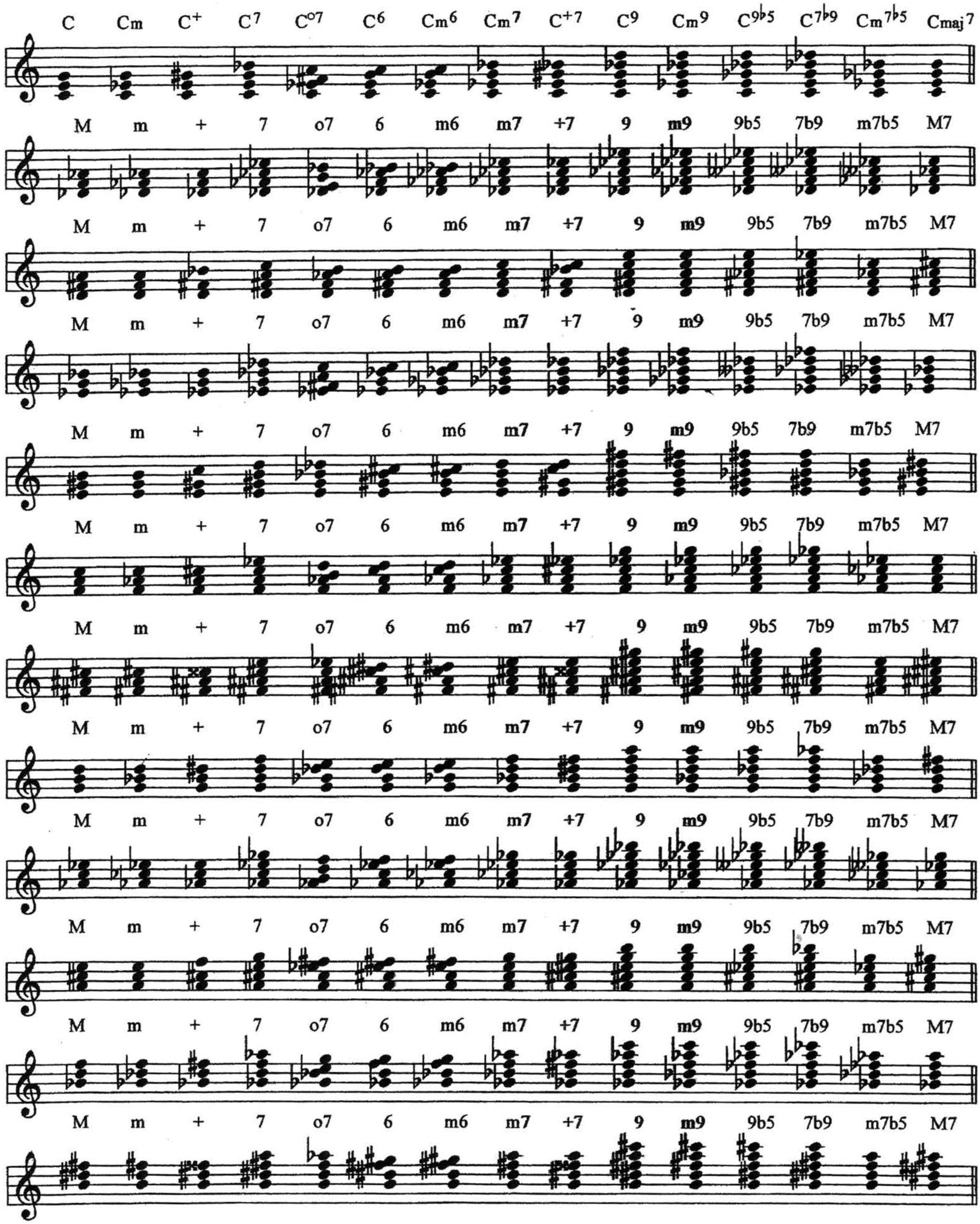
I would like to emphasize that I have no way of knowing whether you are attempting to do this study on your own, or if you are under the guidance of a teacher. Certainly a teacher who is familiar with this work is of great help to the novice. The one consolation is that many accordionists who have been playing for years do not know most of the contents of this book. This is not to disparage anyone, but many do not have the information contained herein, or their teachers are not versed enough in the teaching of jazz.

Once you have mastered the chords and their inversions, you should try to use them with a simple melody. I have written a few bars of "Home Sweet Home", just as an example. I am not trying to insult anyone's intelligence by writing such a simple example, but as I stated previously, I have no way of knowing the reader's knowledge of music. The reader who is beyond this may proceed to a song of their own choosing.

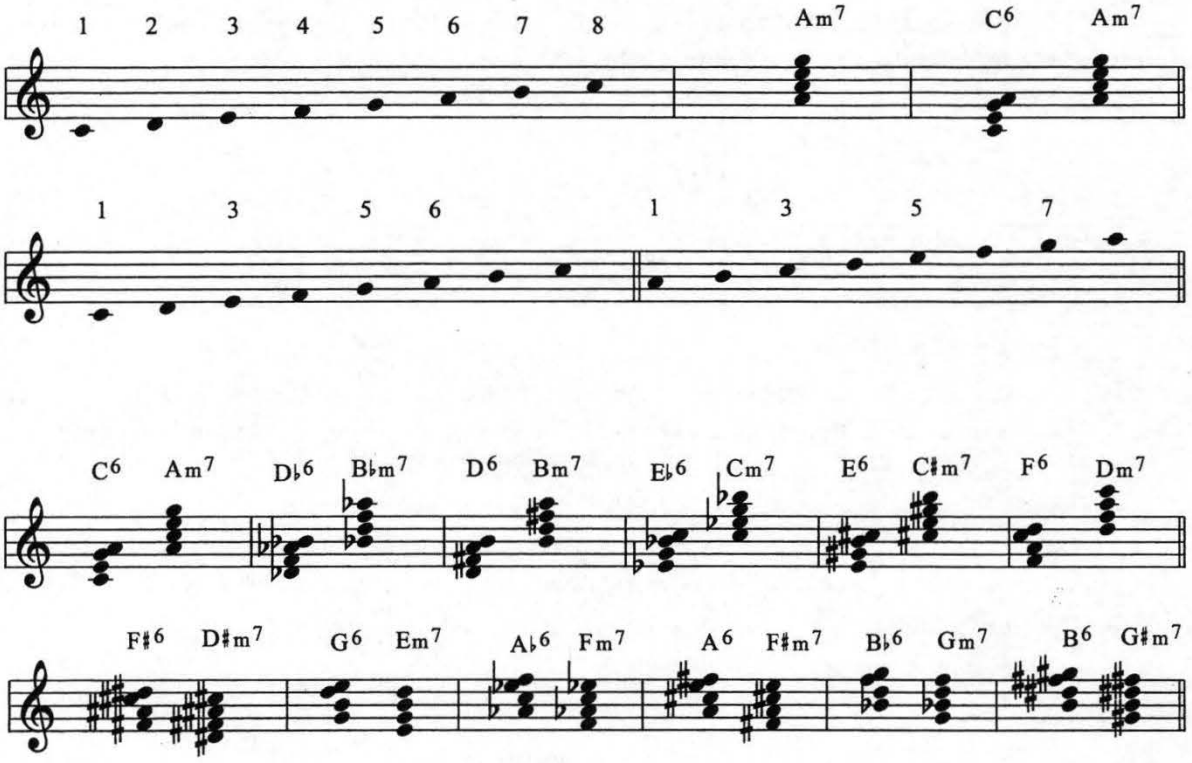


You now have a simple example of how to use chords in a song, and why you must know the inversions of chords. In writing this I can visualize a former student of mine named "George" who, when seeing this will say, "He's still using the same example he used twenty years ago". Well if it works, don't fix it.

Notice how I arrived at the simple bass line. I took a note from one chord that would lead me to a note in the next chord (F from the F^6 and F# from the C° chord). I could have kept the line going to G in the next measure, but I wanted to keep it as uncomplicated as possible.

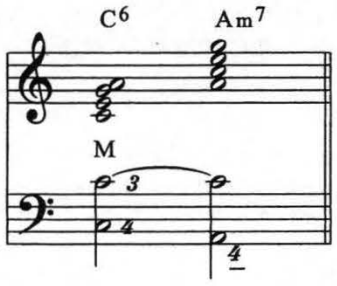

C Cm C+ C7 Co7 C6 Cm6 Cm7 C+7 C9 Cm9 C9b5 C7b9 Cm7b5 Cmaj7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7
M m + 7 o7 6 m6 m7 +7 9 m9 9b5 7b9 m7b5 M7

Relative Minor Chords



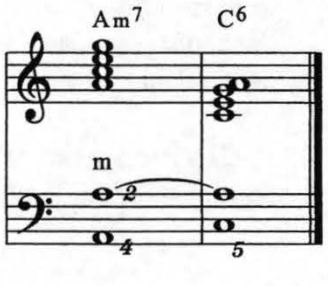
Each Major scale has a **relative minor scale**. It is derived from the sixth step of the Major scale. Look at the example above (second line, first measure) and you will see that **A** is the sixth step of the **C** scale. It is also known as the **Aeolian scale/mode**. (Refer back to modes)

You must be adept at knowing the relative minor seventh of each M^6 chord. This will help you in improvisation, chord substitution and chord playing, as well as in the use of playing the melody in chords or as background. When another instrument or vocalist is playing or singing the melody, you must be able to sustain and /or play chords as a background.



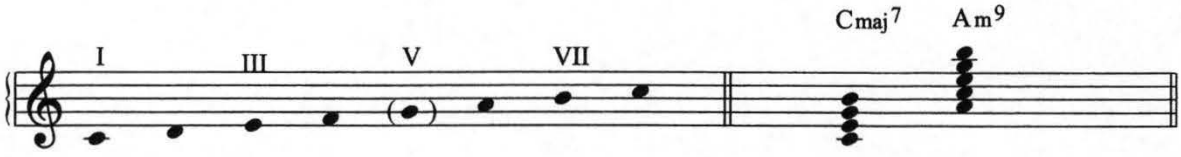
Notice that we did not have to move up to the Am chord. We just had to change the bass note. (←——)

The same holds true for the Am7 to the C6. (——►)



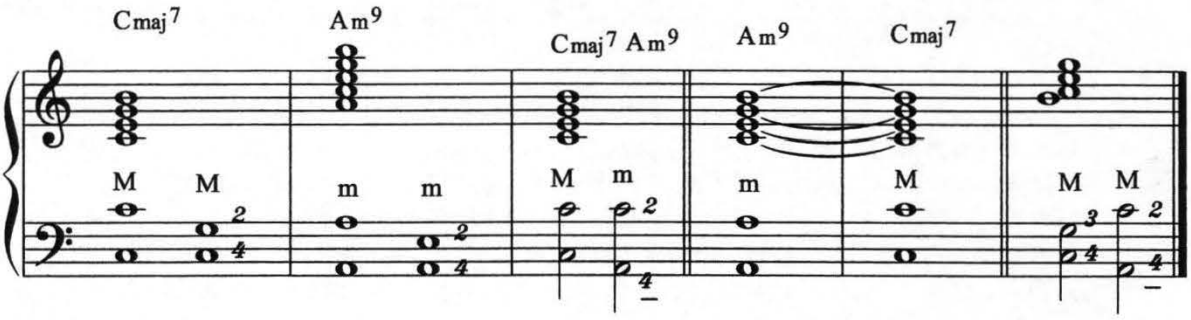
Relationship of Major Seventh (M^7) and Minor Ninth (m^9)

We have previously learned about relative chords, such as the C^6 and the Am^7 There is another similar relationship of chords - the Major seventh and the minor ninth.



We form the Major seventh by taking the 1,3,5, M^7 steps of the Major scale. The minor ninth is started on the sixth step of the Major scale. you will later learn modes and recognize that it is the **Aeolian** mode.

The sixth and the minor seventh chords consist of the same notes. The Major seventh and minor ninth chords have most of the same notes, but it is necessary to change the bass notes for the appropriate chords.



The similarity of these chords is obvious; you will note that the Am^9 has the CM^7 within the chord. The bass note determines which chord it is. This will be more apparent as you become more familiar with chords. Play in all keys.

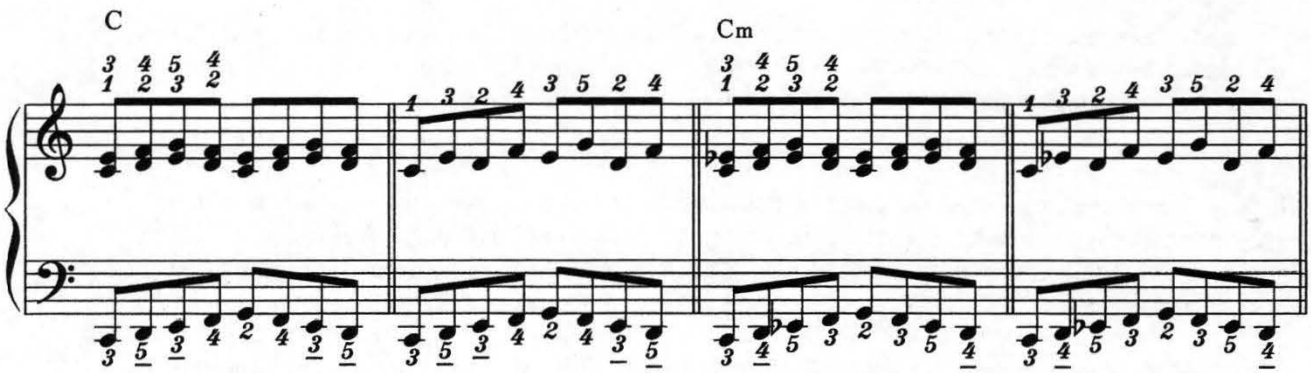
I will write a series of exercises which will help you to become versed in the chord relationships and will also help to develop technique.

Bass and Treble Independence

The ultimate jazz accordionist is one who has developed both the dexterity to play technical figures and the ear to hear these complicated passages. I am a firm believer in developing the **"chops"** to do so. The problem is that we spend too much time practicing exercises that have nothing to do with what we are striving for. Practicing technique should be **mental** as well as **physical**. I believe that the exercise should be tailored for the harmonic structure we are working on at the time.

On the previous pages we are learning chords and their inversions. In order to complement this study we should tailor an exercise for this. One of the most important facets of jazz playing is to have independence of hands. Too many accordionists are what I refer to as "one armed bandits", that is to say that they have no left hand to speak of. Years ago this was acceptable because we used a bass player to support us. Now with the electronic accordion and the advent of MIDI, it is even more imperative to develop a good left hand.

I have written a series of left and right hand studies that I feel will not only develop dexterity, but will expeditiously aid in the learning and understanding of chord structure.

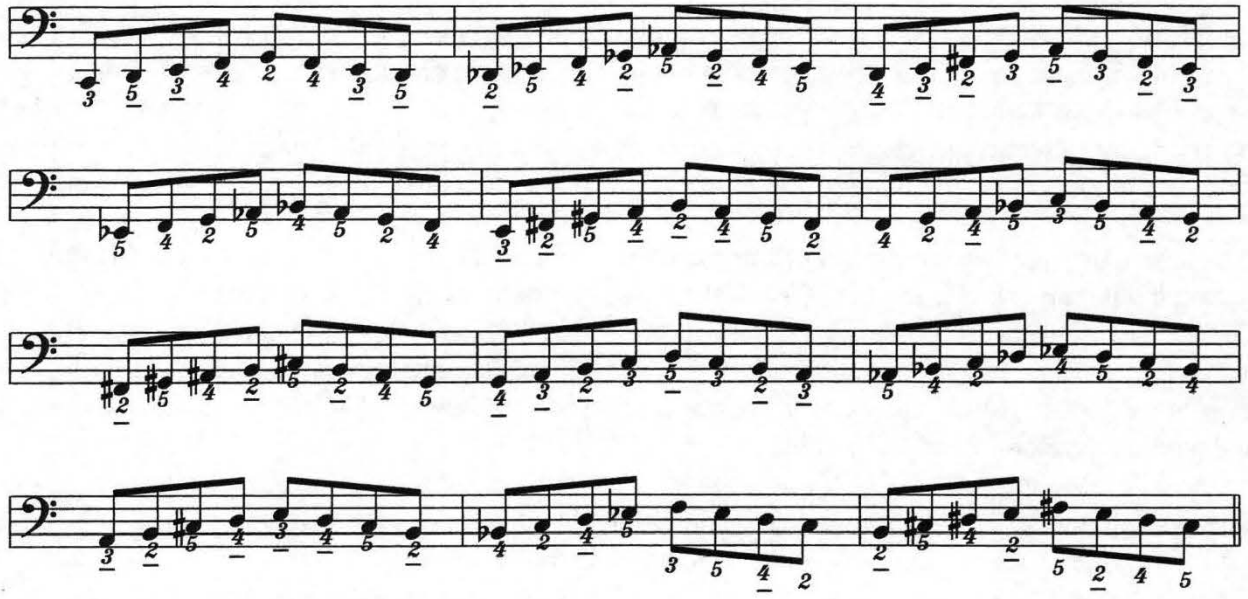


You will notice that as you are playing these, you are not only developing independence of hands, but learning the chords. Each exercise contains the first five notes of the scale which forms the Major & minor chord. (I III V) (I bIII V).

Each individual exercise should be played in 12 keys. This will also help in transposing in the different keys.

Bass Pattern Chromatically

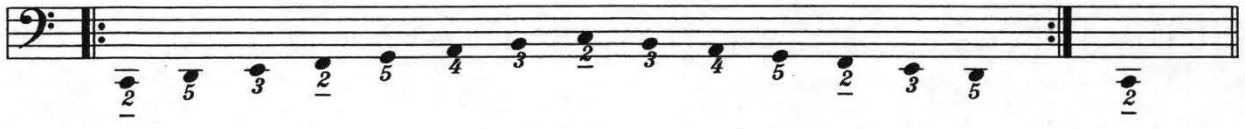
From One Position



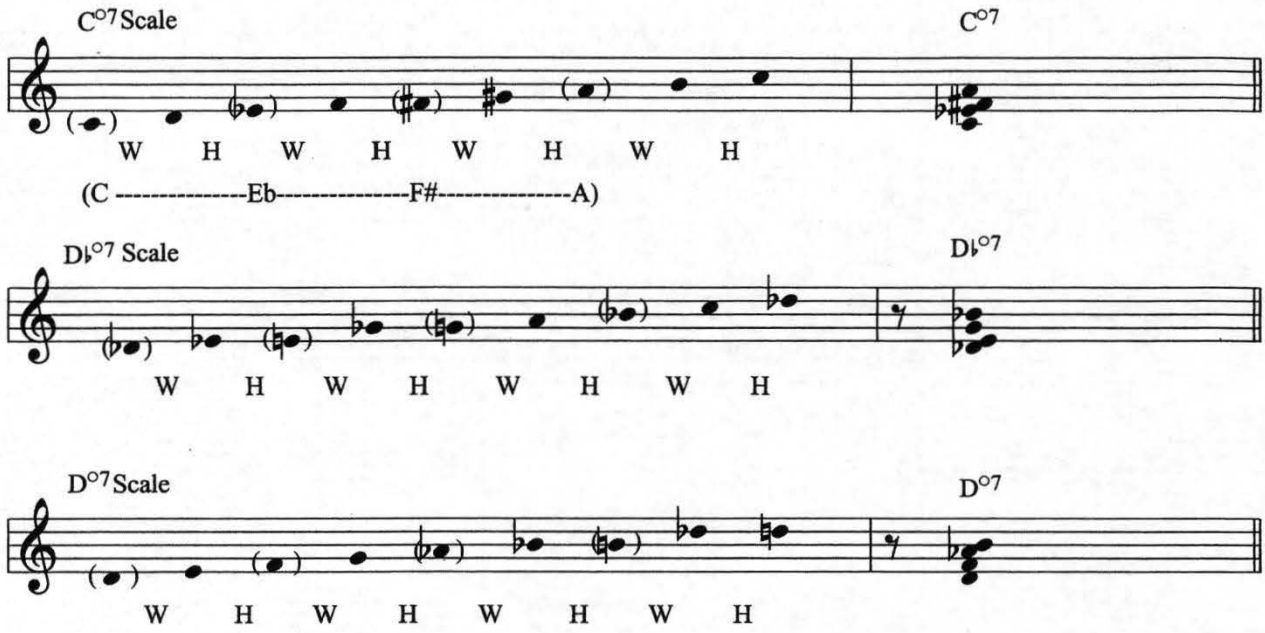
The above exercise can be played in its entirety from one position, just as we had previously learned that the 12 Major scales could be played from one position. This left hand pattern can be applied to numerous right hand exercises, two of which are on the previous page.

I am attempting to show that it is possible to play most left hand jazz lines without jumping all over the basses. There are times when the physical constraints of what we are playing necessitate moving to another position; we then have alternate fingering for those times. The purpose is learning to play scales and arpeggios from alternate positions, such as starting the C scale from C, the counter bass of A flat. There is another C; it is B#, counter bass of G#. We now can play from any position.

Here is the C scale starting from B# (or C, counter bass of G#). We could not use the fingering as we did on the C scale that starts on C, counter bass of A flat. We run out of notes using that exact fingering.



Diminished Scales

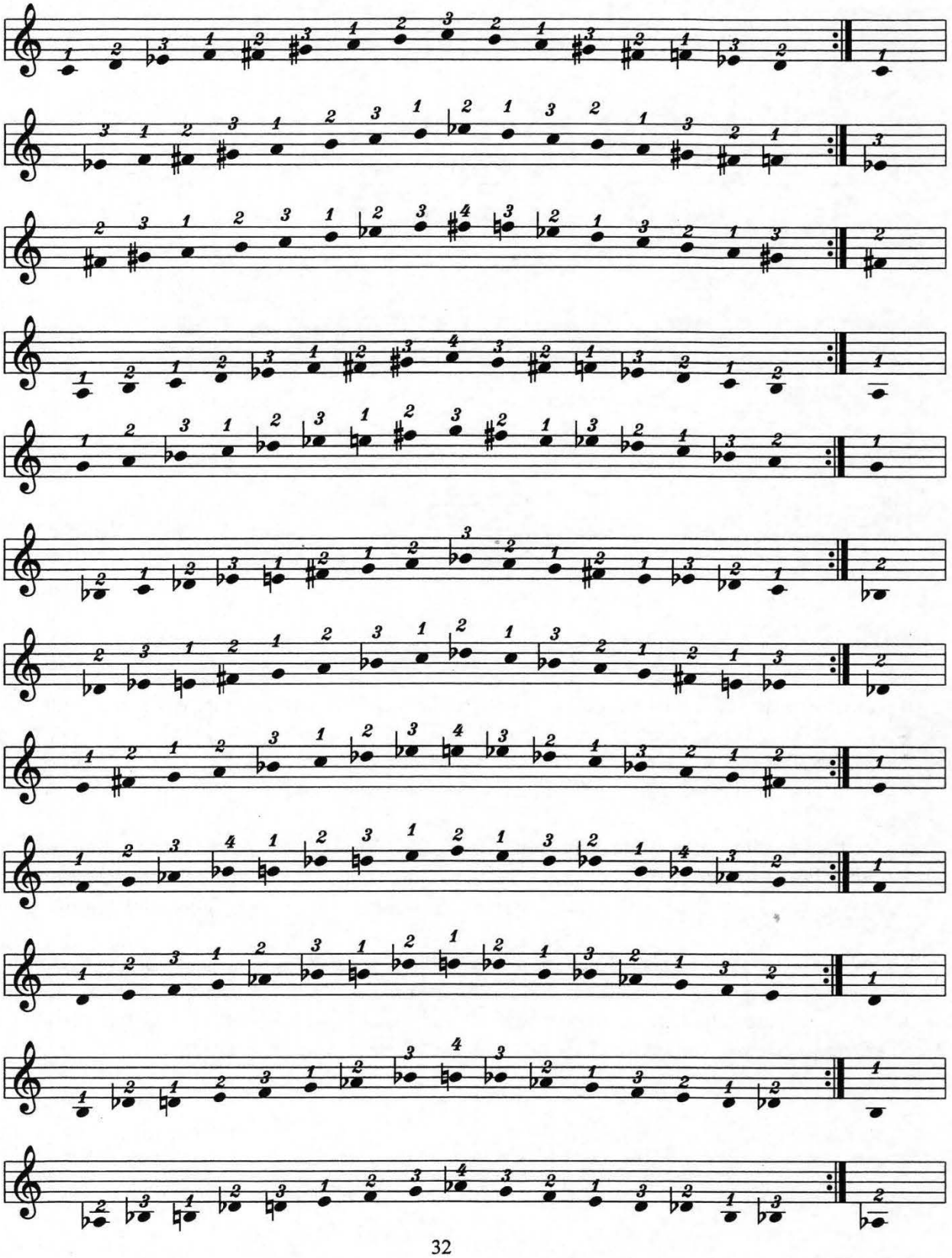


I have written three diminished scales. Basically there are only three different diminished scales. They repeat themselves every ONE AND A HALF STEPS. The C diminished has the same notes as the Eb, Gb (F#) and A diminished. This holds true for the groups of [Db, E, G, Bb] diminished and [D, F, Ab, B] diminished (Repeat themselves every one and a half steps).

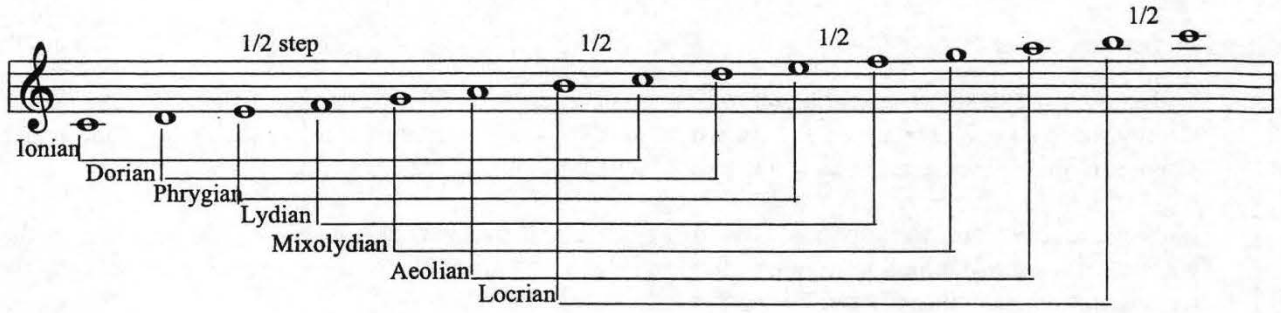
Notice that the diminished scale is a combination of two diminished chords. The C diminished has the D diminished chord in its structure. You should also notice that if you know the C diminished chord, you will know the Eb, F# and A diminished chords. They are just inversions of each other.

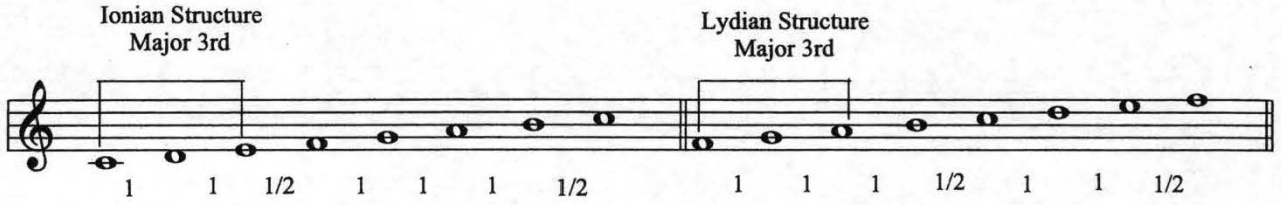
You will see that the diminished scale is a very versatile scale to know in jazz. On the next page I have written the diminished scales starting from any note; again, remember that there are only three diminished scales . Play the C diminished scale and sustain the C, Eb, Gb and A diminished bass and chord, one at at time, and you will see that they can all be played against each other.

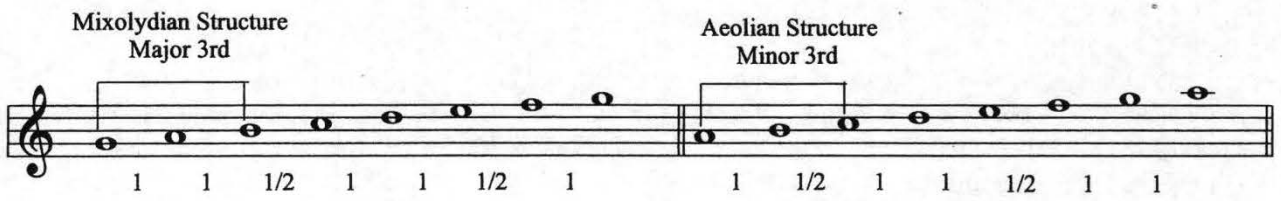
Diminished Scales (cont.)

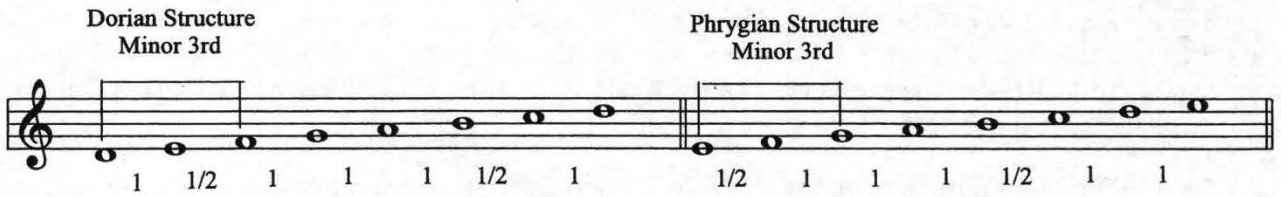


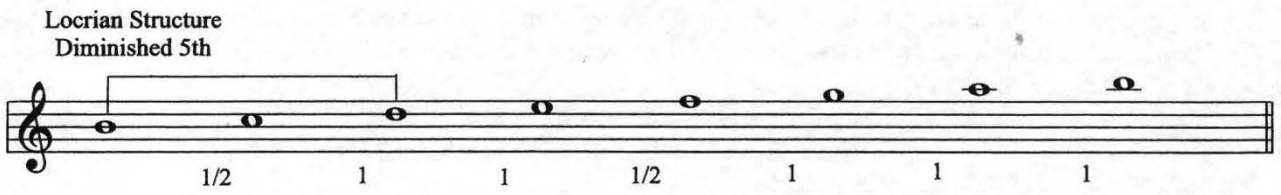
Modal Tonic Notes in Parent Key of C Major









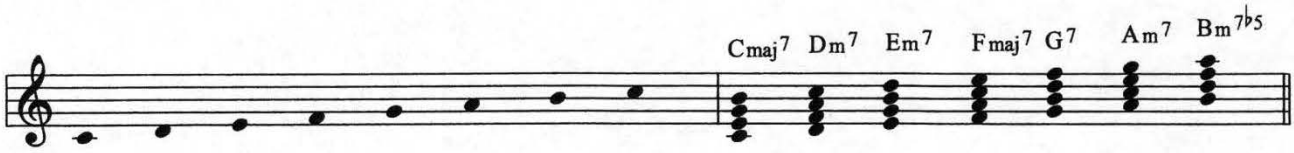


If you know the major scale, you will also know the seven modes for that major scale. The study of modes and their use in jazz is probably one of the most important things you should know.

Diatonic Modes

The study of Modes is an essential part of jazz. The guesswork of what to play on a certain change is eliminated to a great extent. What we are doing is assigning a series of notes to each note of the scale. There are seven notes to a Diatonic scale, ergo seven diatonic modes.

Let's examine each on an individual basis using the C scale as the reference point. Starting on C as the root, we can form a mode which is known as the Ionian mode. During the study of modes throughout the book, we will use all four-note chords.



Look at the many possibilities that we have. Instead of being locked into just thinking C chord and the notes in a C chord, we now have a multitude of notes from which to choose. To further illustrate this, we can play the notes in the C scale against any of the chords in the C Ionian Mode. In other words, if the chord is G^7, we can play the C scale against it.

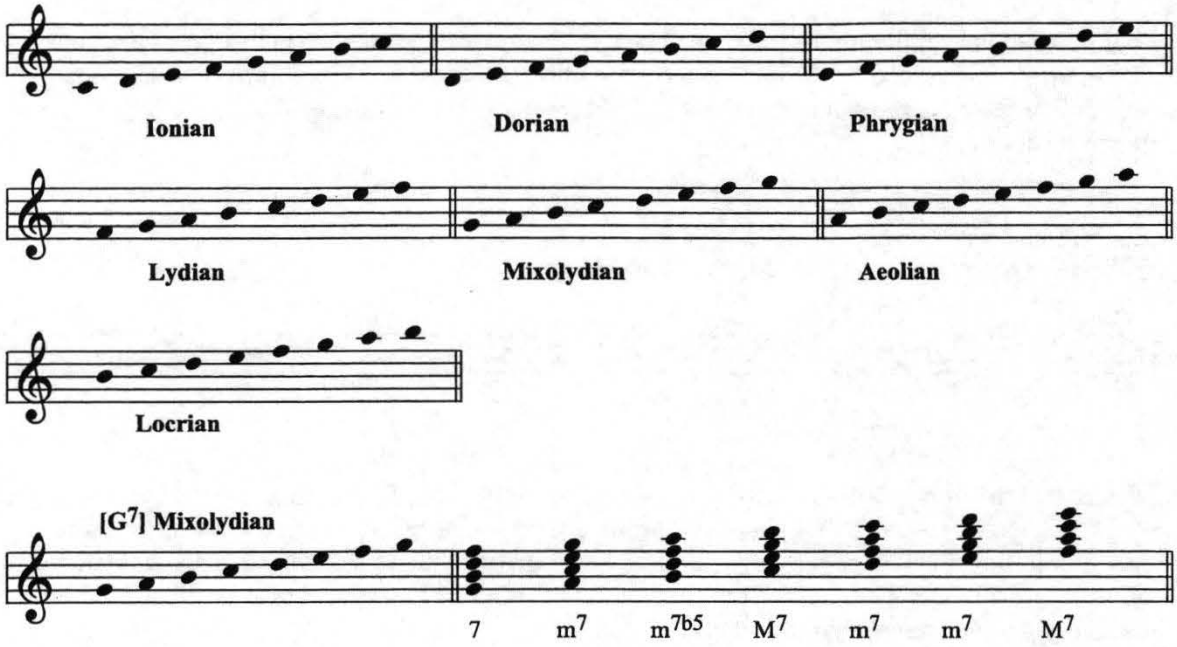
The choice of notes and the order in which we play them determines how "tasty" we can make them sound. This is accomplished by experimenting with different patterns and by developing the ear. We should also listen to jazz artists, whether on saxaphone, piano or guitar; the instrument doesn't make a difference, but what is being played certainly does.

On the following page I have written the Mixo-Lydian scale; it is one of the most important modes to learn. When you practice this mode your should say the chord symbol as you play the mode (e.g. 7 m^7 m^{7b5} M^7 m^7 m^7 M^7). This aids in the transposition of playing in different keys. For example in the key of F the first chord transposing would be C^7 because the Mixo-lydian starts on the 5th of the Major scale, the 5th being C.

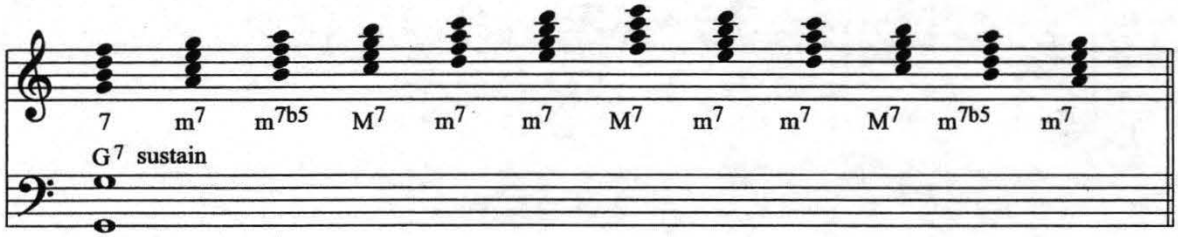
C^7 Dm^7 Em^{7b5} FM^7 Gm^7 Am^7 BbM^7
(I^7 IIm^7 $IIIm^{7b5}$ IVM^7 Vm^7 VIm^7 $VIIM^7$)

You have now learned to transpose by the use of numbers; this is both musically and mathematically correct.

SCALES, seven diatonic modes



When practicing the modes, say the chord numbers (7 m^7 m^{7b5} M^7 m^7 m^7 M^7) as you play each one. This will help in transposing into the 12 keys which must be done. Try to learn 3 keys each day (C, G, F etc.) and become comfortable with each one before going on.

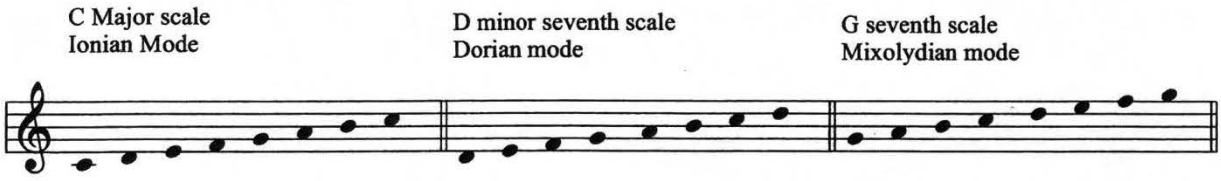


Play this mode, sustaining the G^7 on the left hand. You will find that any chords in the mode (Mixolydian) can be played against the G^7 chord.

Once you feel comfortable playing the mode in a chord sequence, start playing the mode in broken chords. Eventually you will start playing melodies in different rhythms. This is the start of improvisation.

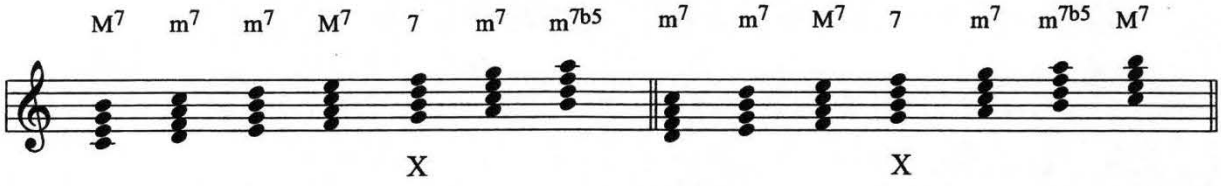
Mode Comparisons

I believe that is is important to understand clearly the modes that have been discussed previously. The mode is determined by the note of the scale on which we start. The chords in each mode repeat themselves in the same order except that they start in the sequence that the scale determines.



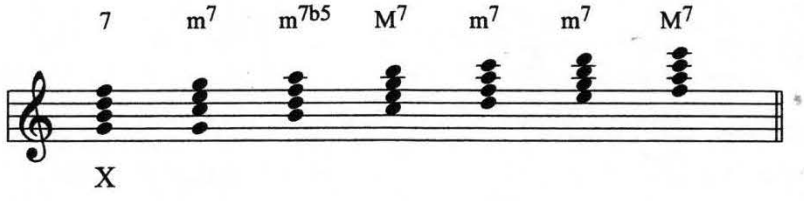
Notice that the three scales have the same notes, but only in a different sequence. Therefore if you know the Major scales you will know all of the different modes. The note upon which you start determines the mode when playing in scale form. I do not want to seem repetitious, but you must be able to play the 12 Major scales from any note in the scale. They should also be practiced in different patterns and in different rhythm patterns.

Ionian mode



Dorian mode

Mixolydian mode

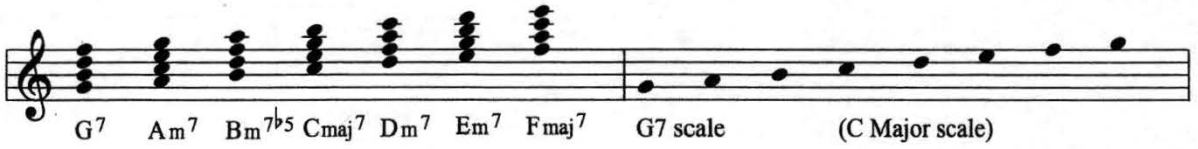


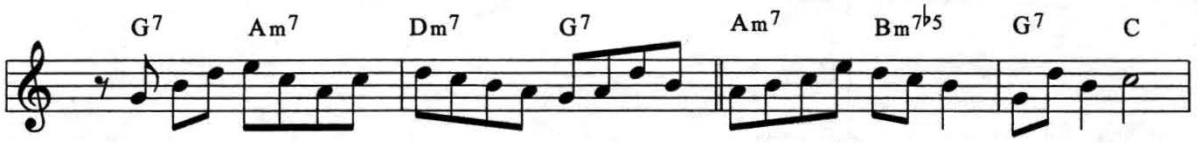
The X denotes that point in the sequence of chords where each of the three modes ascends in exactly the same order; this is the case for all the Diatonic modes. There are more modes to learn eventually, but for now we will concentrate specifically on the Mixolydian and Dorian modes. One of the reasons for these two modes is that the IIm^7 (Dm^7) is frequently substitued for the V^7 (G^7). I will give an example of this on the next page.

Mixolydian Mode

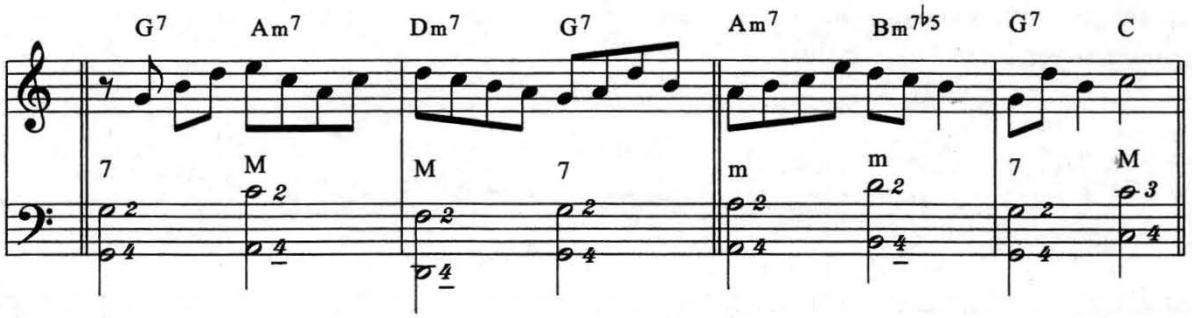
The Mixolydian mode is one of my favorite modes, simply because it is so versatile in its use. The mode itself resolves somewhere; in other words it takes you somewhere. When we examine it more closely we see that it starts on the fifth step of the major scale and the first chord is the seventh. In the key of C that would be G^7 and most of the time the V^7 brings you to the I (C).

The permutations are endless. By knowing this mode you should never again be at a loss as to what to play. All of the notes in the scale can be used against any of the chords in the scale mode. Let's look at some examples of what can be played.





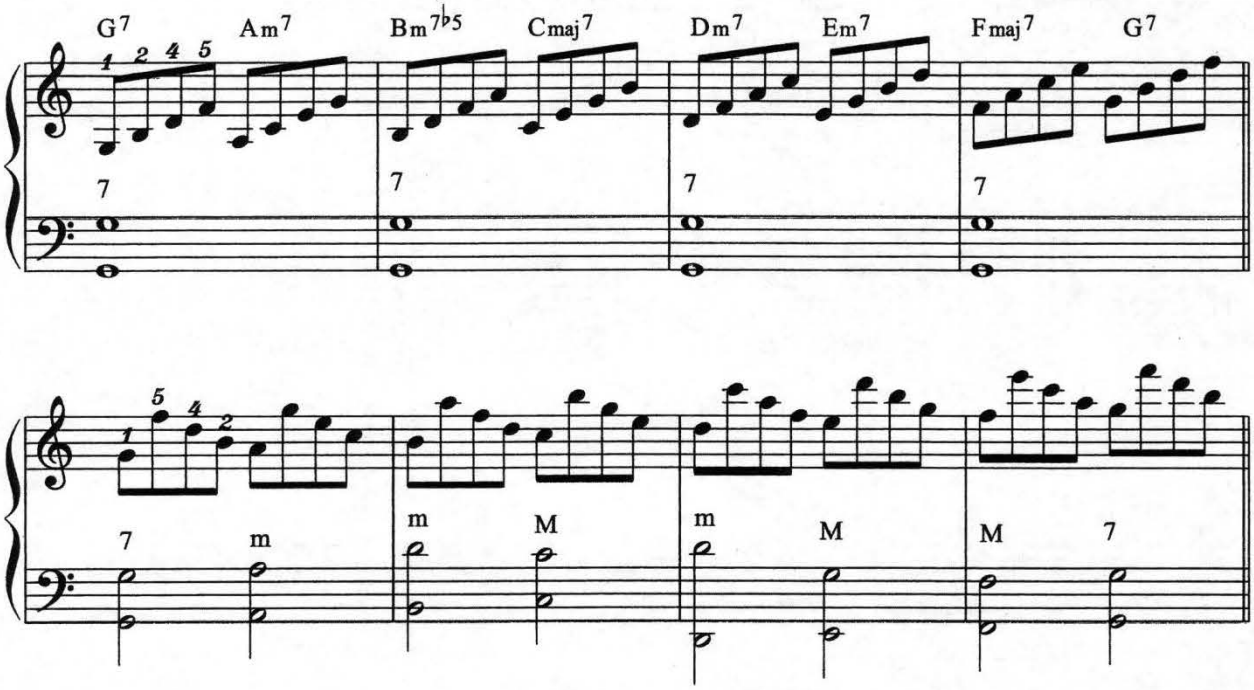
This is a very simple example; it shows that you do not have to think of each chord as an individual. The notes played are the notes from the Mixo-lydian scale. The more familiar you become with these scales, the tastier your lines will sound.



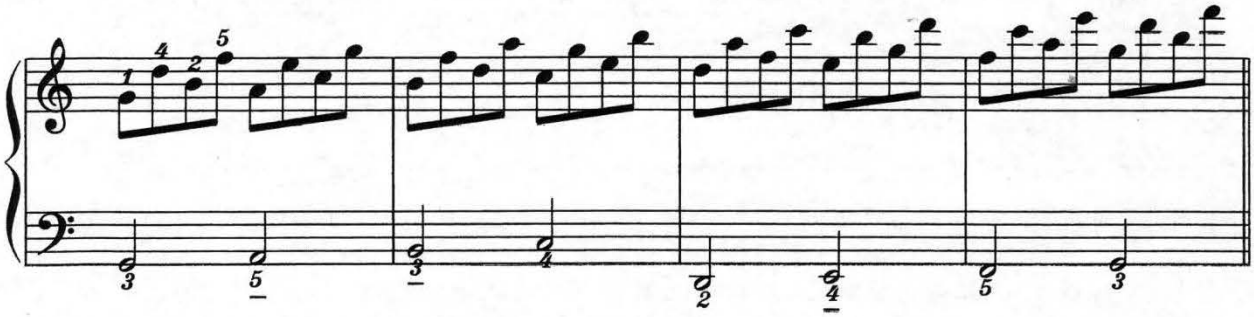
Eventually you should sustain the bass and chords as you create new lines. This will help you hear better ideas. Take note of the combination of bass chords and the fingering. Initially you may choose to use the "old way" of playing bass chords.

Practicing the Modes

The following are examples of how to practice the modes. I will use the Mixolydian mode as the model. Each should be applied to all the modes.



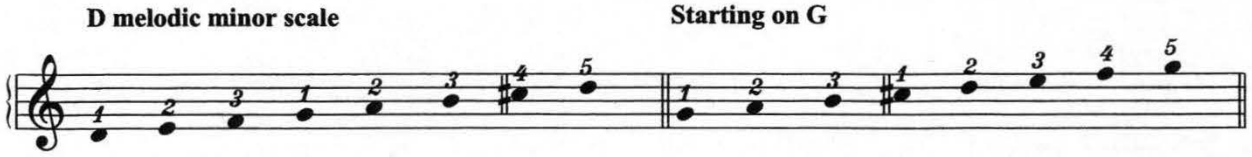
I have notated the fingering for two chords; the first is the $Bm^{7\flat5}$ Notice the use of the D minor chord with the B bass (counter bass of G). Notice also the Em^7 using the G major chord and the E (counter bass of C). In further sections I will go into a more detailed explanation of these combinations. Eventually we will learn how to play chords from one position as we did with the scales.



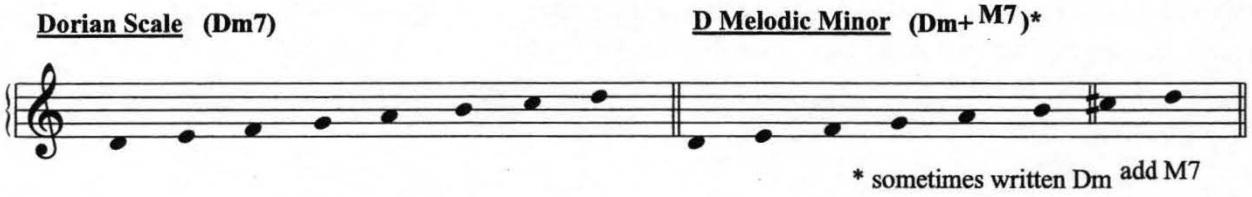
These are just a few small samples of patterns that can be played. You must start playing your own ideas. You must also play in different keys; add a new key as you become comfortable with the keys you have been working on.

Dorian Scale (Altered)

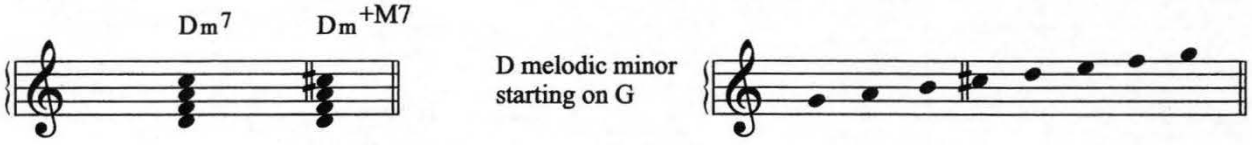
(#7)



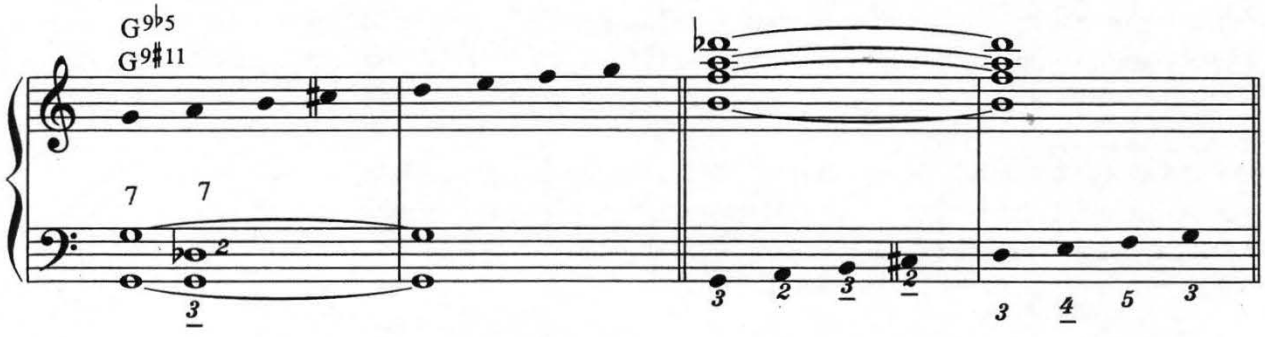
The melodic minor scale is one of the most useful scales in jazz. It can be played against a variety of chords. Let me emphasize that we use it only in its ascending form because in the real form of the scale, the 6th and 7th steps are lowered descending. The D melodic minor is an altered form of the Dorian scale, with the 7th step raised.



The easiest way to remember the melodic minor scale is to think of the Dm^7 scale (Dorian) and raise the 7th a half step.

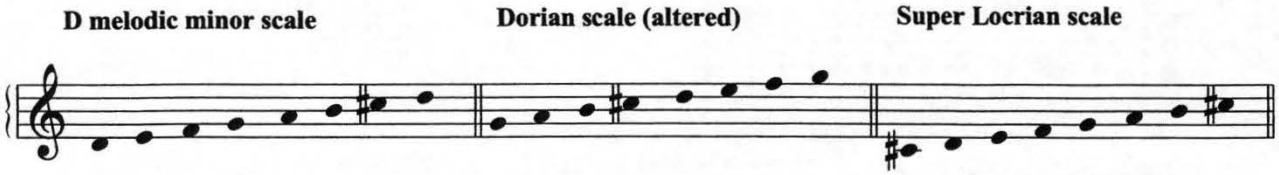


When we look at the D melodic minor scale starting on G, we have the ultimate scale sequence for the G^{9b5} ($G^{9\#11}$) chord. The C# (Db) is the flatted fifth of G (b5) or the sharp eleventh of G (#11). Therefore we can play the notes in the melodic scale against the 9b5 (#11) chord.



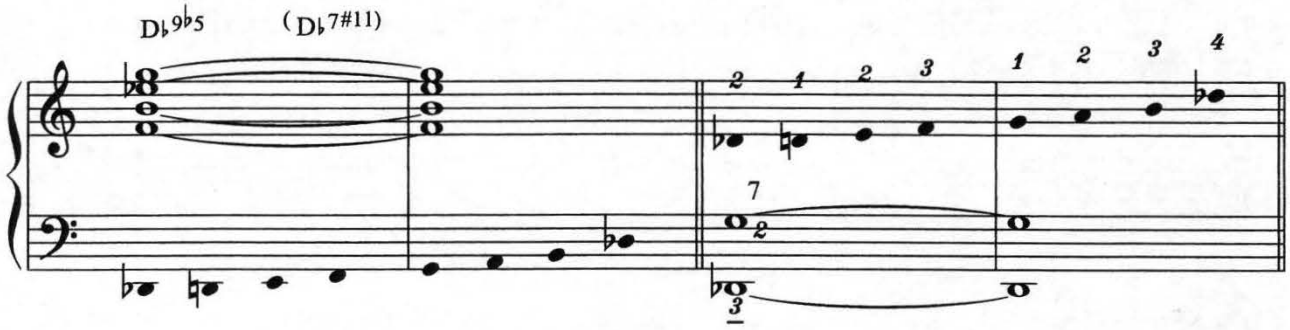
I have given two examples of using the D melodic minor scale starting on G (one example for the right hand and one for the left hand). Notice the alternate chord example I have written using the Db^7 chord with G counter bass of Eb. If you are playing a bass pattern near Eb, you do not have to jump up to G^7.

Super Locrian Scale



This will introduce the Super Locrian scale, which is another form of the D melodic minor scale. Remember that on the previous page I noted that it is easier to label scales so that they have their own identity. When we use this scale as a substitution, it is easier to remember and identify it as the Super Locrian scale. This scale can be used against the minor seventh, 7th, 9b5 (7#11) changes.

Let us now apply the concept.

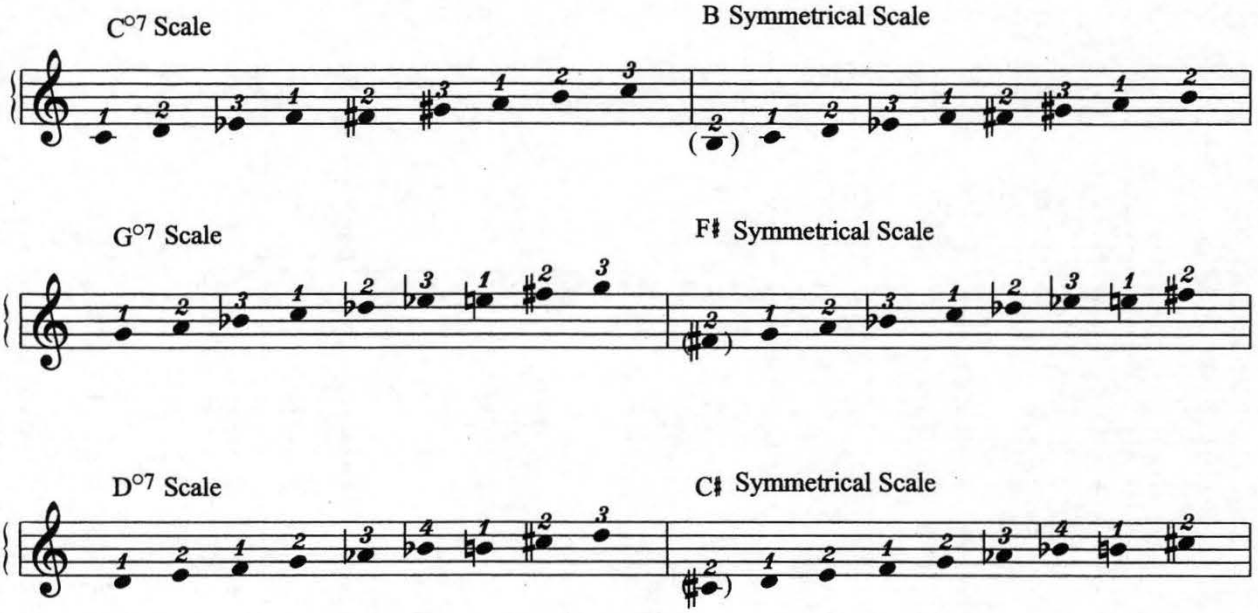


The above are just examples of how the Super Locrian scale can be used. There are many more substitutions that this scale can be played against. Notice that in the above example, we sustain the G^7 chord with the Db (C# - counter bass of A). This is one of the inversions previously given in the bass chord examples. You could also use the G bass and G^7 chord, but I prefer the above when the situation warrants.

I do not want to sound redundant, but these should be played against changes in other keys. You should experiment and see how many different ways you can use this scale. Do not always play in the same sequence; make up your own melodies and lines. You must become proficient in the use of all the scales so that they are "at your fingertips".

Remember that the melodic minor, Super Locrian and the Dorian scale (altered) all have the same notes. It depends on where you start in the scale. This is important so that you can fit the scale to the chord being used.

Symmetrical Scales

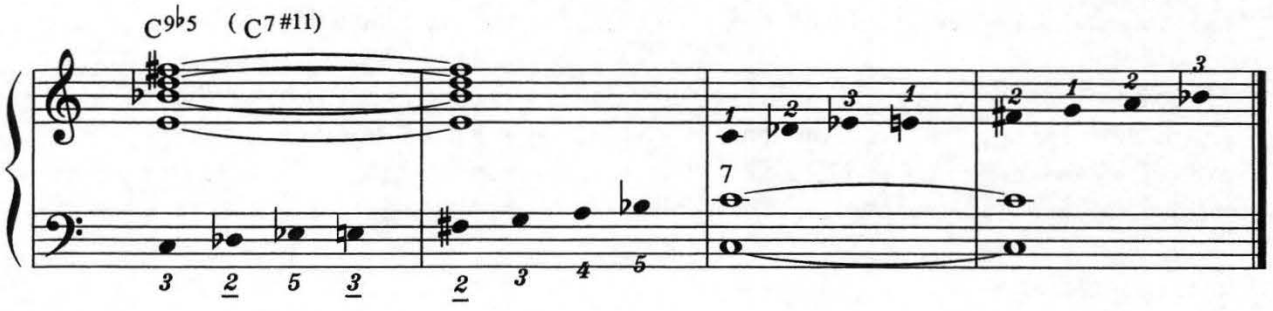


The Symmetrical scale is nothing more than a version of the diminished scale (The name is thought to be attributed to someone at the Julliard School of Music). Notice that it is the diminished scale, but starting a half step before the root of the respective diminished scale.

Why not just call it a diminished scale? I believe that the more we can identify or label something, the easier it is to remember it. Readers may choose their own way to become familiar with the scale.

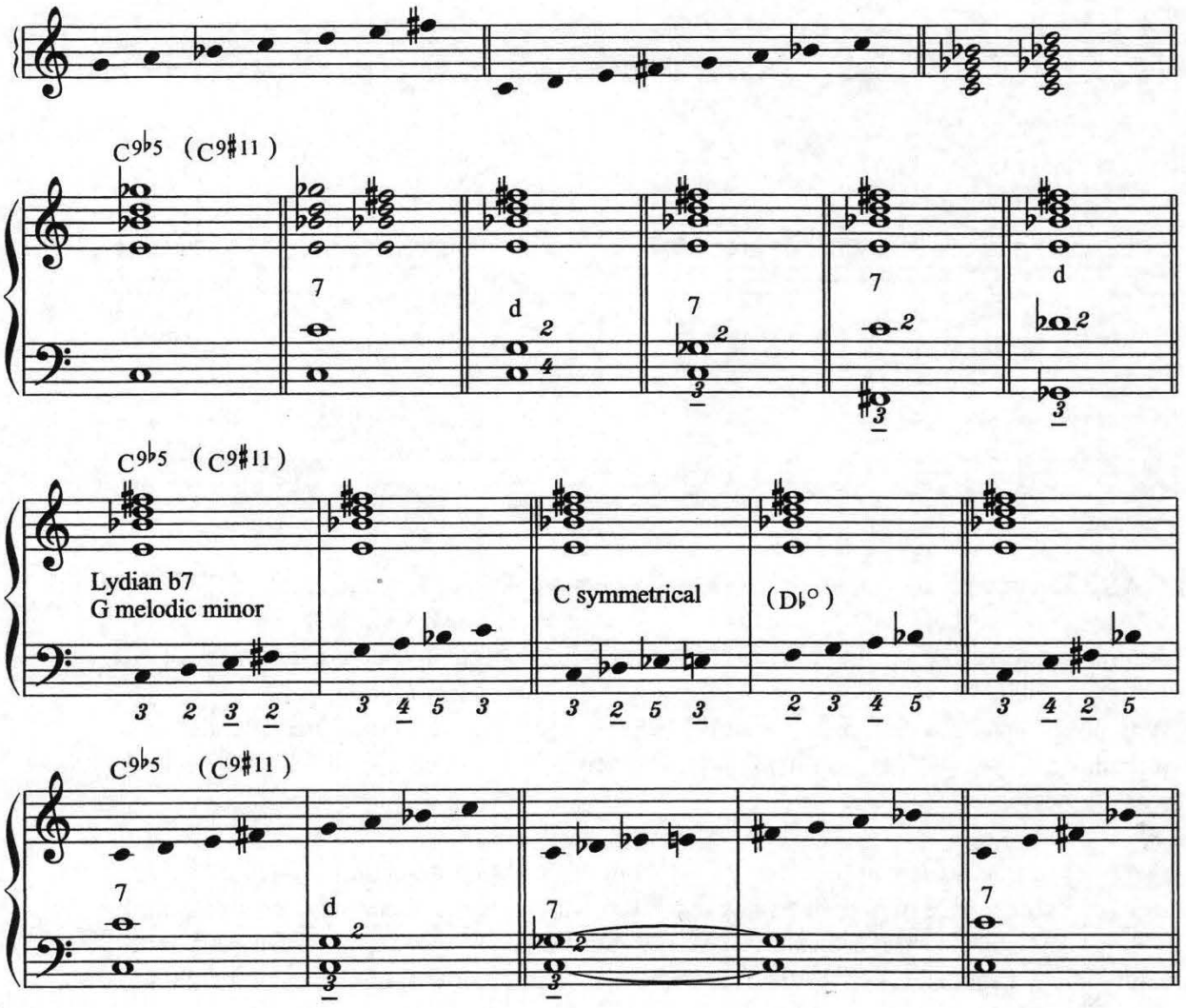
The symmetrical scale can be used against many different chord changes, such as the 7th, 9b5 and 7#9 chords. The diminished scale can also be used against these same changes, but by calling them symmetrical scales it is easier to remember. For example the Db diminished scale can be played against the C^{9b5} change; it is easier to think of C symmetrical scale than to do mental gymnastics.

Below are two examples:



Application of Scales

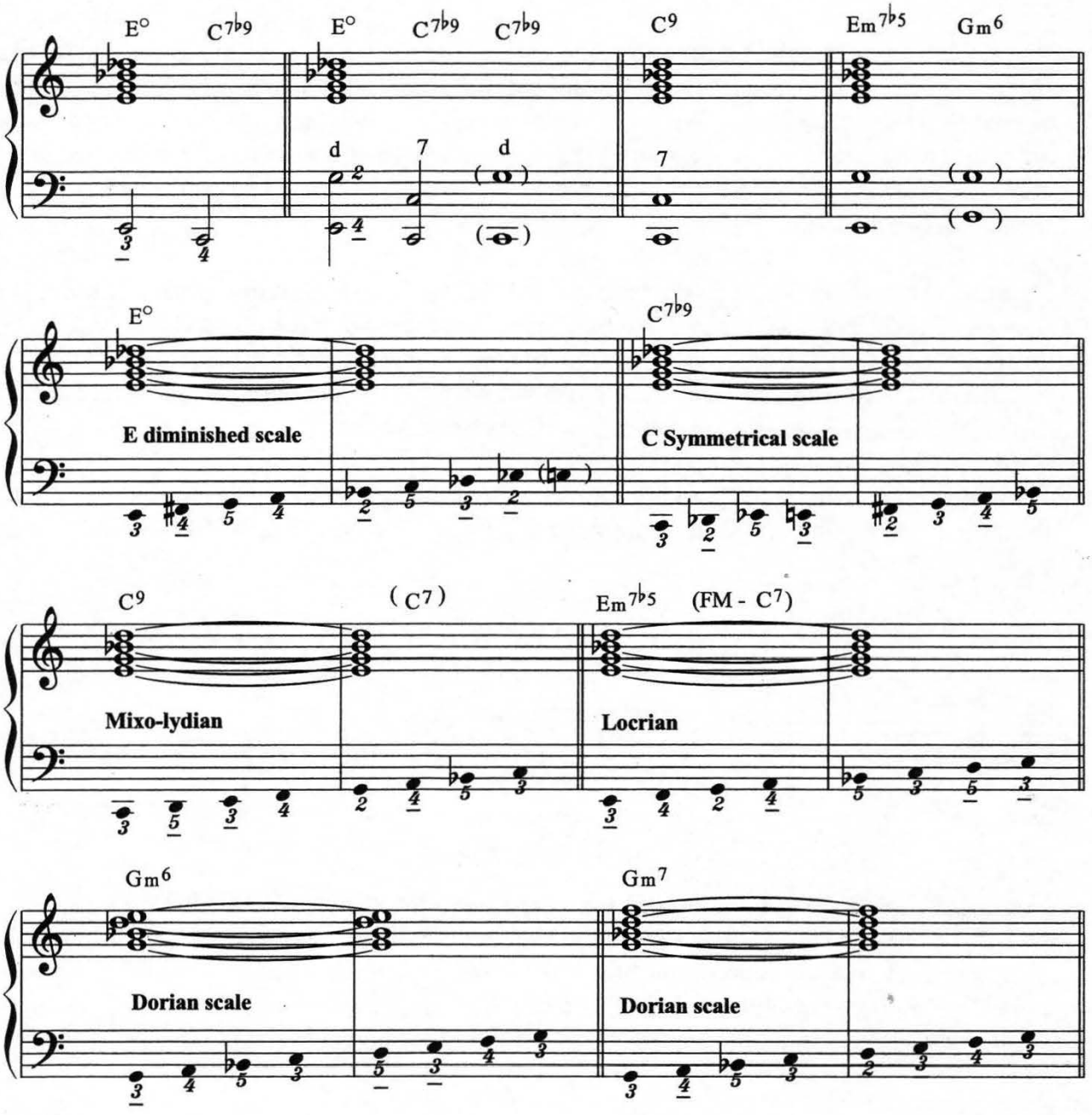
(Melodic minor & Symmetrical)



I have written a few examples of the melodic minor and the symmetrical scales and show how to apply them to the $C^{9\flat5}$ and $C^{9\sharp11}$. There are also examples of sustaining chords. The only way you can become proficient with their use is by practical application.

My advice is to take a song with which you are familiar and experiment with it. When the song on which you are working has a measure or two of sustaining notes, inject one of these examples. As you become comfortable with their application you can use them in place of the melody, thus creating your own melody. (This is called improvising).

Chord and Bass Proximity



The above examples show how chords are related, and the function of the bass in their relationship. We have previously covered the diminished chord and the 7b9 chord. We are now showing the bass combinations, particularly the E diminished scale and the C symmetrical scale.

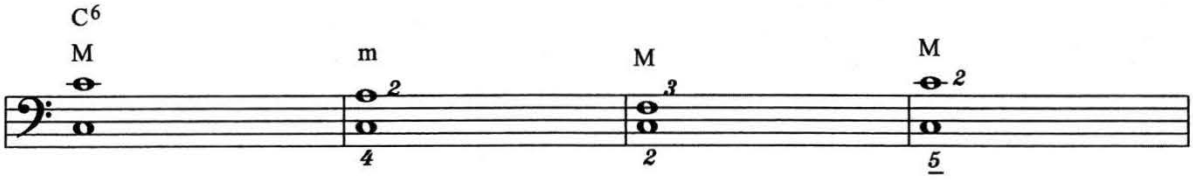
The E diminished scale is also a permutation of the Db diminished scale; therefore it is logical that the Db diminished scale can be used. By starting on C we are playing the C symmetrical scale.

Bass and Chord Combinations

The study of the left hand on the accordion has, for the most part, been neglected and maligned for a long time. I can remember when studying as a youngster, the teacher telling me that the altered chords on piano sheet music could not be played. The result was that I never devoted any time to the left hand, so to speak. What a shame that many accordion teachers had this archaic concept of the instrument. I am not saying that all teachers were of the same mentality, but the majority were.

I have developed a series of combinations that I feel will be an asset to anyone attempting to play jazz accordion. I also feel it will be helpful in the development of a style for MIDI accordion. To fully understand the concept of these combinations, the reader should be knowledgeable of chord formations. Remember we have a slight disadvantage with the playing of the left hand; we have no octaves or inversions of the chords.

I will attempt to help the reader understand this concept by explaining the sixth chord and an example of the combinations in forming the 6th chord. We are using the I of the chord in the bass.

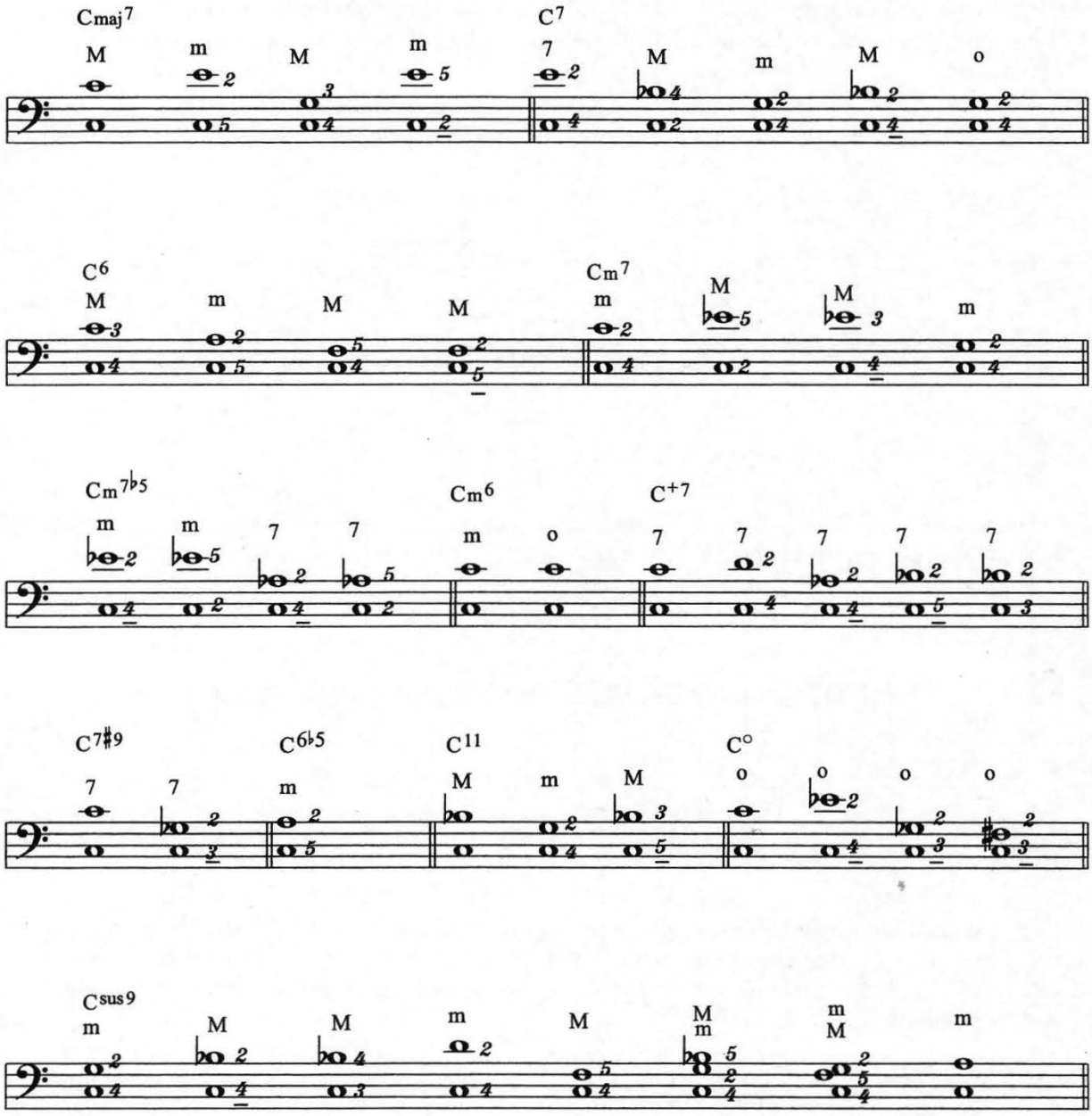


Notice the different ways that we can form the chords for the 6th. The first is the standard way that everyone knows. The second has C bass with the A minor chord. The third way has C bass with the F Major chord; this may seem exotic to some but it is very useful. The last uses C counter bass of A flat and the C Major chord. This is used in the event that you are playing bass lines around the basses by Db and Ab; this eliminates having to jump up to the C bass.

Try sustaining these combinations with C^6 chord on the right hand, and listen to the sounds carefully. You must apply these to all 12 keys so that you become proficient in all keys. Remember there are unlimited ways to form these chords by using another note in the bass besides the I of the chord.

Bass and Chord Combinations
(continued)

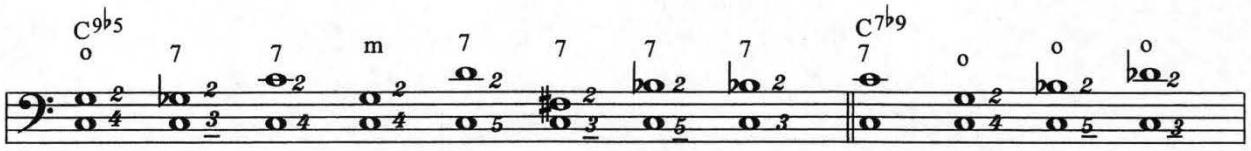
The following bass and chord combinations cover most of the types of chords that can be played using the I of the chord. (root)



BASS AND CHORD COMBINATIONS
(continued)

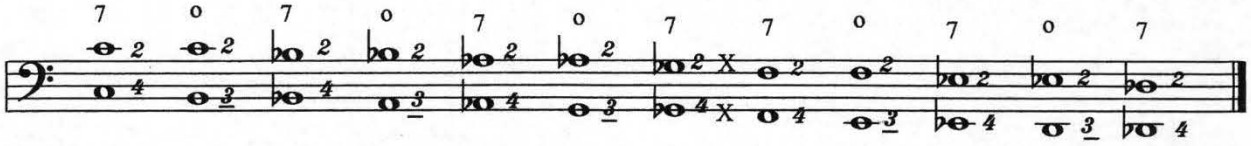
The previous page has the majority of bass & chord combinations. There are more but these are more than sufficient to get acquainted with, to form and play them. I would like to point out that some basses used with diminished chords do not work with all diminished chords, simply because of the structure of the left hand. Particularly where we use the C diminished chord with the C bass for the C_m6, we cannot use C bass and Eb diminished chords for the C_m6 because of the inversion used in the diminished chords on the left hand.

Notice the sustained C (C^{sus}), I have used two chords with a bass note; it is just another option.



I want to keep reminding you that these must be played and learned in all keys. Learn them using C bass as the root first, then learn a few new keys at a time. Play them with sustaining chords on the right hand and playing single note patterns against them.

SEVENTH CHORDS DESCENDING CHROMATICALLY

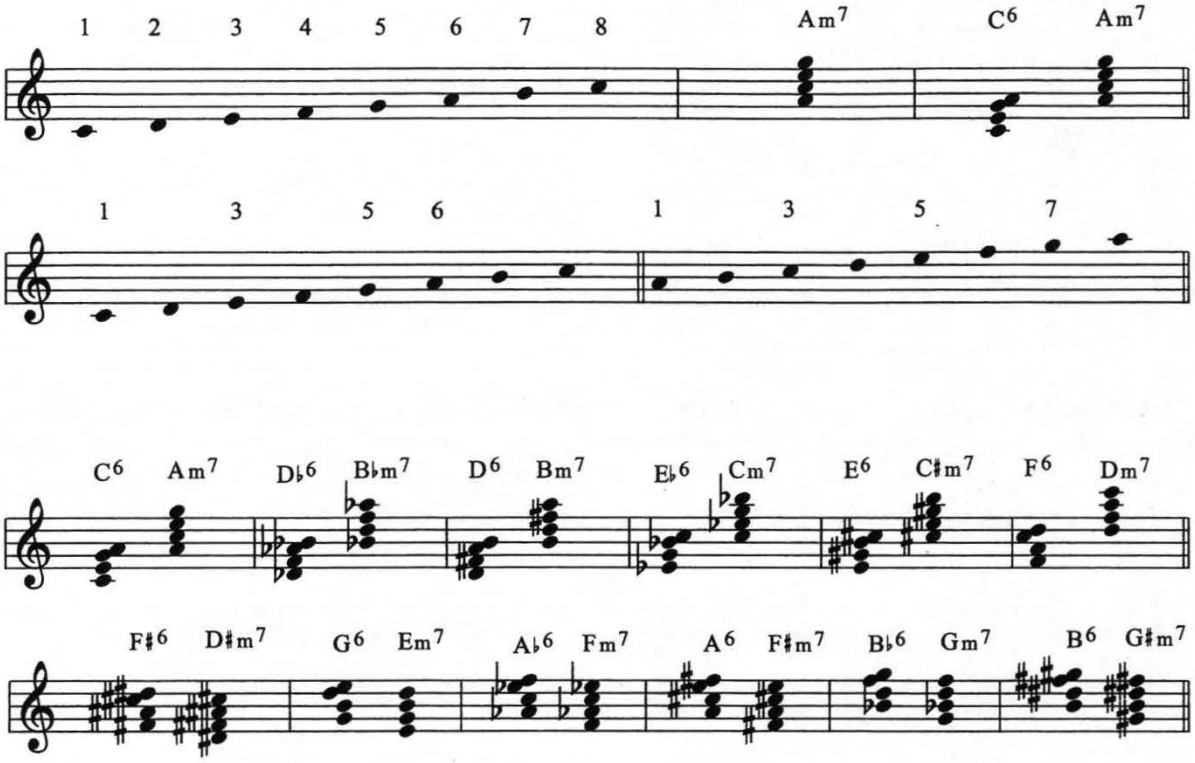


This will certainly stir some controversy among some purists of harmony. If you will notice that every other seventh chord has a flatted ninth in it. Remember we are not holding these chords for an eternity; the flatted ninth is just like playing a passing tone. In Jazz this is known as tension, and a little tension is good.

The X is the break point where you move up to continue the progression. If we were to continue this progression, we would be out of position.

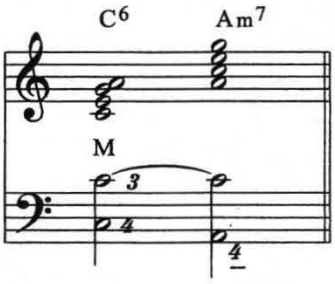
Relative Minor Chords

(Reinforcing page 27)



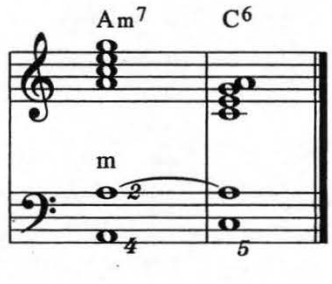
Each Major scale has a **relative minor scale**. It is derived from the sixth step of the Major scale. Look at the example above (second line, first measure) and you will see that **A** is the sixth step of the **C** scale. It is also known as the **Aeolian scale/mode**. (Refer back to modes)

You must be adept at knowing the relative minor seventh of each M^6 chord. This will help you in improvisation, chord substitution and chord playing, as well as in the use of playing the melody in chords or as background. When another instrument or vocalist is playing or singing the melody, you must be able to sustain and /or play chords as a background.



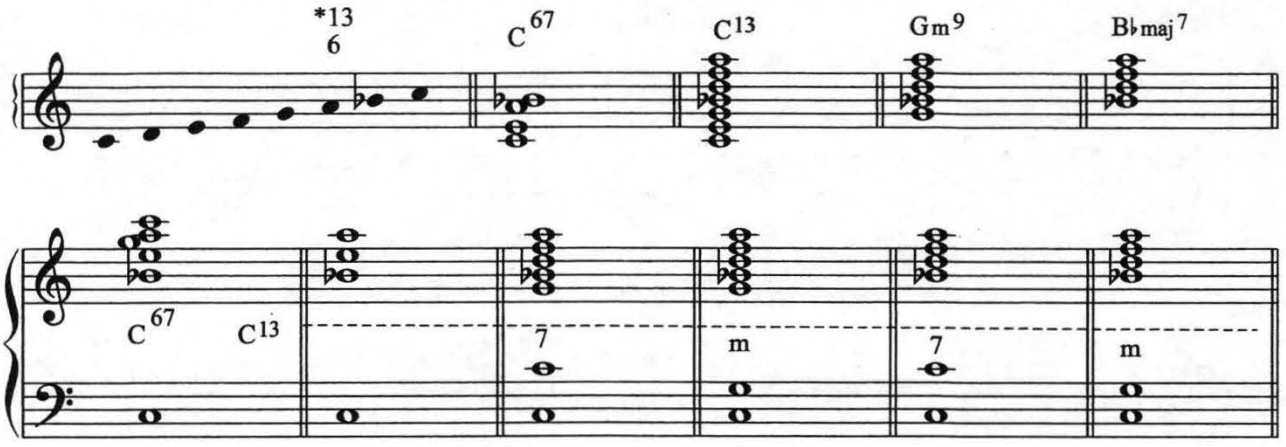
Notice that we did not have to move up to the Am chord. We just had to change the bass note. (←—)

The same holds true for the Am^7 to the C^6. (—→)

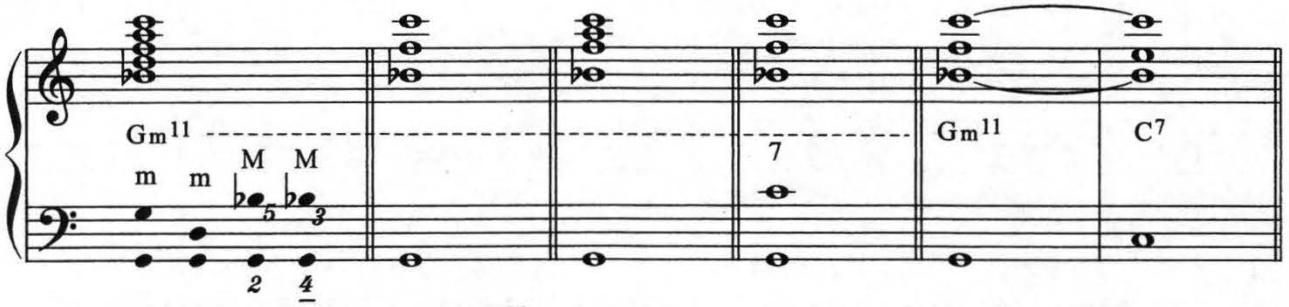


Resolving the IIm & V^7

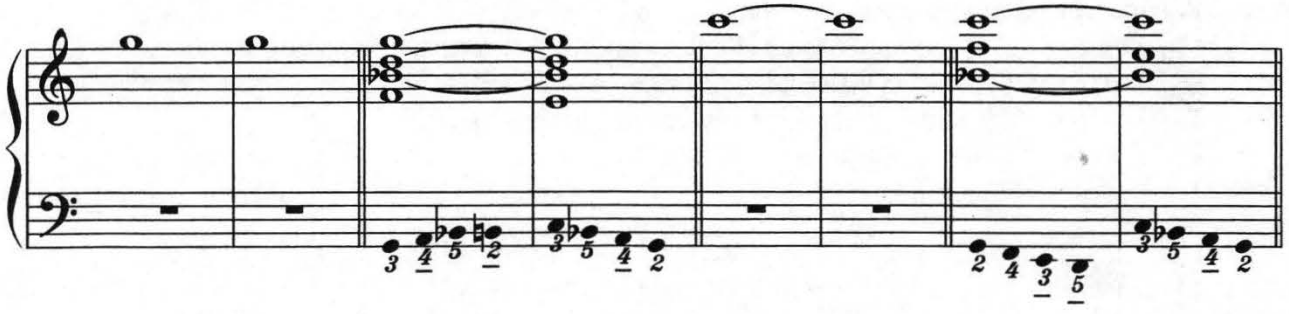
(Voicings)



The use of the m^7 and 7 chords are important because of the frequency that they occur. I have given a few examples of the different voicings that can be used for each, and how to apply the bass. The C^{67}and C^{13} are actually the same chords. *Remember that we learned that we could add 7 to any step of the Major scale and arrive at its other interval. 6 + 7 = 13



Here are different ways to voice the m^{11} and showing how to resolve it to the 7th. I have given examples of different ways to voice the bass on the m^{11}.

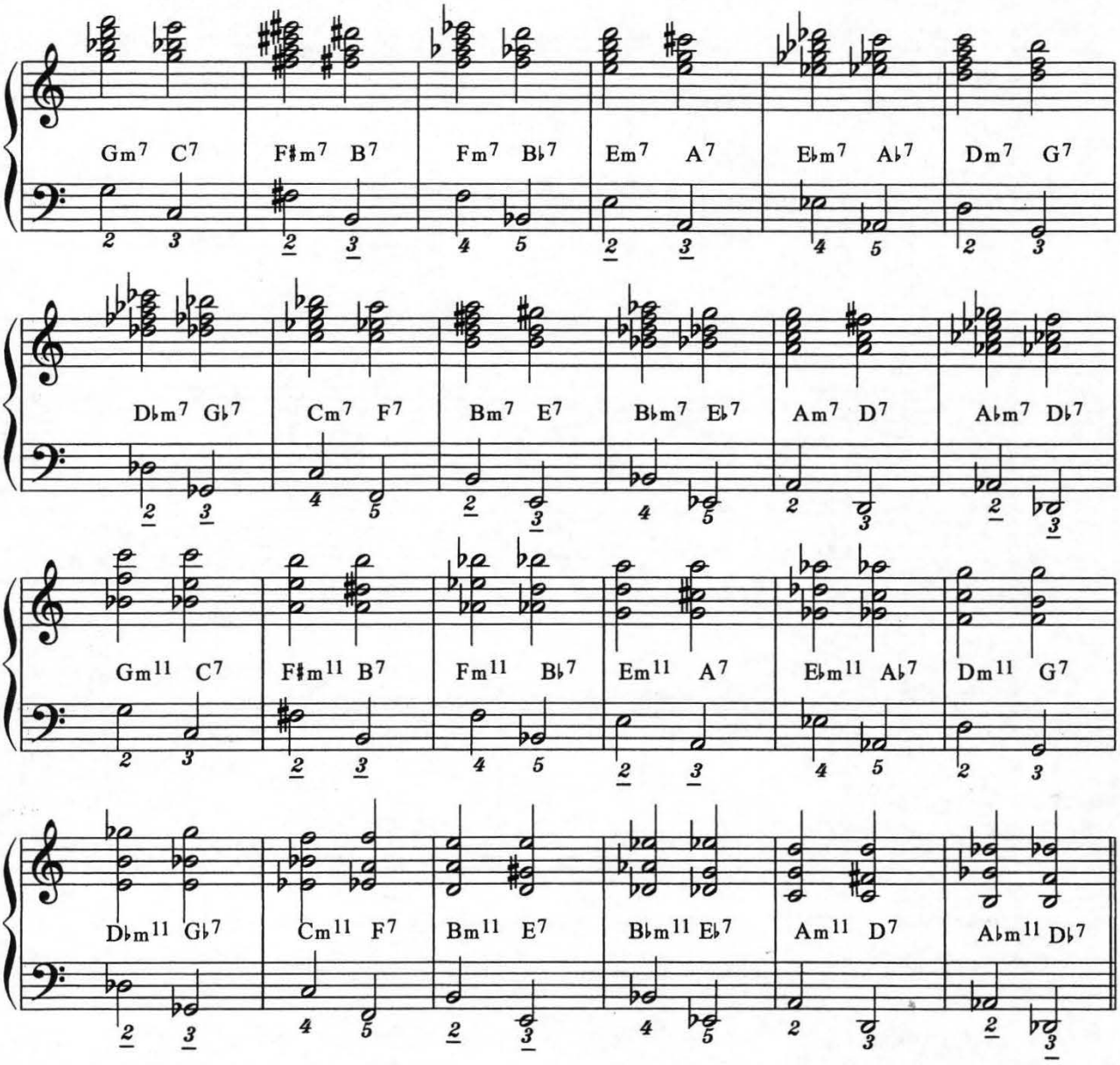


There is nothing so redundant as holding the same chord when it is so easy to "make something happen". Any time that you have a V^7 chord being held for any duration, **substitute the IIm^7 before it** (Example given above). This breaks the monotony and gives you more ideas on which to play lines. **(IMPROVISE)**

IIm^7 is 2m^7 (In the key of F, it is Gm^7)

IIm^7 & V^7

(Resolving the IIm^7 to the V^7)

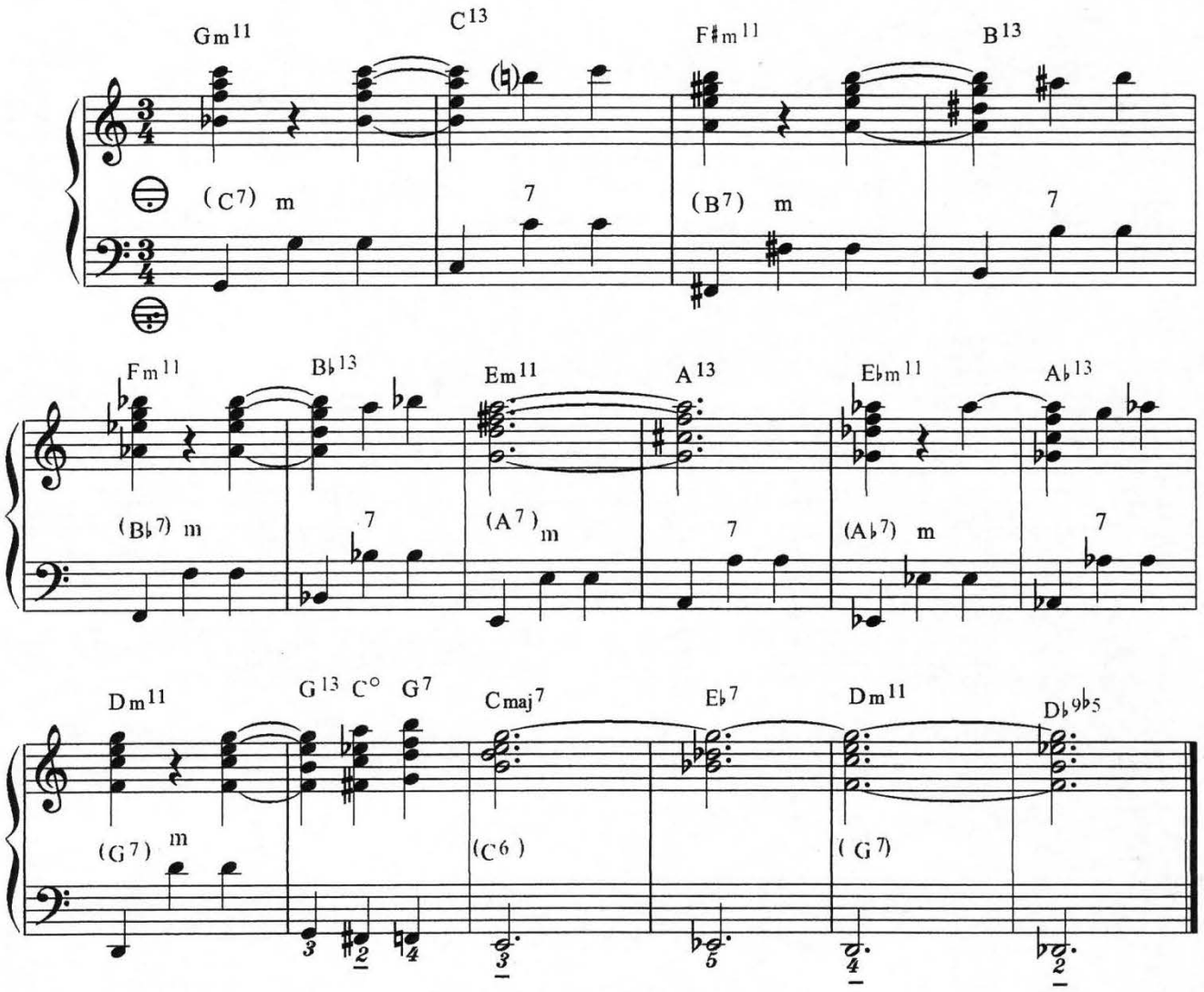


We have two examples of resolving the IIm^7 to the V^7. The first two lines are a simple chromatic progression. Both are examples of the Dorian Mode. You should be able to start from any measure.

The last two lines show you how to resolve the IIm^7 to the V^7 by just moving one note in the minor eleventh to the seventh chord. Notice in the 1st measure (Gm^{11} to C^7) the only note that moves on the right hand is the F to E. This repeats in each measure. Once again, you should be able to start the progression from any measure.

Lover

ideas by Ralph Stricker

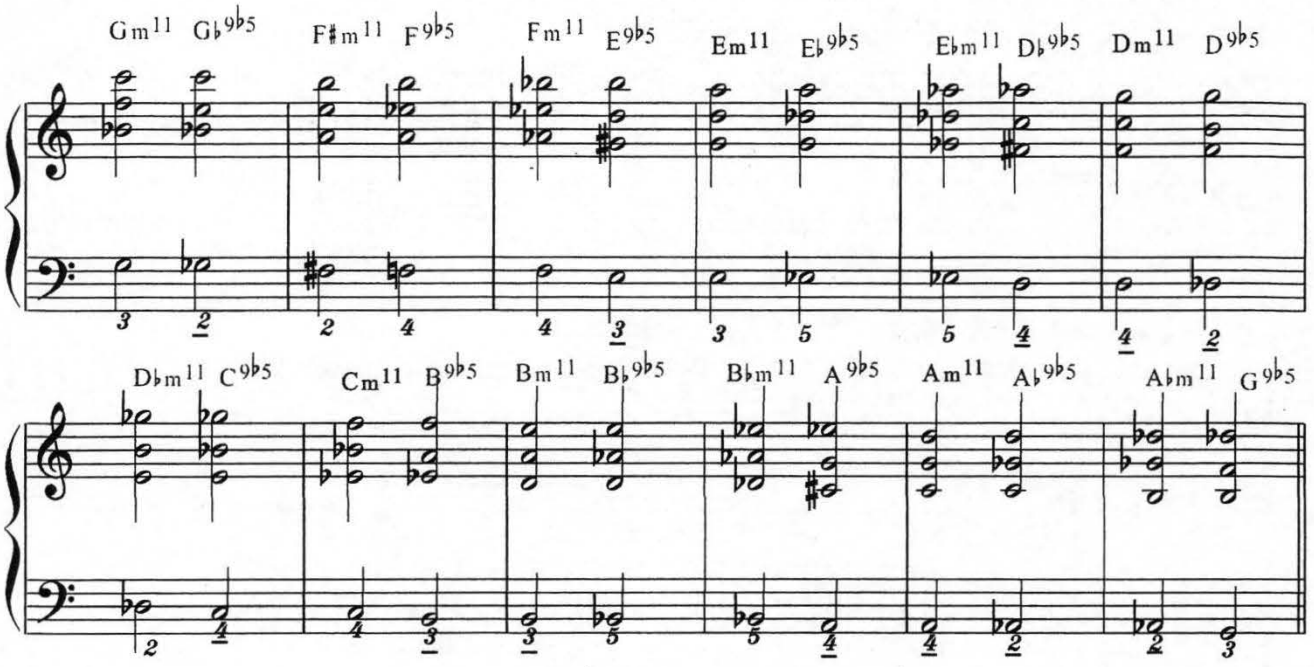


Chords in ( ) are the original chords of the song.

This song is an example of substituting the minor seventh chord for the seventh. Using the seventh (C^7) chord as an example, we can use the minor seventh (Gm^7) before resolving the the C^7. The first twelve measures are an example of this.

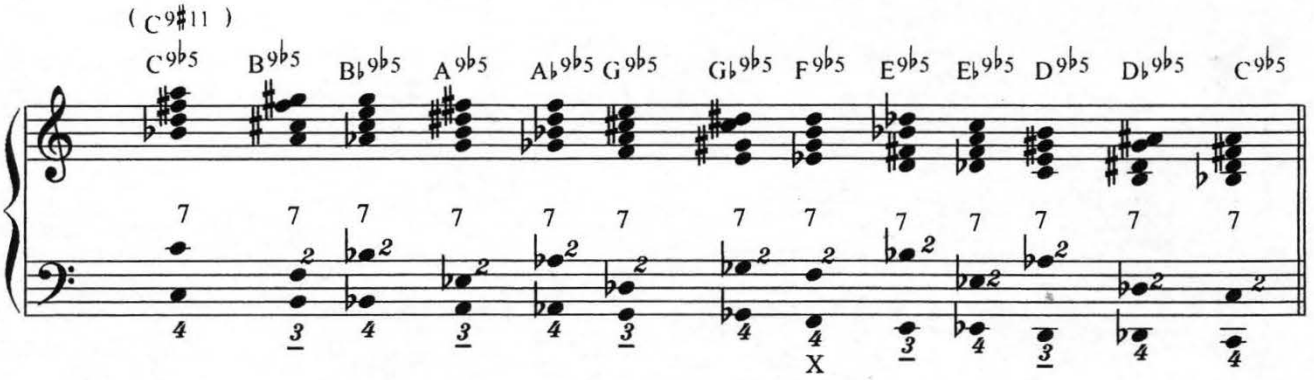
I have also showed you an example of voicing these chords. When the I is the melody note of the seventh chord, we substitute the Vm^{11} chord for the seventh. This was explained in depth previously on pages 48 and 49.

Substituting 9b5 for V7



The substitution of the 9b5 for the C7 is a very common practice; Gb is the b5 of C and vice-versa.

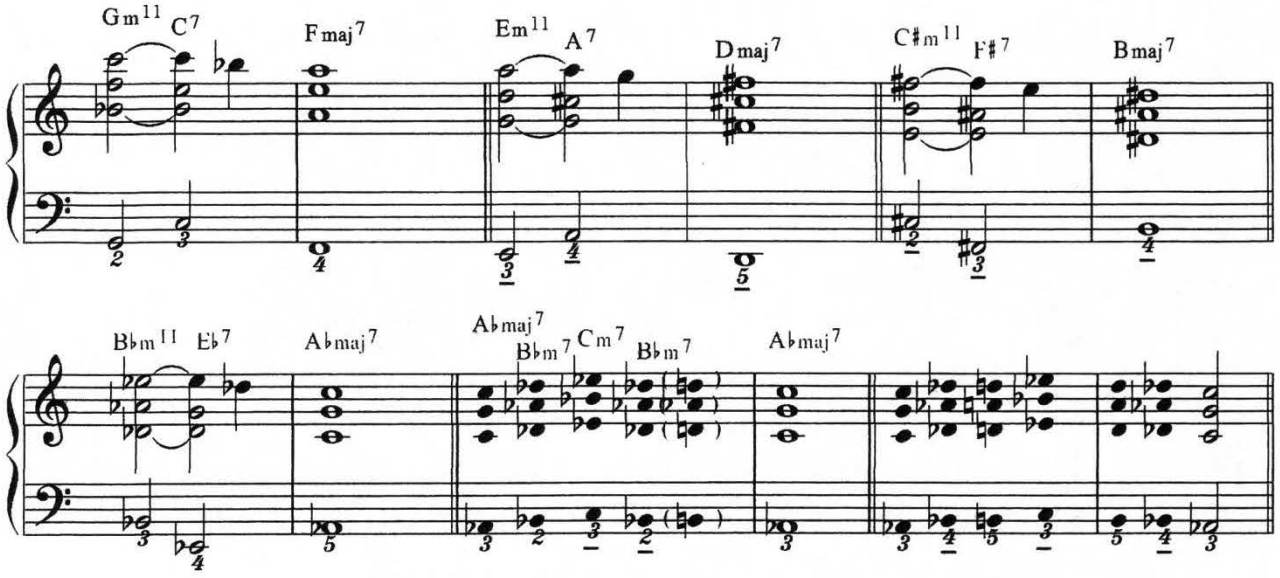
Chromatic Progression (9b5)



Above is another way to voice the 9b5 chord. Notice that the right hand voicing is actually an augmented chord with a M^7 (Bb+add M7).

I have written a bass line in chromatic form, using bass/chord. You do not have to "jump" all over the bass side to play progressions. I have marked an X for the "split point", since continuing the progression would bring you to the bottom of the bass board. You may choose your own split point depending on where you are going chordwise. It is a good idea to start at different points in order to become familiar with starting anywhere in the progression.

Resolving IIm^{11} V^7 IM^7

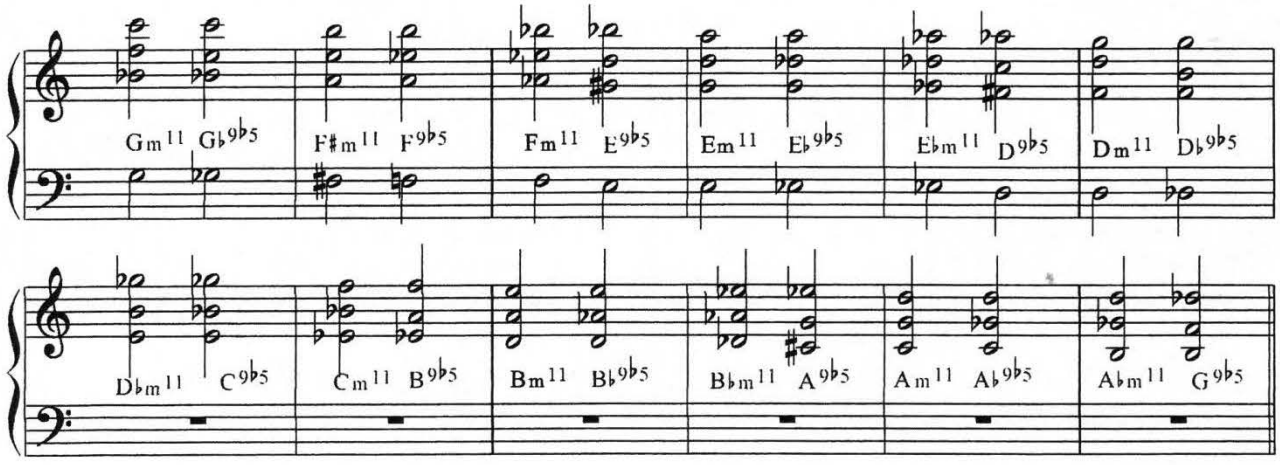


These are examples of resolving the IIm V^7 to the I and voicings. The last two measures show how to extend the line. They can be used individually or as a combination with the resolution; they are also easy to use as background with a lead instrument. A substitution can be used in the 1st AbM^7 progression --- on the 4th chord Bbm^7, use B diminished instead of Bbm^7, changing the D flats to D naturals.

Practice all of the above in all keys.

Chromatic Progression

(m^{11} resolving to 9b5)

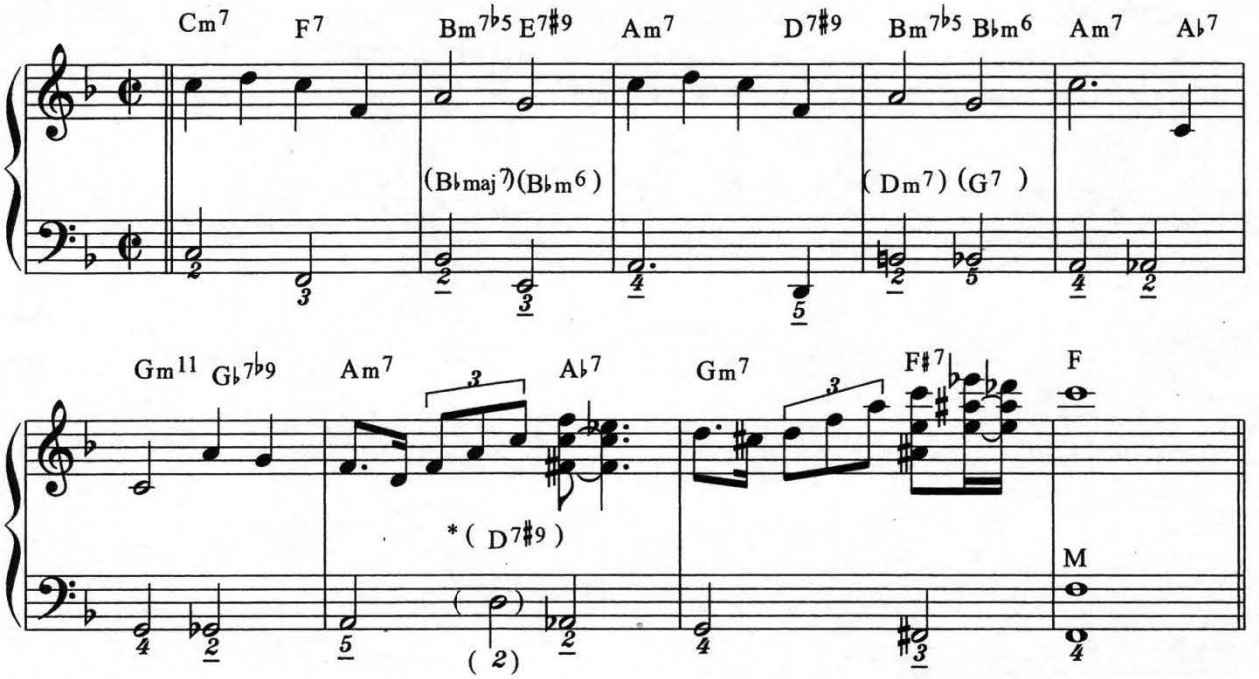


The substitution of the 9b5 for the V^7 is a very common practice in jazz. You will later learn that it is part of the **Super Locrian** scale. The bass note changes the chord. If you were to use a C bass in the first measure instead of Gb, you would have resolved to C^7 (page 49). I suggest practicing both voicings.

You should be able to start your progression, or measure, from any chord.

Chord Substitutions

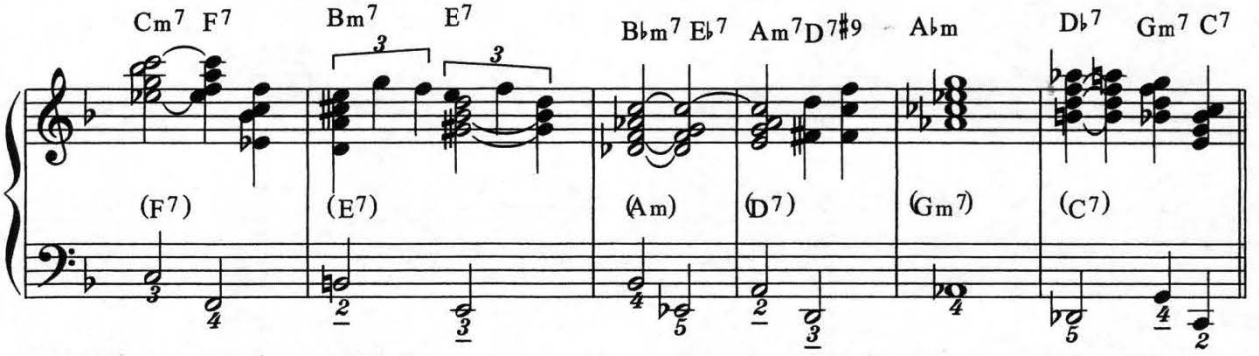
I'M OLD FASHIONED
(Last 8 measures)



* substitution for Ab^7

Notice D is the b5 of Ab and vice versa (Ab is the b5 of D)....play the song both ways. The chords in parentheses are the original chords of the song.

CHANGING PARTNERS

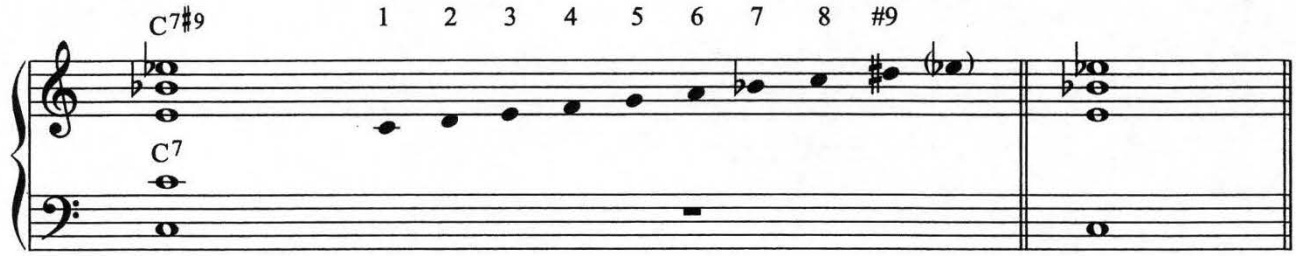


This is another example of using the Vm^7 resolving to the I^7. The above measures are the 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 measures of "Changing Partners". The original chords to the song are in parantheses.

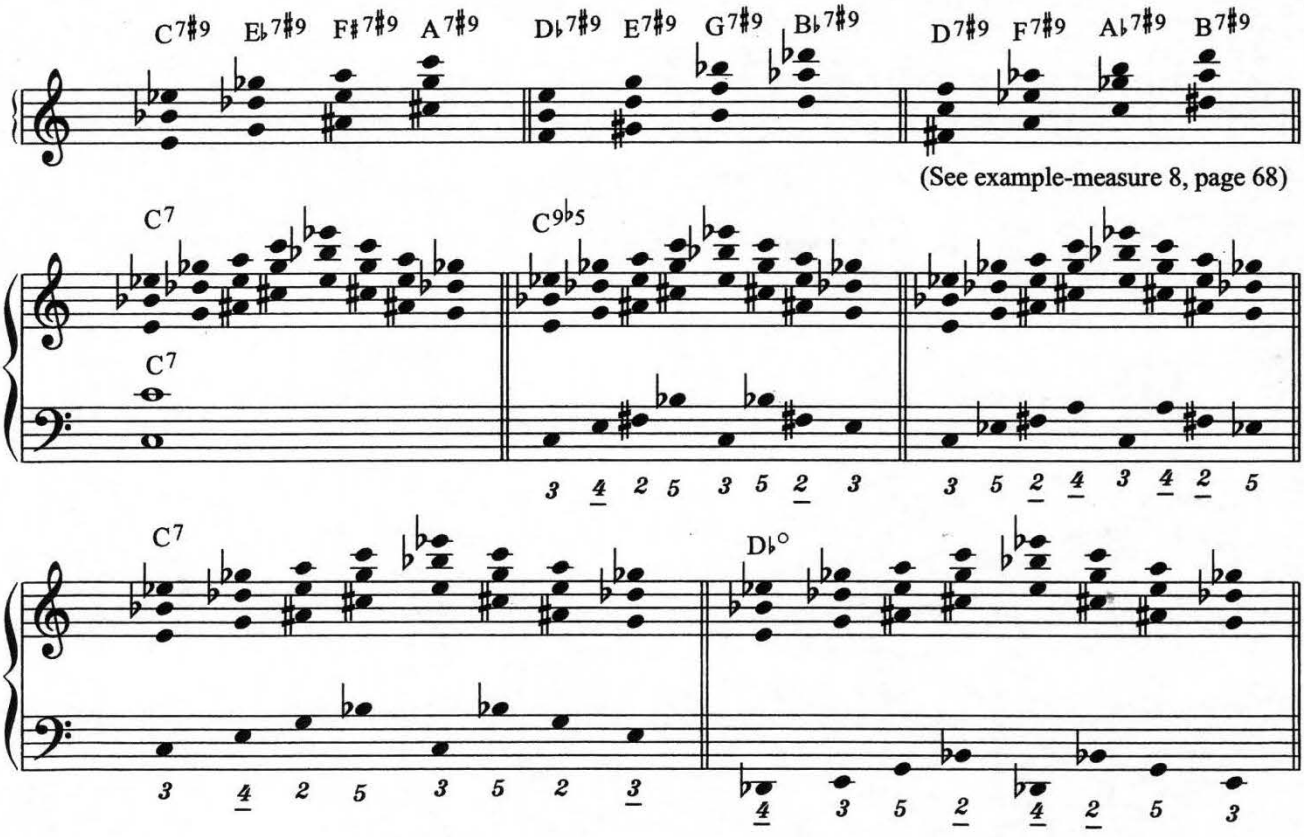
Sharp Nine Chord

(#9)

The #9 chord is another of those dual personality chords. It is sometimes called a half diminished chord. The ninth step of the scale is raised a half step. Notice the bottom note of each sequence of chords; once again they form the diminished chord.

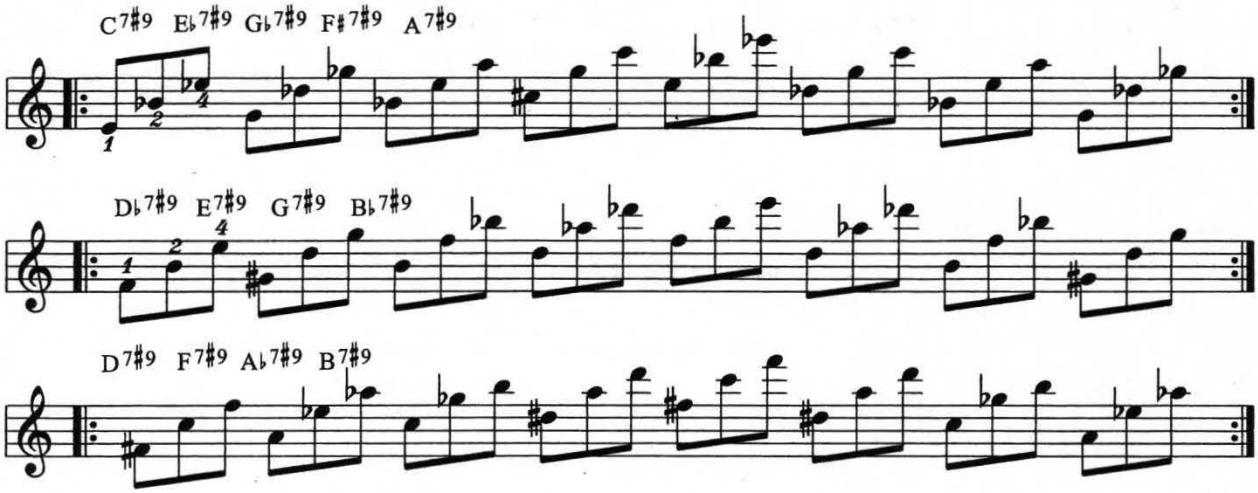


Notice the bottom notes of each of the following sequences of chords. They form the diminished chord.

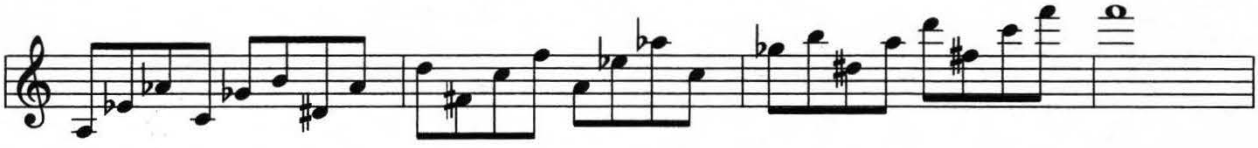


Once again we have an example of the relationship of chords. If we change the bass note, we change the chord. We have four chords to each set which form the three diminished chords. Therefore 3 x 4 = 12. This may be confusing to you at this point, but the more you play and use them, the more familiar they will become.

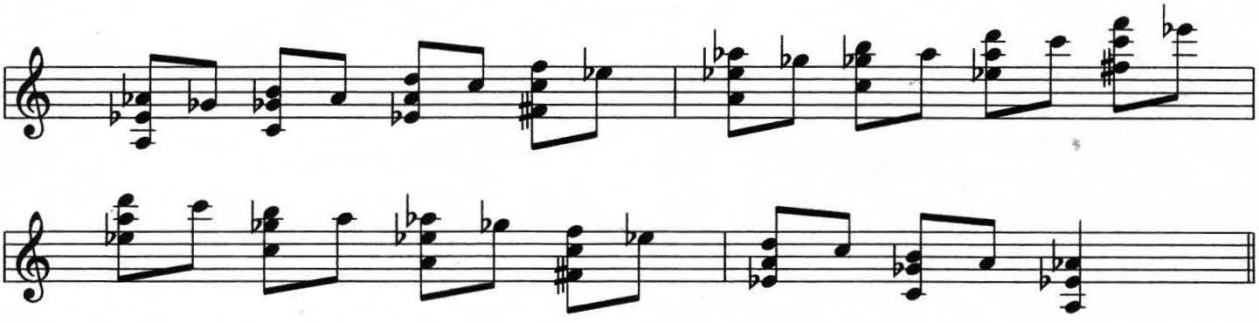
Sharp Nine Continued



The above exercises are the #9 chords in broken chord form. Once again we have a set of four different chords for each series. Practice holding different chords in the bass as you play each set. They are to be played in triplets. Once again, look at the starting note of each triplet; they form a diminished chord (Db, E, G, Bb).

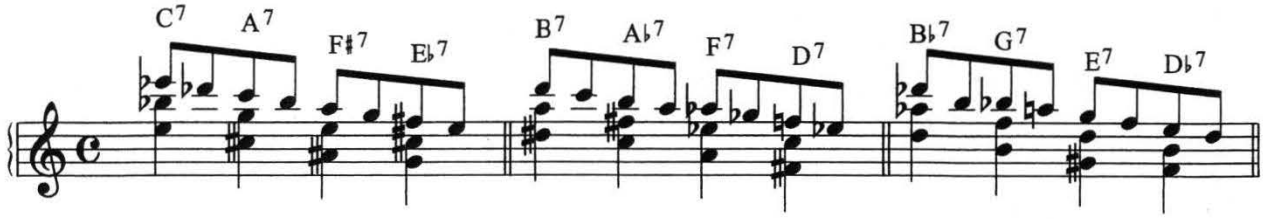


The above figures are the #9 played in groups of fours; they can also be played using sixteenth notes, or whatever value you wish to assign. These must be played in all keys.



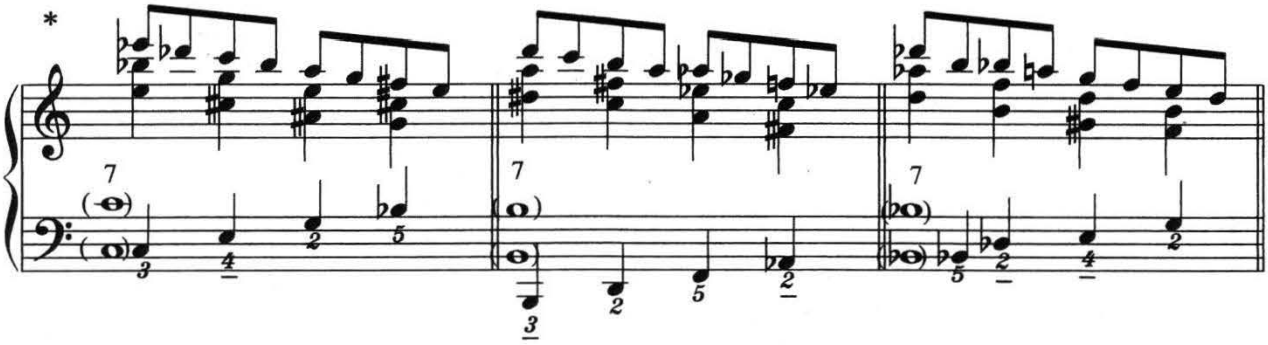
This is another useful form of the #9 chord. This exercise should also be played in all keys. There are only three different patterns (Remember: 3 x 4 = 12). This will eventually become more clear.

Sharp Nines - Continued



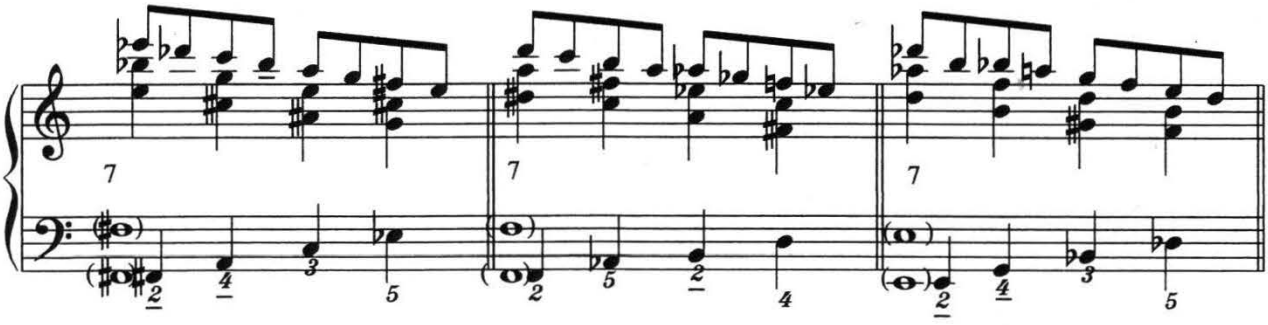
There are four sets of #9's for each measure (3 x 4 = 12); let's look at how to use each one. In the first measure we would use the first figure (C^7) if you wanted to play with a C^7 chord; you could also start on the third figure ($F\#^7$) because we have learned that the flat fives (b5) are reversible (C/F#). If you had an A^7 as the chord, you would start on the second figure (A^7) or the fourth figure (Eb^7). The same applies to each in all three measures.

Examples using chords and/or bass



* See fourth measure of "How About You" (page 96)

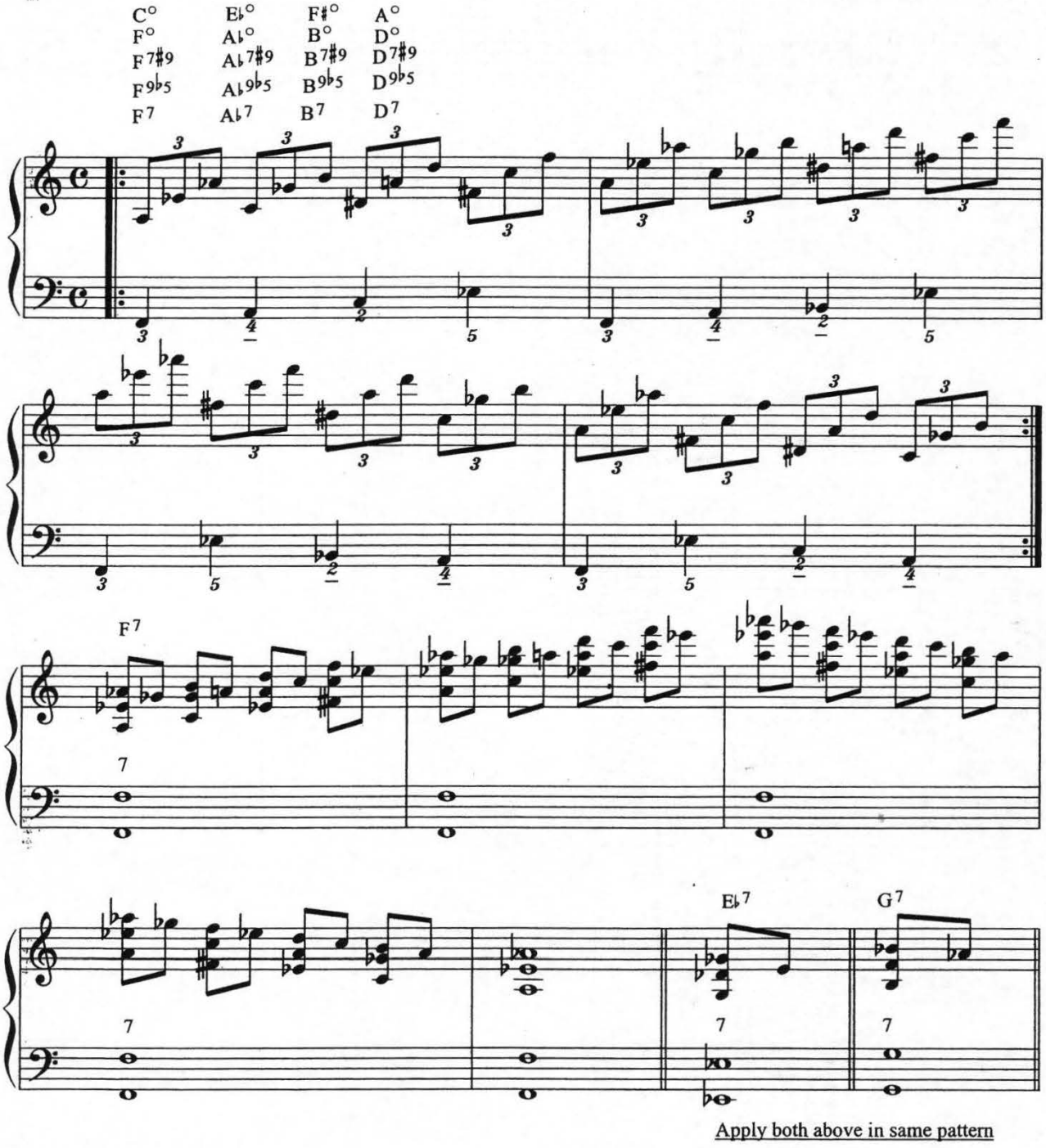
More Examples



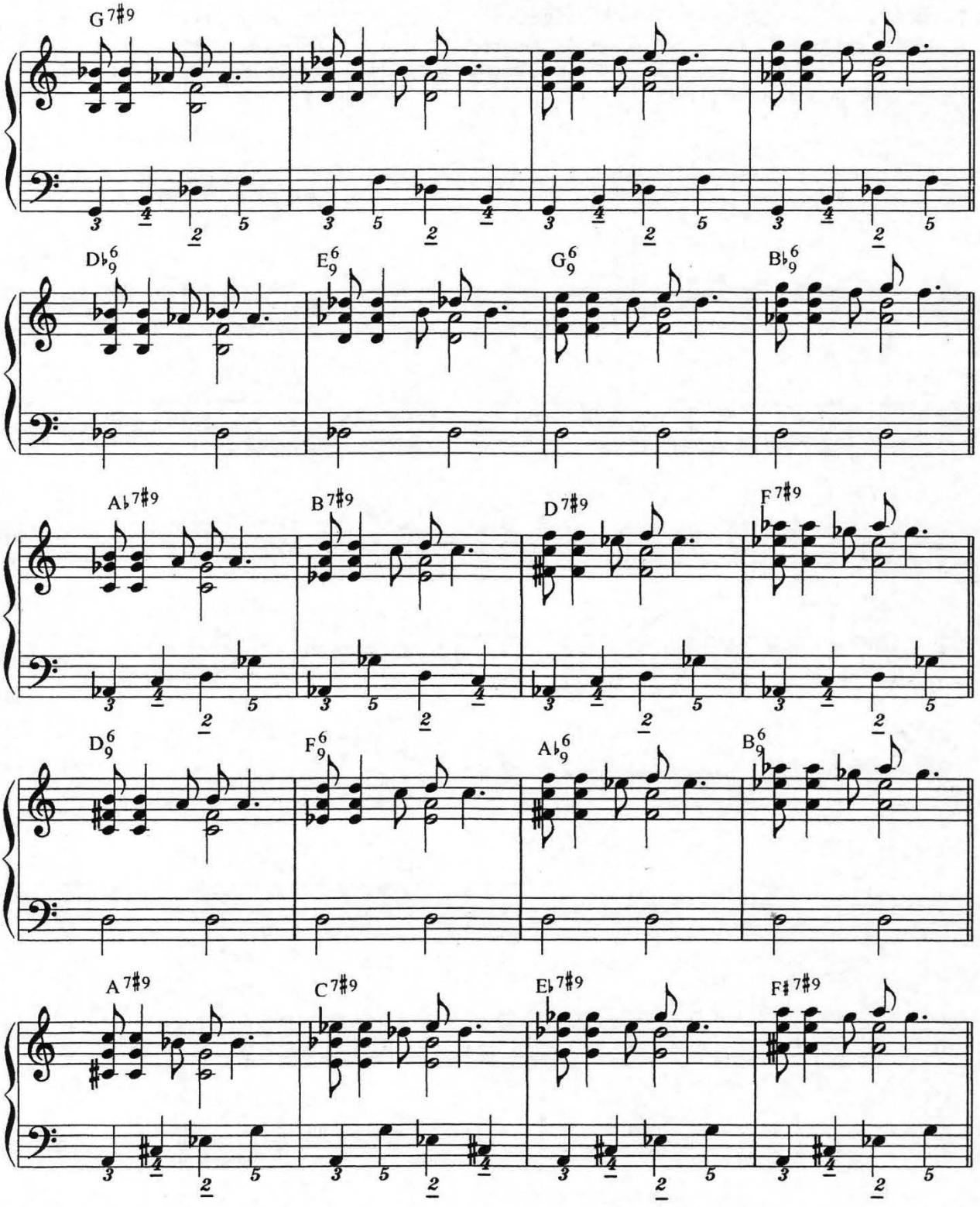
The above are examples of starting on the b5.....(F#/C) (F/B) (E/Bb). I used a diminished seventh arpeggio in the bass. You can use a seventh arpeggio also, or choose to sustain a bass chord. The combinations are endless.

Sharp Nine and Substitutions

The #9 is a very versatile chord. You will notice that the bottom note of each ascending triplet forms a diminished chord (A C D# F#) and the middle and top notes form additional diminished chords (Eb Gb A C) and (Ab B D F). Therefore these can be substituted for the chords listed below. They can also be applied to all three patterns previously shown.



Sharp Nines and Using Them

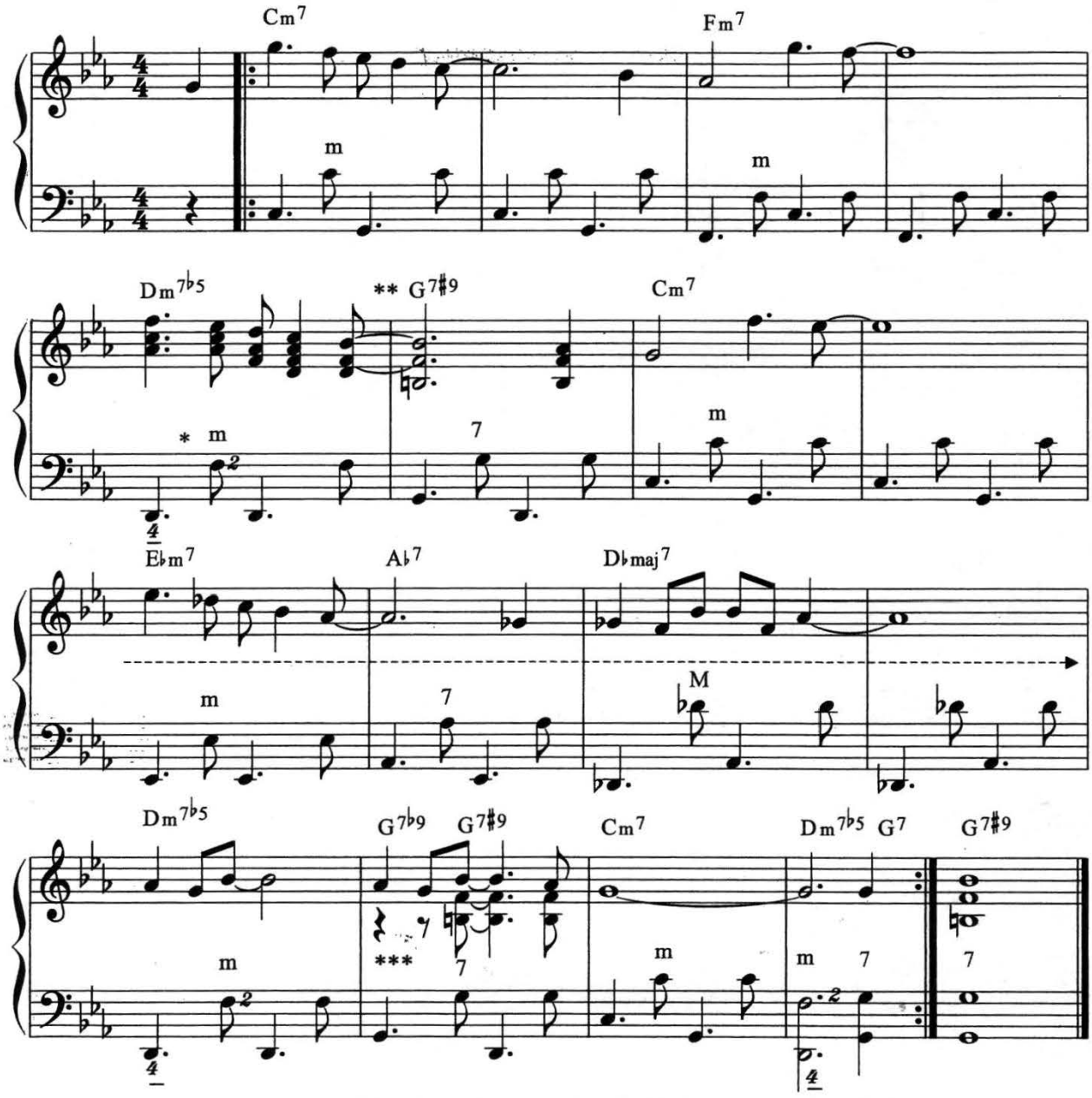


continued on next page

Blue Bossa

Bossa Nova Beat

Kenny Durham
ideas by Ralph Stricker



* Notice the bass-chord combination. D counter bass of Bb and F minor chord.

** Voicing of the $G^{7\sharp9}$. It resolves to a $G^{7\flat9}$.

*** Play the last 4 bars twice more to use as an ending. Use $G^{7\sharp9}$ as a final chord.

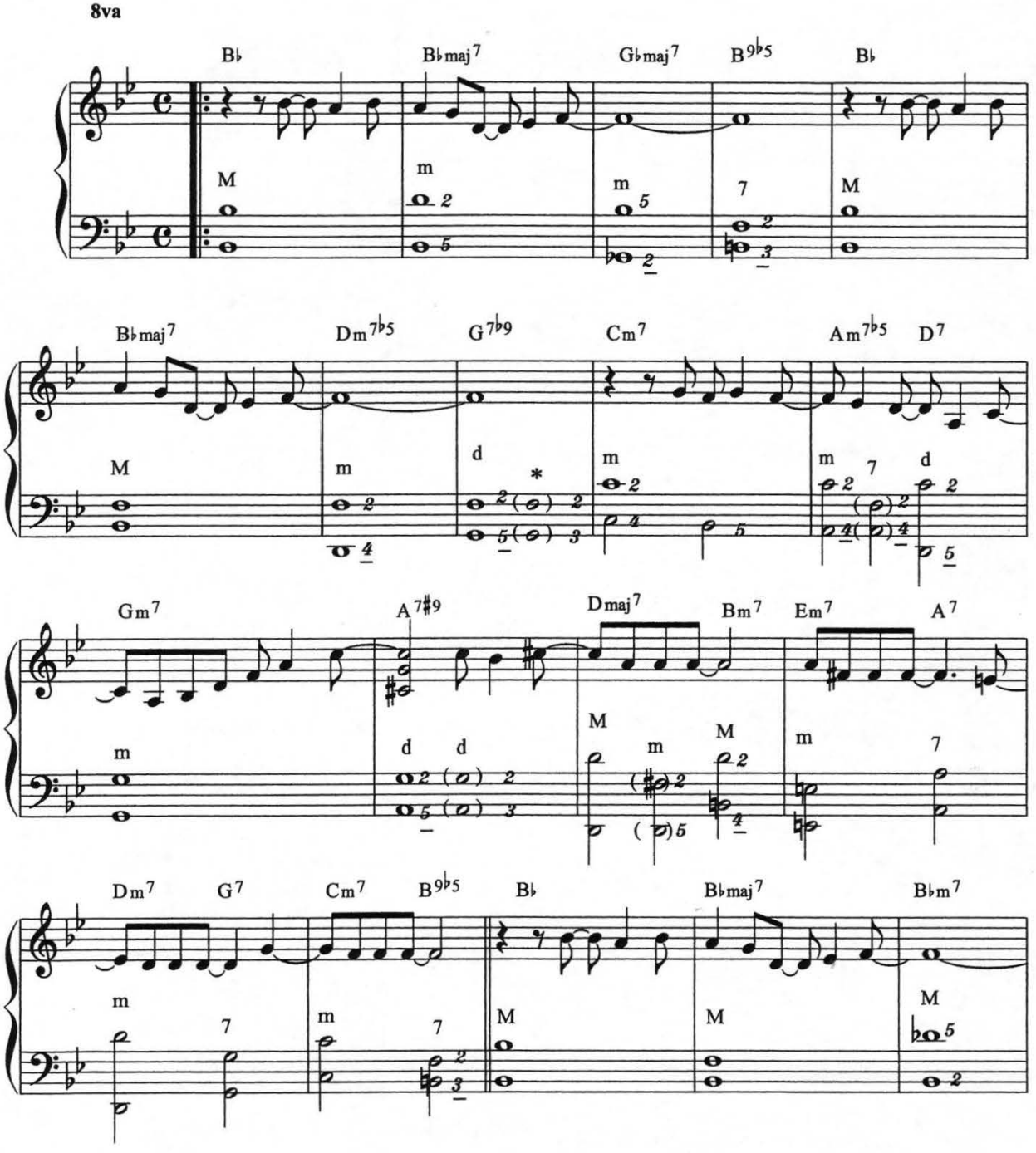
----> Four measures of Dorian Mode (Ebm7 II, Ab7 V, DbM7 I)

If you are not familiar with the beat for Bossa Nova, you should practice the left hand alone. Once you can keep a steady beat, play both hands.

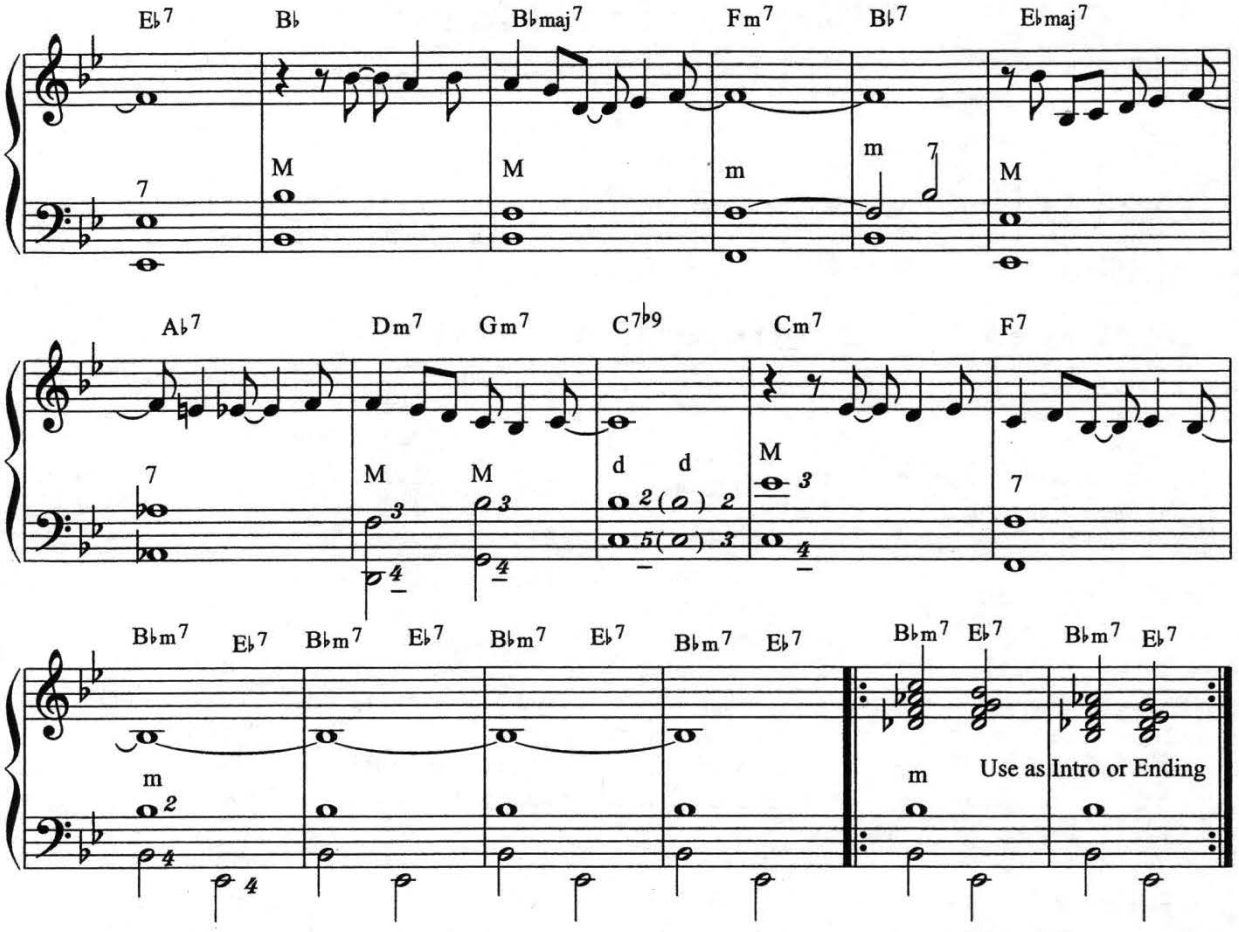
Triste

Bossa Nova

A.C. Jobim
with Ideas by Ralph Stricker



* The chord and bass combinations that are in parentheses are alternative voicings that can be used.



This song is a perfect example of bass and chord voicings. I am not advising the reader to use them as an arrangement, but merely to show that there are more ways to play the left hand than the archaic way we have been taught.

There is another reason for learning these voicings; the MIDI accordion is gaining popularity and forming these chords enhances the player's sound on these instruments.

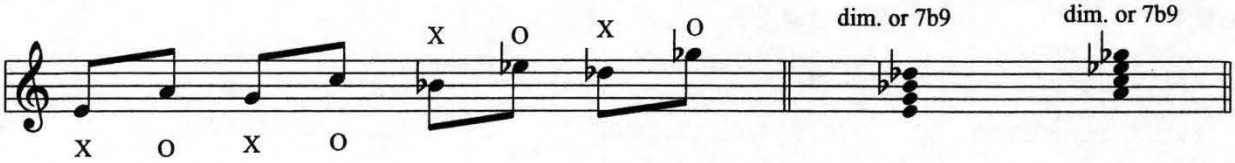
I have also been working and experimenting with the Roland RA-50 drum machine which plays accompaniment when you play bass and chords on the MIDI accordion. I believe that this is an absolutely marvelous pice of equipment for the solo accordionist. (Also the RA-90 which is difficult to find because Roland has stopped making them.)

Progression Using the 4th Interval

(Layered diminished - 7b9)

Because of its many uses the next figure that we will learn is one of the most interesting of all. On the previous page I advised the reader to analyze the piece upon which they are working at the time. We will now learn how to dissect a particular figure.

Let's take the first figure on the next page and examine it closely.



First notice the intervals between the notes that are marked X and O (e.g. E and A). This is called a 4th interval. The notes marked X form a diminished chord; it could be E, G, Bb or Db diminished, depending on the bass note. They could also be a C^{7b9}, depending on the note. The notes marked O also form a diminished chord (A, C, Eb, Gb diminished) depending on the bass note. They could also be an F^{7b9} depending on the bass note.

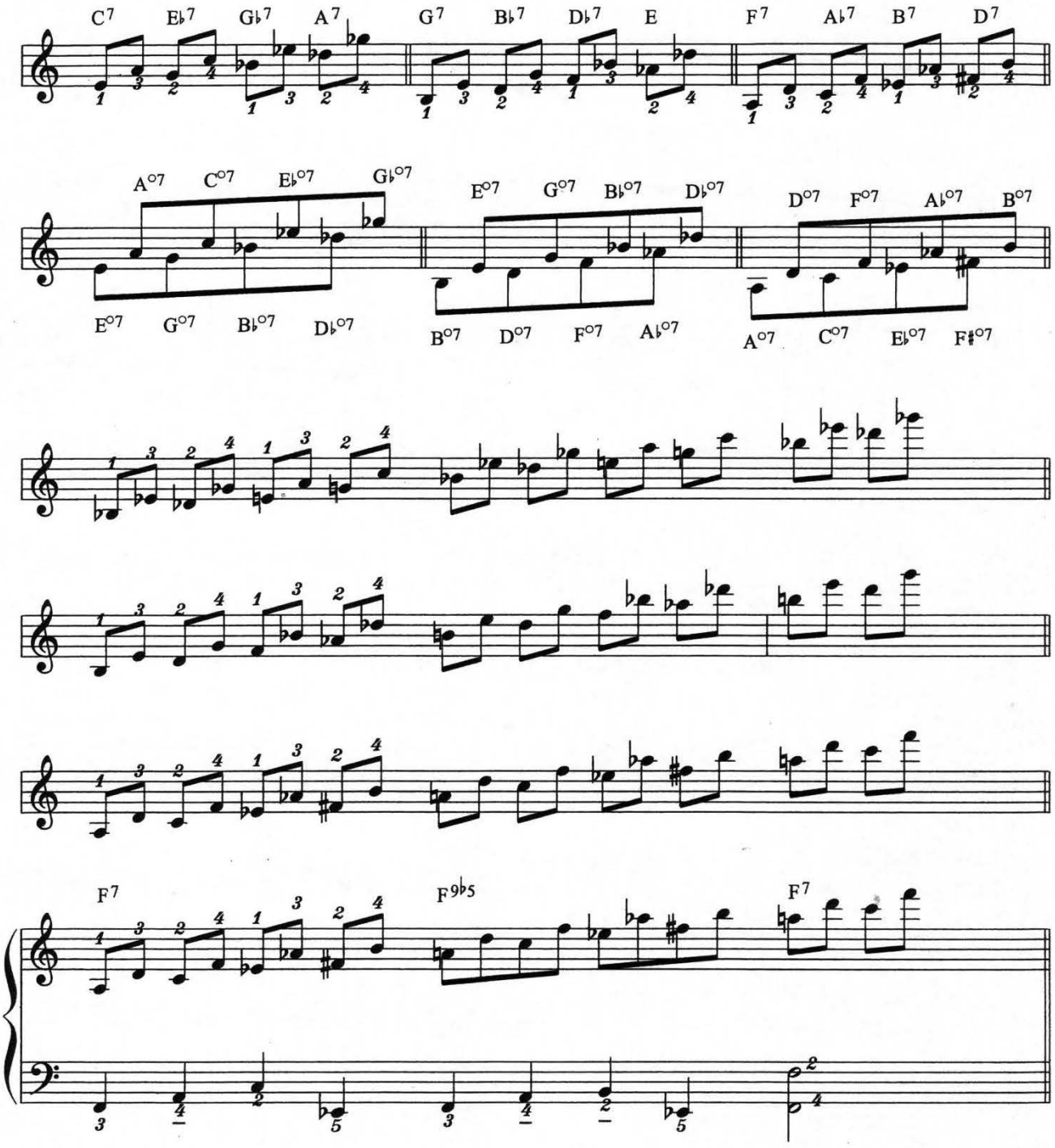
In essence we have two diminished chords or two 7b9 chords, "layered" whichever way we wish to use. You can start the figure from any of the X's, depending on the chord it is being played against. For example, by starting on E the chord could be C^{7}, C^{7b9} or one of the diminished chords that contain the note E. There are more chords that this can be played against, but for now let us just work with those mentioned.

The first three measures on the next page represent the three permutations that can be used. You can vary these by starting on the different notes as outlined above. You will have four variations for each of the three examples (3 x 4 = 12).

I have written two different bass examples; the first is the seventh arpeggio, the second is the 9b5 arpeggio. You could also use the diminished scale, diminished arpeggio, the symmetrical scale, super locrian and melodic minor. The options for the left hand are enormous; you should never be at a loss having to think of a bass line.

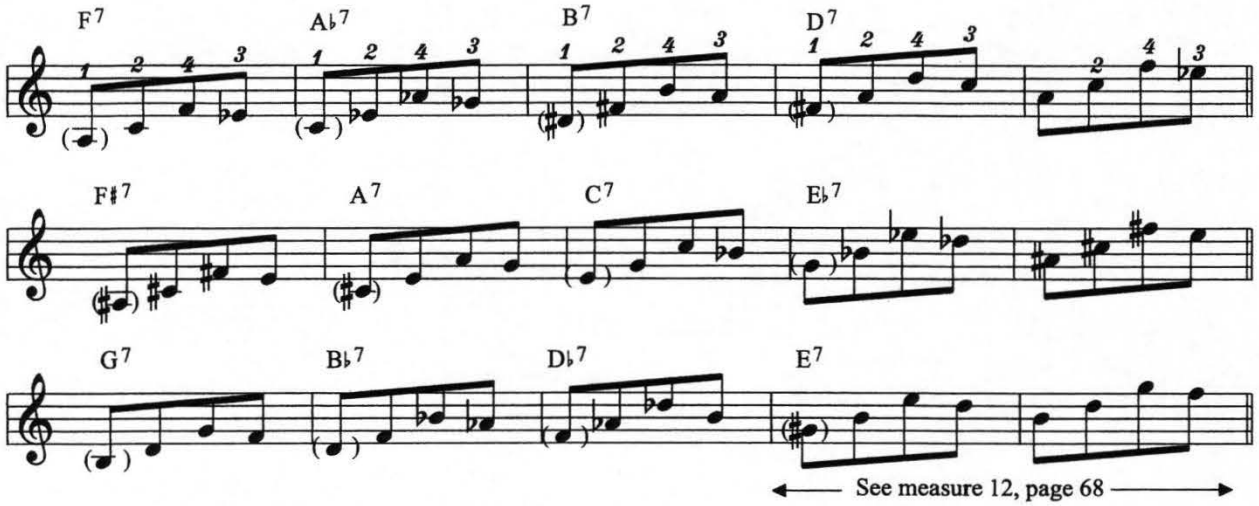
This is an example of how you should be analyzing all of your work. Do not become mechanical; play cerebrally as well as physically.

Layered Diminished



Seventh Chord Figures

(diminished chord reference)

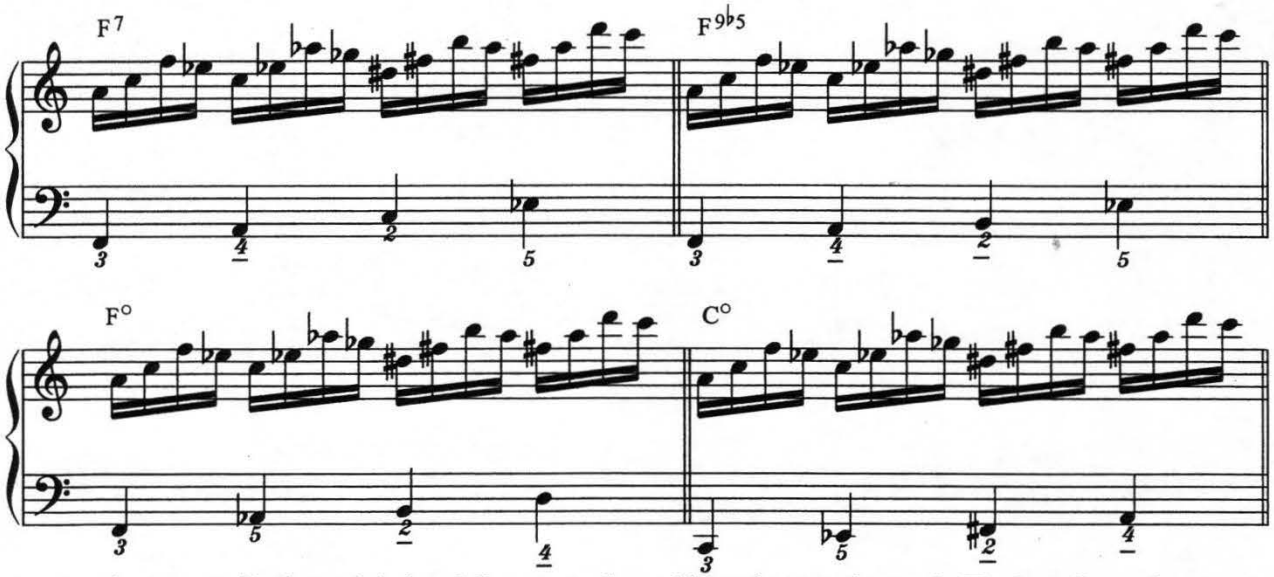


See measure 12, page 68

The first note of each figure in parentheses forms the diminished chord. We can play any figure in a set, against any of the seventh chords in that set. Practice sustaining seventh chords in the bass as you play the right hand.

For example: sustain F^7 in the bass and play the right hand figures against that chord. Change chords and do the same. F^7 can be played against Ab^7, B^7, D^7 and vice versa.

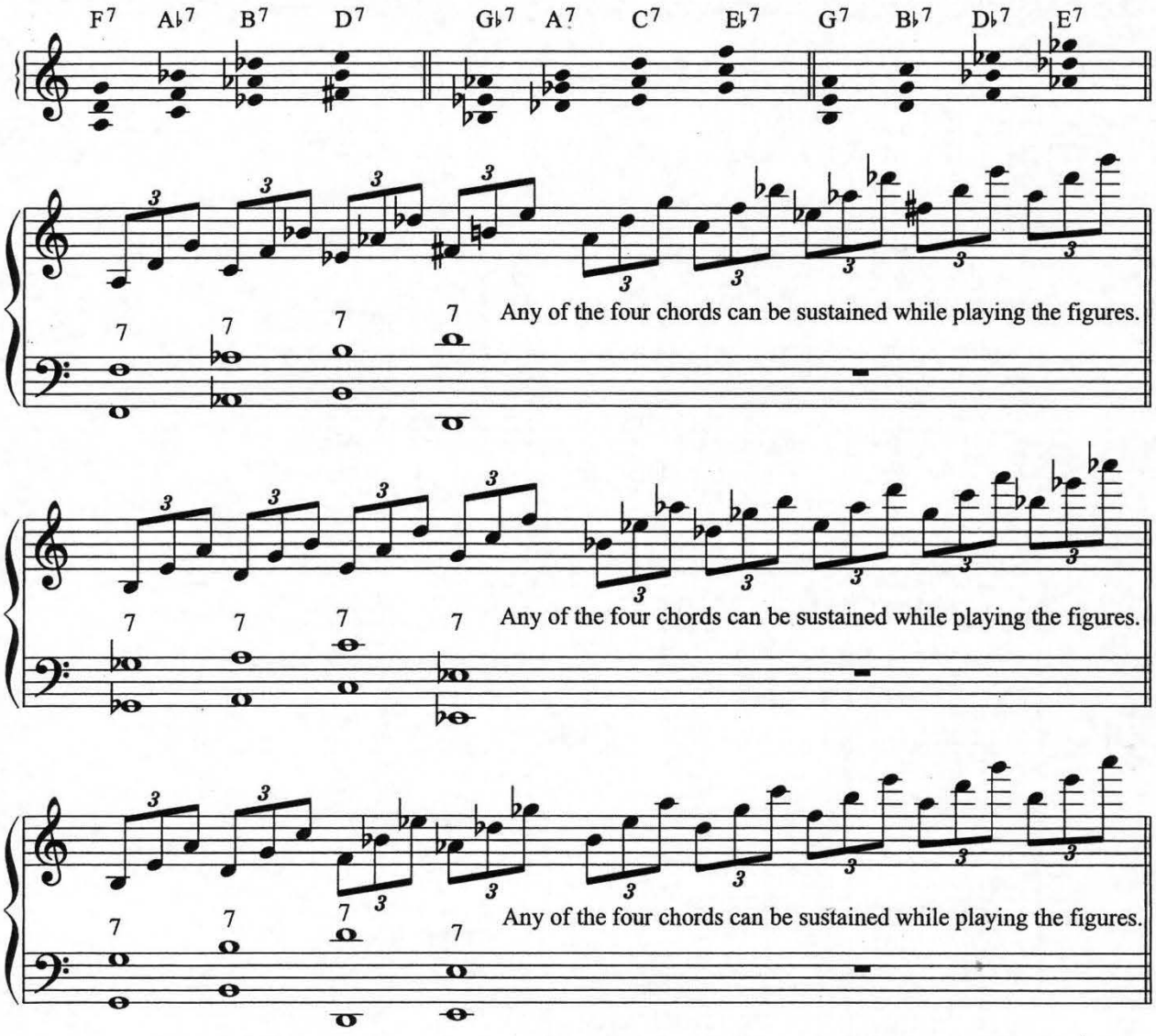
Different bass lines using the same right hand figures



Look at how versatile these right hand figures can be and how they can be used. The bass lines give you many ideas and different uses in a song.

Multi-Layered Diminshed

(Based on 4th intervals)

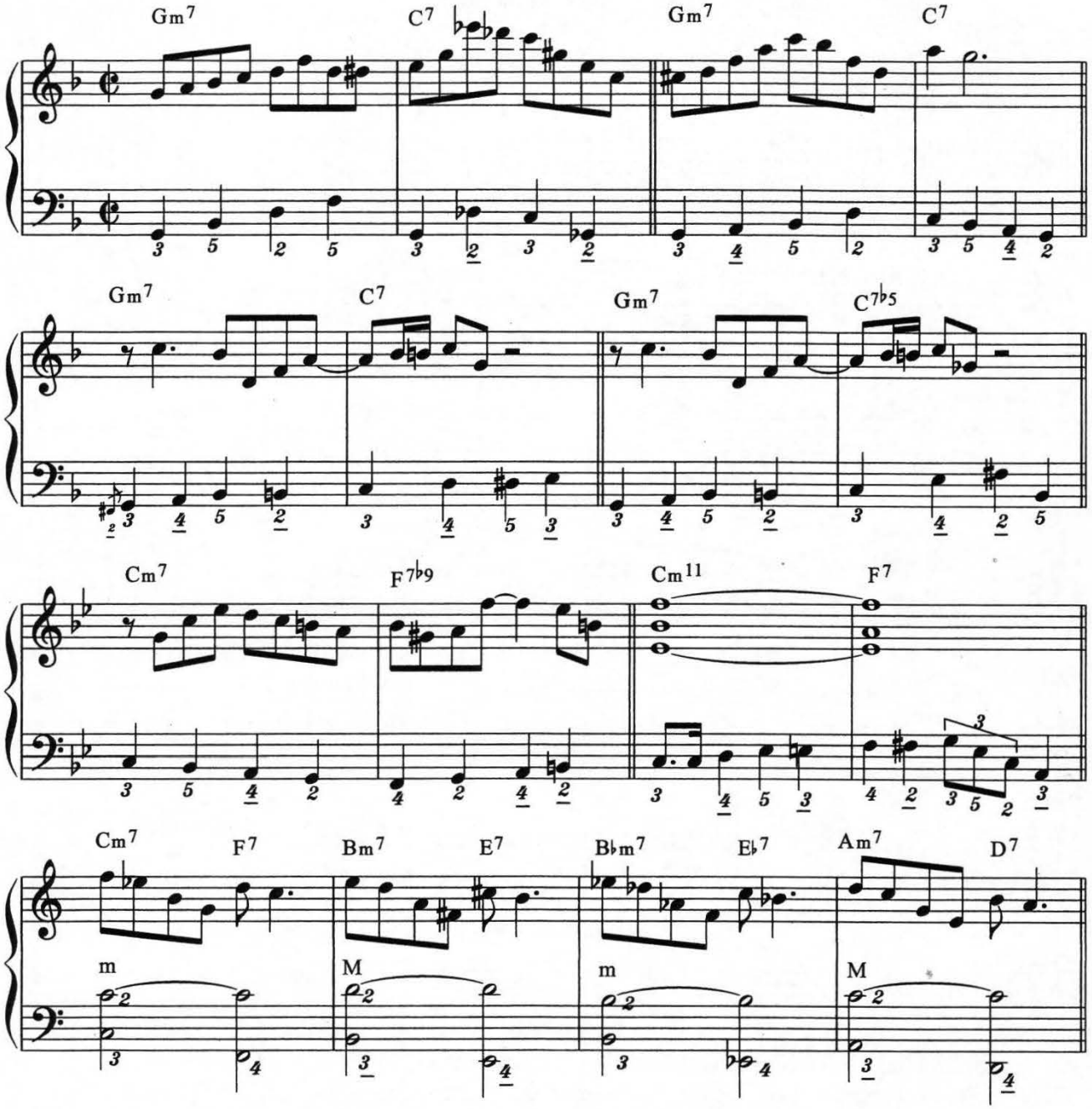


Once again we have three figures and four chords within each (3 x 4 = 12). This is based on three diminished chords. Take the bottom note of each figure and you have a diminished chord; take the middle note of each and you have a diminished chord, take the top note of each and you have another diminished chord.

To further analyze the figure, there is a fourth interval between each note in the three note set. You should practice the figures in chord form, as they are shown in the first measure. Play them in two octaves ascending and descending.

Examples of Playing on the IIm V7

(2m 5 7)



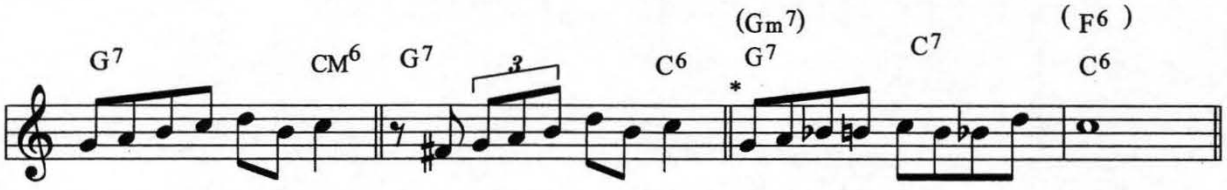
These are just some ideas of what can be played on the IIm V7 chord sequence. You should create your own lines. Notice that the second measure (C7) actually plays through the C7#9, C+7 changes.

The last line should sound familiar to you. It is the main theme of a great jazz standard "Honeysuckle Rose". The above measures should be played in different rhythm patterns and in all keys.

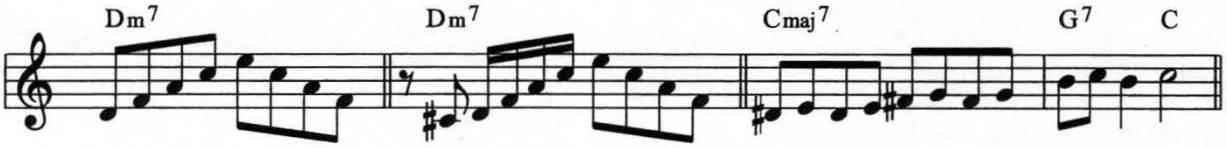
Neighbors

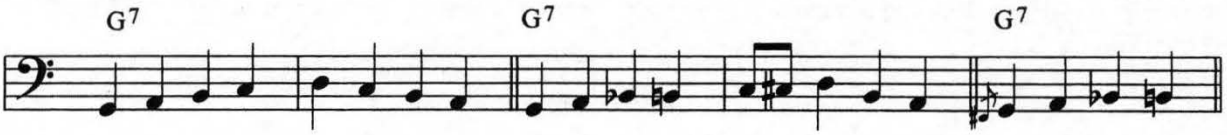
(Passing Tones)

We are not strictly restricted to playing the notes specific to any mode or scale. This would eventually become repetitious in sound. Fortunately we have many more notes at our disposal; these are called passing tones, or are sometimes referred to as neighbors. The rule of thumb is to use the note that is a half step before the note that is being played.



* Bass line can also be played against chords in parenthesis





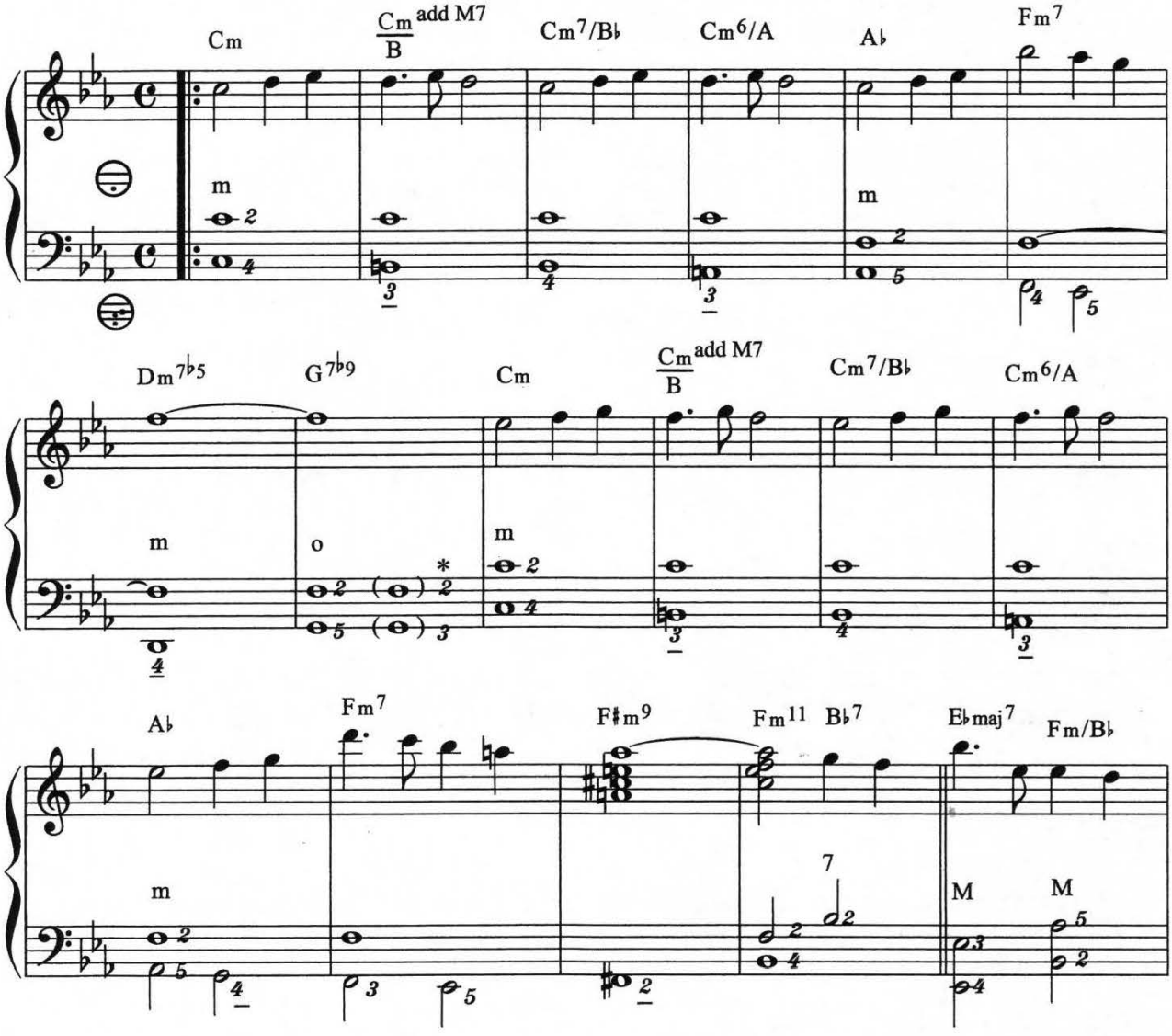
These are all examples of neighbors. It is usually a note outside of the scale or mode that you are playing at the time. The neighbor and/or passing tone can also be a grace note.

Experiment with neighbors on work with which you are familiar, such as previous modes that you have practiced.

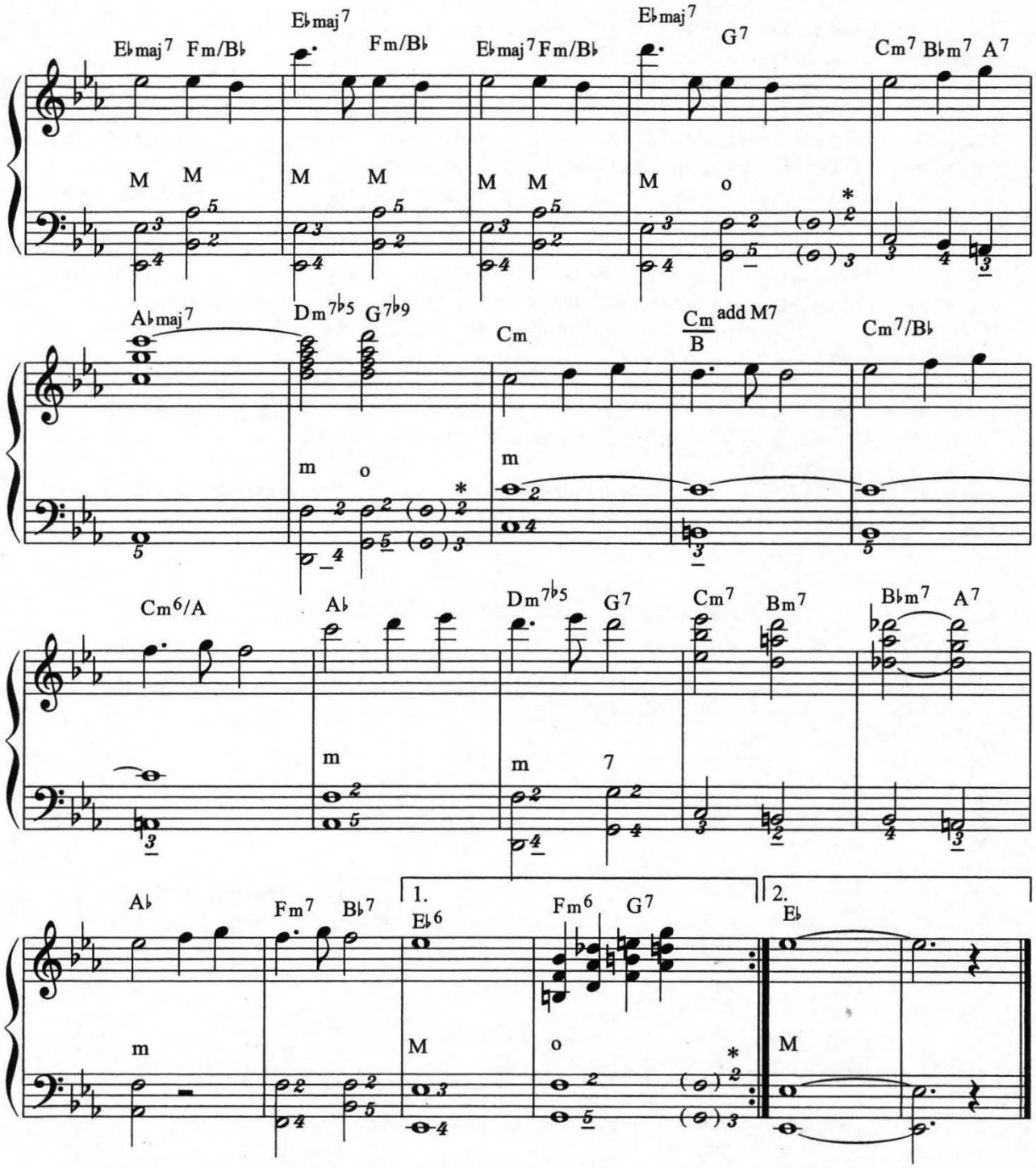
Bass and Chord Formations
(Close Proximity)

This study is to show how bass & chords can be used in songs without the accordionist having to move all over with the left hand. A perfect song to demonstrate this study is "My Funny Valentine".

My Funny Valentine



* The notes in parentheses are optional fingerings



The chord pattern is an example only; it is to show that we can play from one position on the left hand. The choice of chords is up to the individual; I could have added chord substitutions throughout, but I tried to keep it as simple as possible. Notice the First ending - I used #9's as examples of what can be used in place of the traditional chords.

Blues (12 Bar)

To study jazz without knowing the Blues is analogous to swimming without water. Jazz evolved from the Blues and is an integral part of all jazz playing. I will concentrate on the 12 Bar Blues, simply because it is the most common form of Blues.

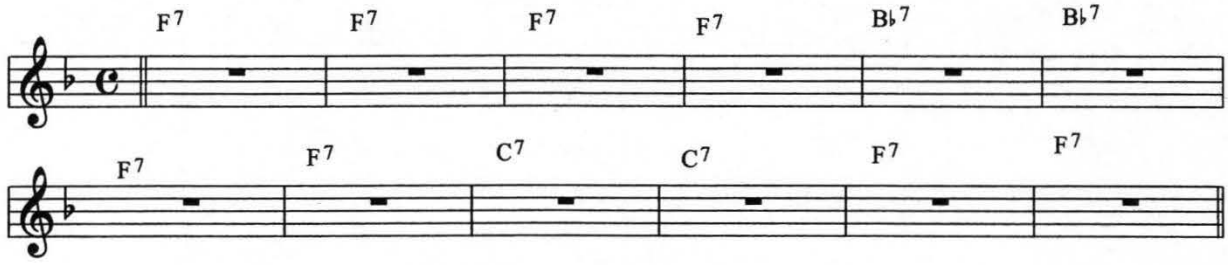
The reader must understand that we do not isolate the Blues as a separate study of style regarding the playing of jazz. The Blues is incorporated into our playing whether it is strictly a Blues tune or a 'standard'. The song could be a ballad or an 'up' tune. Rock music was heavily influenced and based on the Blues.

George Gershwin's music was heavily influenced by the Blues. 'Rhapsody in Blue', 'Porgy and Bess' and 'The Man I Love' all had the Blues feeling. Jerome Kern was another composer who used it extensively in his writing. Examples of Kern's work include "Ol' Man River" and "Can't Help Lovin' That Man of Mine".

Bebop or 'Bop' as it is commonly called, is another example of the Blues feeling. Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis were proponents of Blues in their playing.

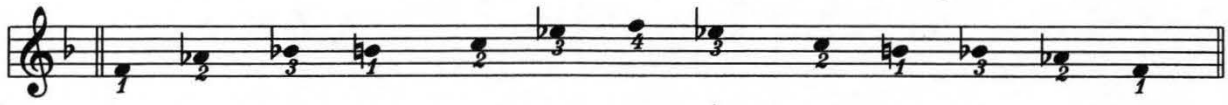
The term "Three Chord Blues/Songs" usually refers to the simplest of Blues progressions. For example, if you are in the key of F, the three chords that are the basis of the Blues in that key are F^7, Bb^7 and C^7.

Example of Chord Progressions in 12 Bar Blues

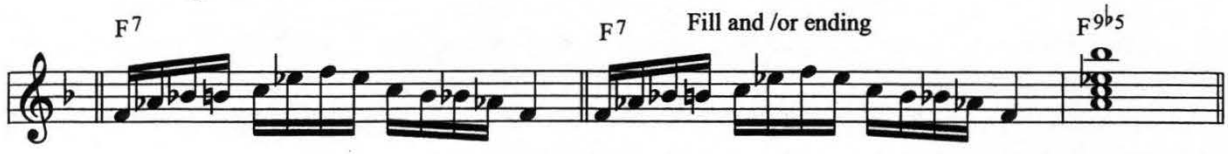


These are the basic 12 bar Blues changes and are the most commonly played form of the Blues. There are more 'forms', but they are all derived from this one. You must be totally proficient in this form before attempting any of the others.

Blues Scale in F



This can be used as a fill, improvisation and ending. Below is an example of its use in one measure and as an ending.



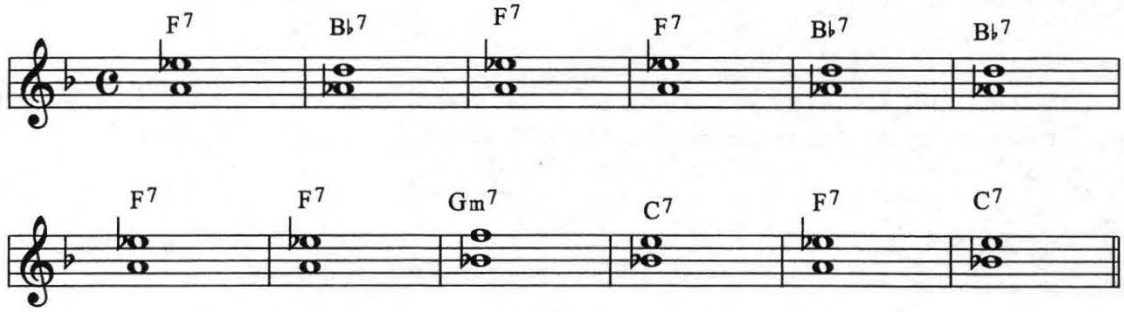
Blues Voicings

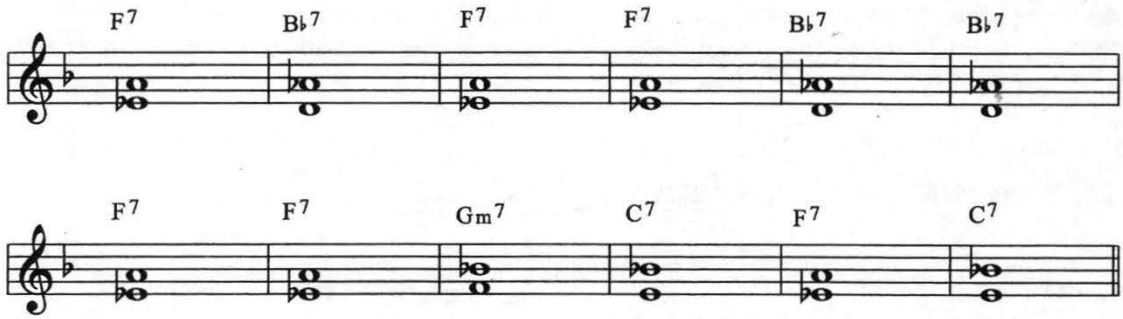
(Two-Note)

The use of two-note 'voicings' has a definite place in jazz because there are times when the simpler approach results in a better sound. I know that all of us like arrangements with 'fat-sounding chords', but anything overdone can become stale.

I would learn these voicings before trying those that are more complicated. Be sure you understand the chord sequences and are able to feel and hear the changes. We will continue the study of two-note chords again in a later section (pp. 86-87)

Below are some examples of two-note voicings. For these examples I would sustain the bass. Eventually play single-note bass lines.



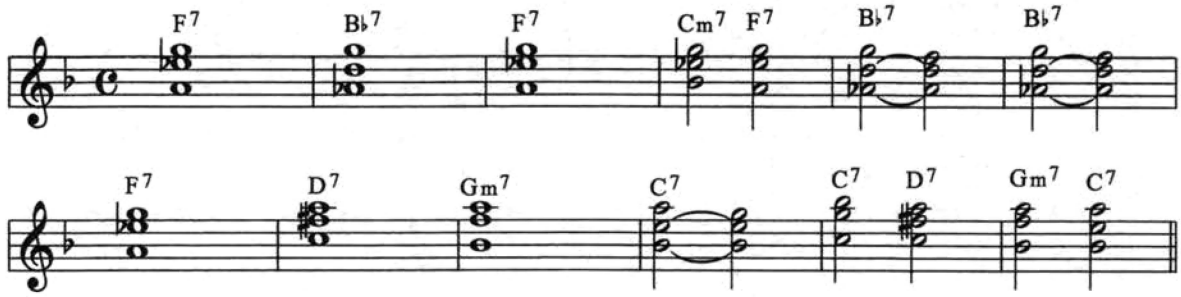


Blues Voicings

(Three-Note)

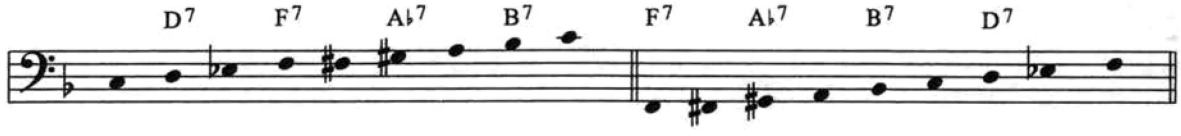
You should now be familiar with the two-note changes and the feel of the Blues. We will now add a note to our changes and see the difference, but remember--do not become repetitive in your playing.

I would like to point out that when I talk about two- and three-note changes, I am referring to the right hand.



There are two scales that can be used most times in Blues (they are excellent for both the right and the left hand); one is the Blues scale and the other is the Symmetrical scale. Remember that the Symmetrical scale is a derivative of the Diminished scale.

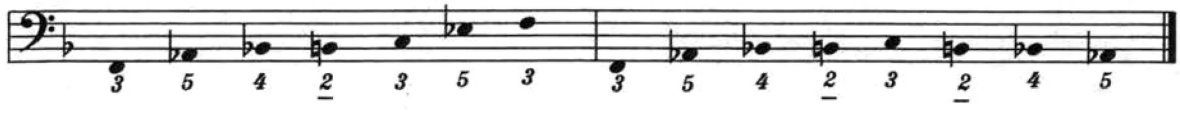
C Diminished Scale **F Symmetrical Scale**



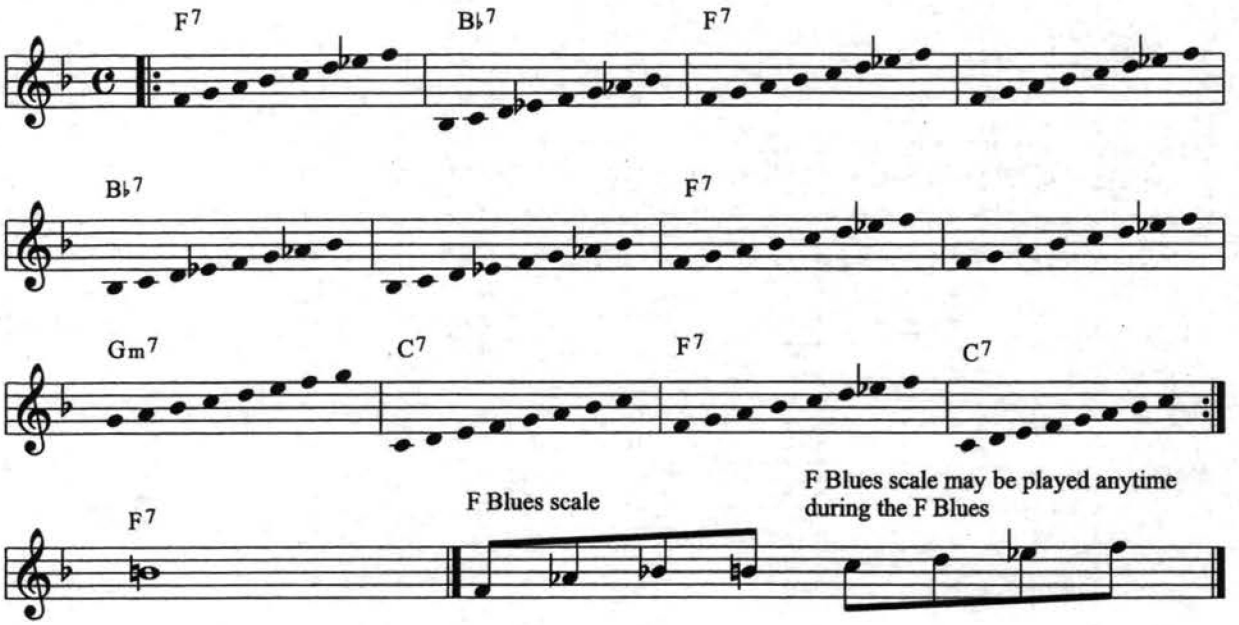
The above scales have the same notes in them, except that each scale starts on a different note. The F symmetrical scale is the F# diminished scale and is equivalent to the C diminished scale, which we have previously learned.

All of the notes in bass clef can also be used on the right hand.

F^7 Blues Scale **F^7 Blues Riff**

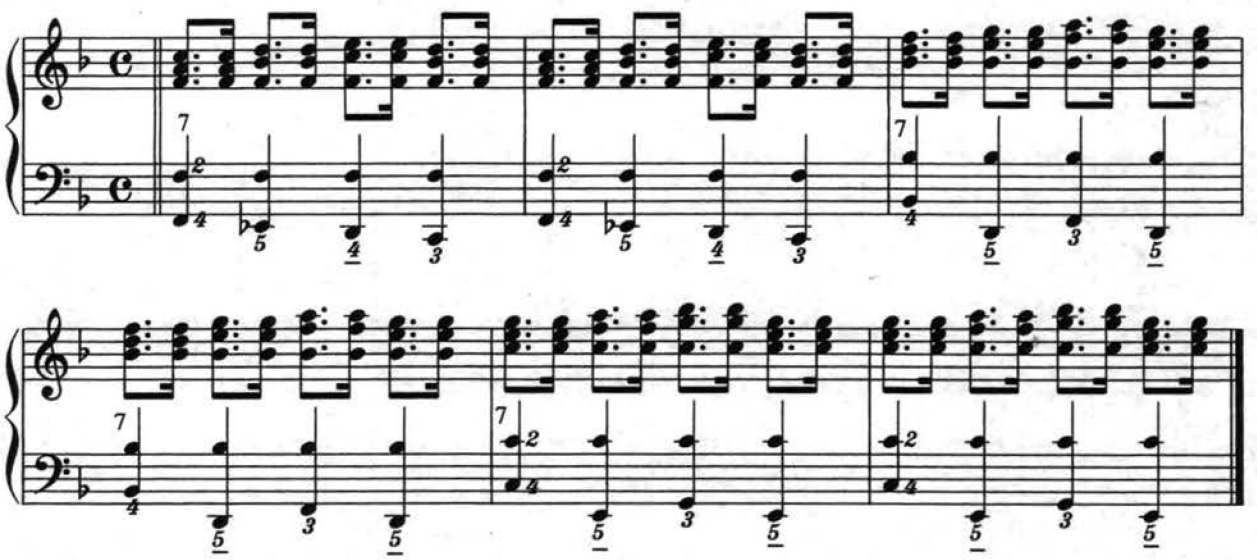


Scales for Blues in key of F



I have written the scales for each chord in the above examples. The F Blues scale can be played against the C^7 and Bb^7 as well as the F^7. You should create your own lines, initially using the notes from the scales. As you become more familiar and gain confidence, you can expand your ideas.

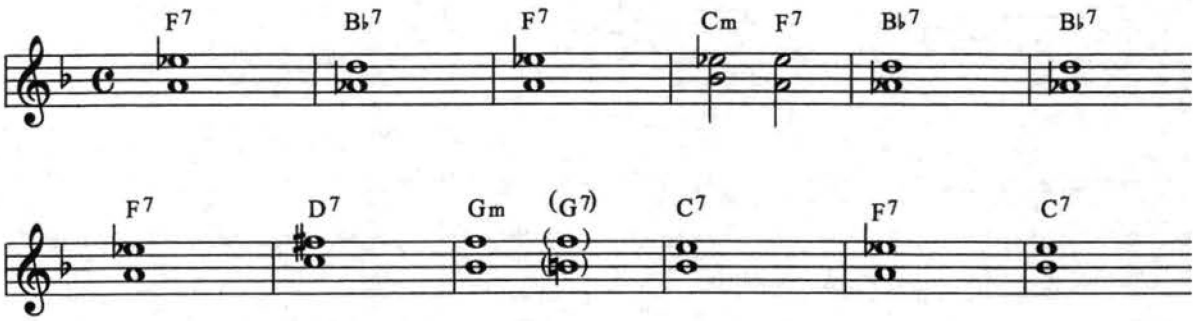
Note that in the Bass Exercises Section (page 4), I gave you the Blues Scale.



Above is a rhythm pattern that you can use in a lot of songs with a blues flavor such as "Kansas City". It is not an arrangement, but an example based on the three chords used in 12 bar blues...F^7, Bb^7, C^7 (I^7 IV^7 V^7). Practice in different keys. In the key of Bb you would use Bb^7 - Eb^7 - F^7.

Alternate Blues Voicings

There are many forms of Blues progressions. they are all derived from the previous form that you have learned. We will now see an example of a subtle change from the first form.



The above is another form that can be used. Notice that the (G^7) can be used in place of the Gm.

Below is a chart of different Blues progressions that can be used. They are all examples of 12 bar Blues.

Chart of Blues Progressions (F)

1.	F7	F7	F7	F7		Bb7	Bb7		F7		F7		C7	C7		F7		F7					
2.	F7	F7	F7	F7		Bb7	Bb7		F7		F7		C7	Bb7		F7		C7					
3.	F7	F7	F7	F7		Bb7	Bb7		F7		F7		G7	C7		F7		C7					
4.	F7	Bb7	F7	F7		Bb7	Bb7		F7		D7		G7	C7		F7		C7					
5.	F7	Bb7	F7	F7		Bb7	Bb7		F7		D7		Bm7	C7		F7		Gm7	C7				
6.	F7	Bb7	F7	F7		Bb7	Eb7		F7		D7		Db7	C7		F7		Db7	C7				
7.	F7	Bb7	F7	Cm7	F7	Bb7	Eb7		F7		Am7	D7	Gm7	C7		Am7	D7	GM7	C7				
8.	F7	Bb7	F7	Cm7	F7	Bb7	Eb7		Am7		D7		Gm7	C7		Am7	D7	Gm7	C7				
9.	F7	Bb7	F7	Cm7	F7	Bb7	Bm7	E7	F7	E7	Eb7	D7	Gm7	C7	Bb7	Am7	D7	Gm7	C7				

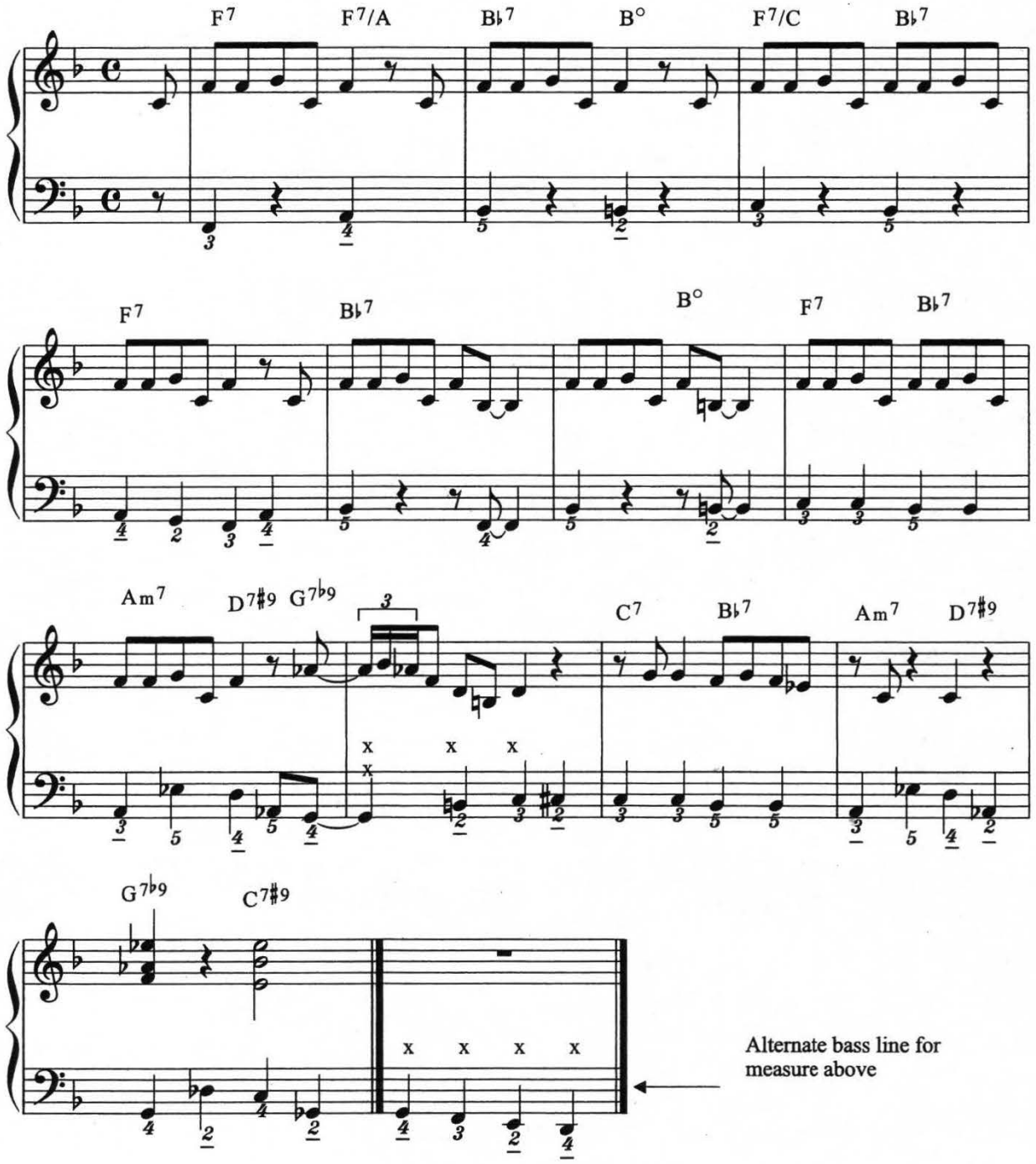
It is possible to combine parts of each progression with another; this way you can create unlimited permutations of changes. I would learn one at a time before attempting to interchange them.

The title of the song that we are using as an example of putting the two hands together is appropriate, for 'Now's the time' to assimilate the work that we have learned.

Now's The Time

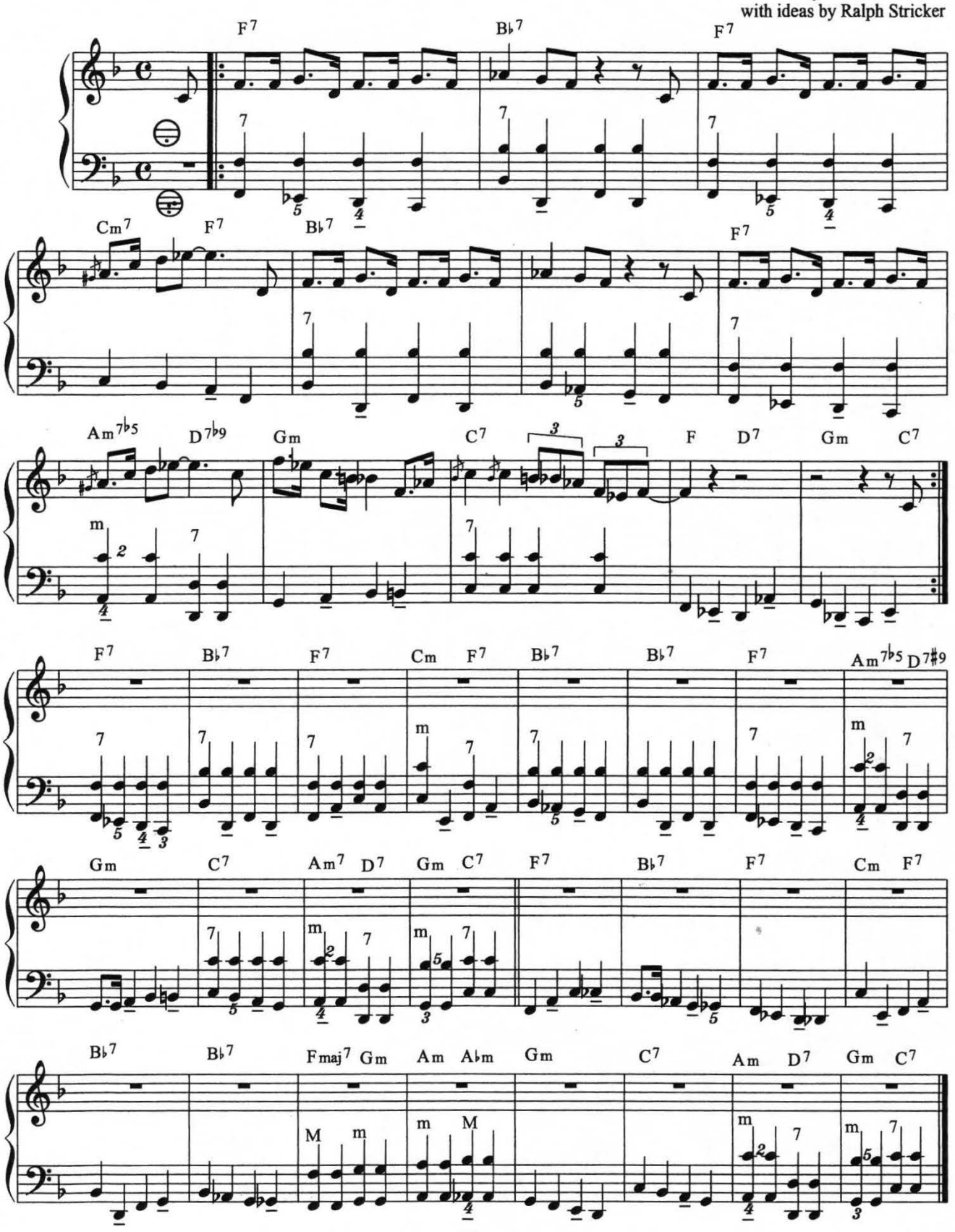
(F Blues)

with ideas by Ralph Stricker



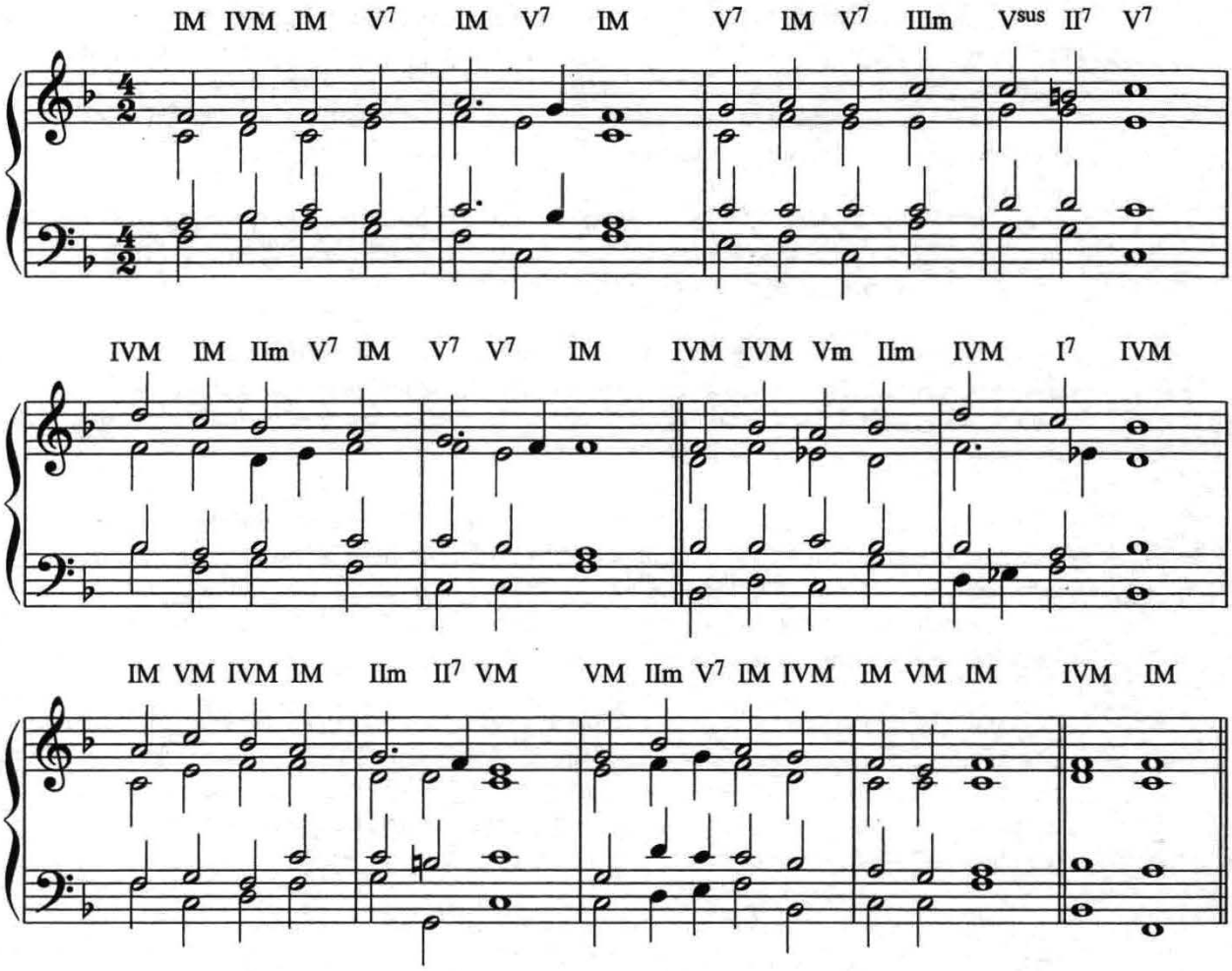
Blues in F

by Frank Marocco
with ideas by Ralph Stricker



Transposing by Numbers

The use of numbers in transposing is both musically and mathematically correct. Music is one of the most exact of all sciences.



I have numbered the chords in the song mathematically; the song is in the key of F Major. IM is F Major, IVM is Bb Major, IIm is G minor etc. When you transpose to another key, Bb for example, the IM becomes Bb Major, IVM is Eb Major and IIm is C minor. You should apply this method of transposing to songs with which you are familiar; it will enhance your ability to transpose songs. The ideal way is to do it phonically, but until your ear is developed, this method will help.

You can also transpose melody notes by the same method. The first line above: I=F, II=G, III=A, b5=B, II=G. Therefore the numbers for the first line in sequence:

I I I II/ III II I/ II III II V/ V b5 V.

F F F G/ A G F/ G A G C/ C B C.

Do this in 3 or 4 different keys. Start with the easier keys first. (G, F, Bb)

Developing the Ear

The development of the ear for jazz (and/or music itself) is an integral part of becoming the consummate musician. A musician will have a good ear by either being born with th "ear" or by developing one. Unfortunately many of us, me included, were not born with relative or perfect pitch. Therefore we have to learn how to train ourselves to be able to recognize intervals and chords. The combination of a good "ear" and musical knowledge provides the perfect tools to enable one to become a successful jazz musician.

We can learn how to develop relative pitch. Relative pitch is the ability to sing and/or recognize the intervals between notes. Relative pitch also allows us to recognize the many different chords such as major, minor, seventh, diminished etc.

We must be aware that, in jazz, you should be able to hear what you are going to play before you play it. There are too many musicians who, when playing jazz, depend solely on their musical knowledge and not their "ear". They become what are known as "pat" players; their playing becomes redundant.

There are a number of ways to develop the "ear". Before we get into the specific exercises for ear development, one can also learn by listening to good jazz musicians. These musicians do not have to be keyboard players; they can be sax, guitar or any instrument where the artists are recognized by peers as giants on the instrument upon which they are playing.

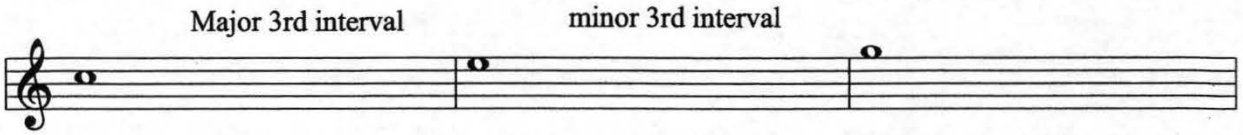
When you listen to artists, try not to listen only to what the artists are playing, but also to what is being played harmonically behind them. Also listen to the rhythm section and to what is being done rhythmically, such as the bass lines. For example, is the bass player playing in two or four, and when. Listen to the drummer and the patterns being played. Learn how to listen to a recording.

You will need certain materials for your "ear training" study. I suggest that you have these before you start the exercises for this study.

1. Pitch pipe
2. Church hymnal
3. Keyboard (obviously)
4. Twelve water tumblers – all one size.

You may ask why the water tumblers? This will be explained as we progress in our development of the ear. We need a church hymnal because it has **four part harmony**.

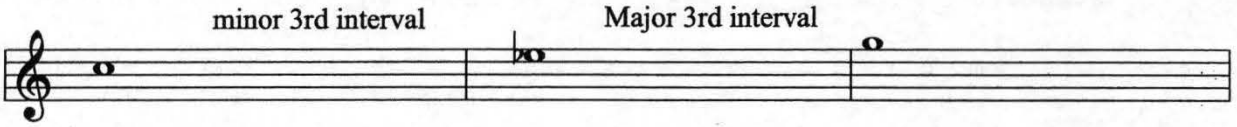
Ear Training Exercises



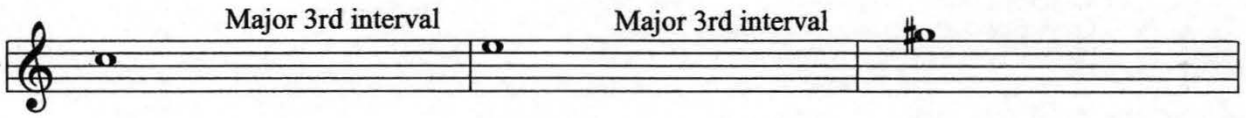
The first note is middle C on the accordion. It is also the C octave on the pitchpipe. Work with one note at a time; do not go past the first note until you complete the exercise for it.

1. Play note and listen to it. Hold note and sing it (use La as tone).
2. Play note and listen to it. Let go of note and sing it without holding note.
3. Repeat same exercise on each note.
4. Play 1st note. Let go of note and sing 1st two notes.
5. Play 1st note. Let go of note and sing 1st, 2nd, 3rd notes.

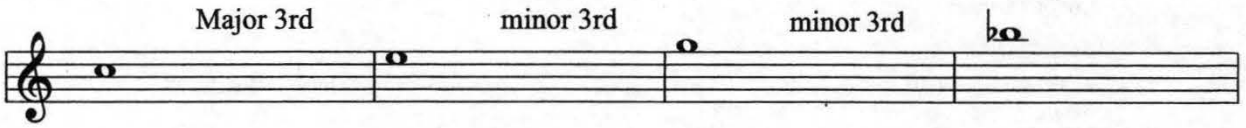
You should eventually be able to sing any Major chord just by hearing the root (I) of the chord.



Repeat the five steps on the above three notes. You should now be able to sing the minor chord from any given note.



Repeat the same exercises on the above notes. You should now be able to sing the augmented chord from any given note.

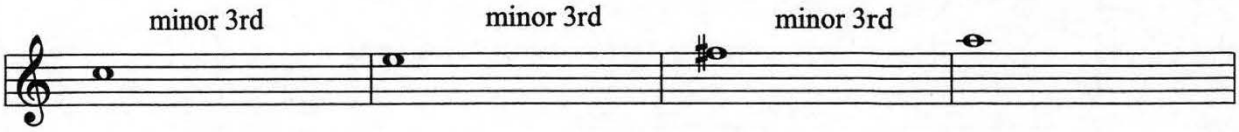


Repeat the same exercises on the above notes. You should now be able to sing the seventh chord from any given note.

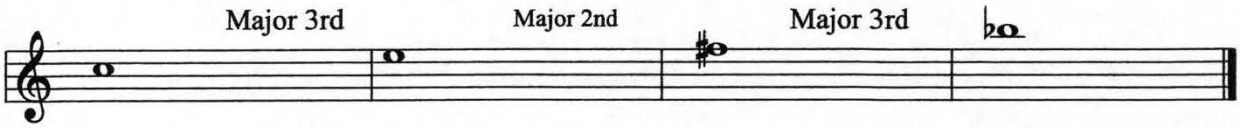
Sing all chords ascending and descending. Carry a pitchpipe with you always.

Ear Training Exercises

(cont.)



Apply the previous steps to the above notes. You should now be able to sing the diminished chord from any note.



Apply the previous steps to the above notes. You should now be able to sing the 7b5 chord from any note.

We have now learned to sing five important chords. You should learn to hear and sing any chord once you are given the root. You should also be able to sing any interval from any given note.

You can learn to recognize intervals by relationships to starting notes in songs that you know. We can also recognize chords by certain songs. For example the first four notes in 'Anchors Aweigh' (C E G A) form a sixth chord.

Ascending Intervals

m2
More Than You Know
I Remember You
I'm Getting Sentimental over You

M2
Major Scale (ascending)
There will Never be another You
My Funny Valentine

m3
Work Song
The Very Thought of You
Confirmation

4 (perfect 4th)
Merry Widow Waltz
All the Things You are
Round About Midnight

#4 or b5
Maria (West Side Story)

5th
Emily
Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Descending Intervals

m2
Lady is a Tramp
Stella by Starlight
Strollin'

M2
Blue Moon
Satin Doll
Small Hotel

m3
Misty
What is this Thing Called Love

4th
Yardbird Suite
I didn't Know What Time It was
Softly, As in the Morning Sunrise

#4 or b5
Blue Seven

5th
Have You Met Miss Jones
Feelings

Ear Training Exercises
(Continued)

Ascending Intervals	Descending Intervals
#5 or b6 Morning of the Carnival	#5 or b6 Blue Seven
M^6 Take the "A" Train That Old Black Magic Speak Low	M^6 You're a Weaver of Dreams
b7 Somewhere (West Side Story) Theme from Startrek	b7 Watermelon Man
M^7 Ceora Cast Your Fate to the Wind	M^7 I Love You
8va Somewhere Over the Rainbow When You Wish Upon a Star Blue Bossa	8va Willow Weep for Me

These are just some of the songs that you can use to remember **intervals**. If you do not know a certain song, find one that you know.

The next step in developing the ear and testing to see how much your ear has developed is to perform the following exercise:

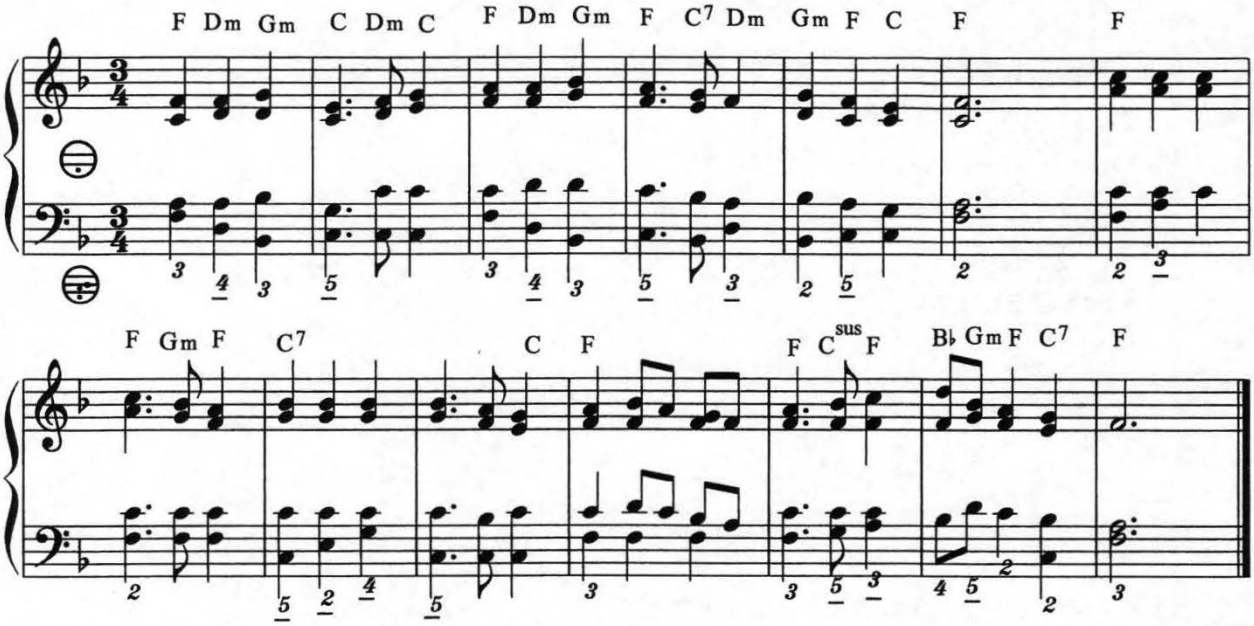
1. Line up the 12 glass tumblers (all one size)
2. Fill the 1st tumbler (extreme left) with water. This will be the lowest note.
3. Fill the next tumbler until you attain a sound one half step higher.
4. Continue filling each tumbler until you have the chromatic scale.

The object of this exercise is to be able to form a Chromatic Scale with the 12 water tumblers. This will take time and patience and you may eventually flood your kitchen, but it is worth the time and effort.

NOTE: I suggest that you do this when no one else is around as they may call for the men in white coats to take you away.

*** Tap the rim of the tumblers with a spoon to sound the notes. ***

My Country tis of Thee



There are four parts to this song. Reading from top to bottom they are soprano, alto, tenor and bass. You will play the soprano, alto and tenor parts simultaneously on the treble side, and the bass on the bass side. In playing the first measure, for example, you would play (from bottom up) F with the left hand, and A C F with the right hand. Practice slowly so that you can hear the chords changing. There is no tempo as you practice. With this method your ear will develop tremendously and your sight reading will improve.

Once you can play this song without stopping, you are ready for the next part of your ear training. In this part you will sing one part and play the other three parts as outlined. (Note: RH = right hand; LH = left hand)

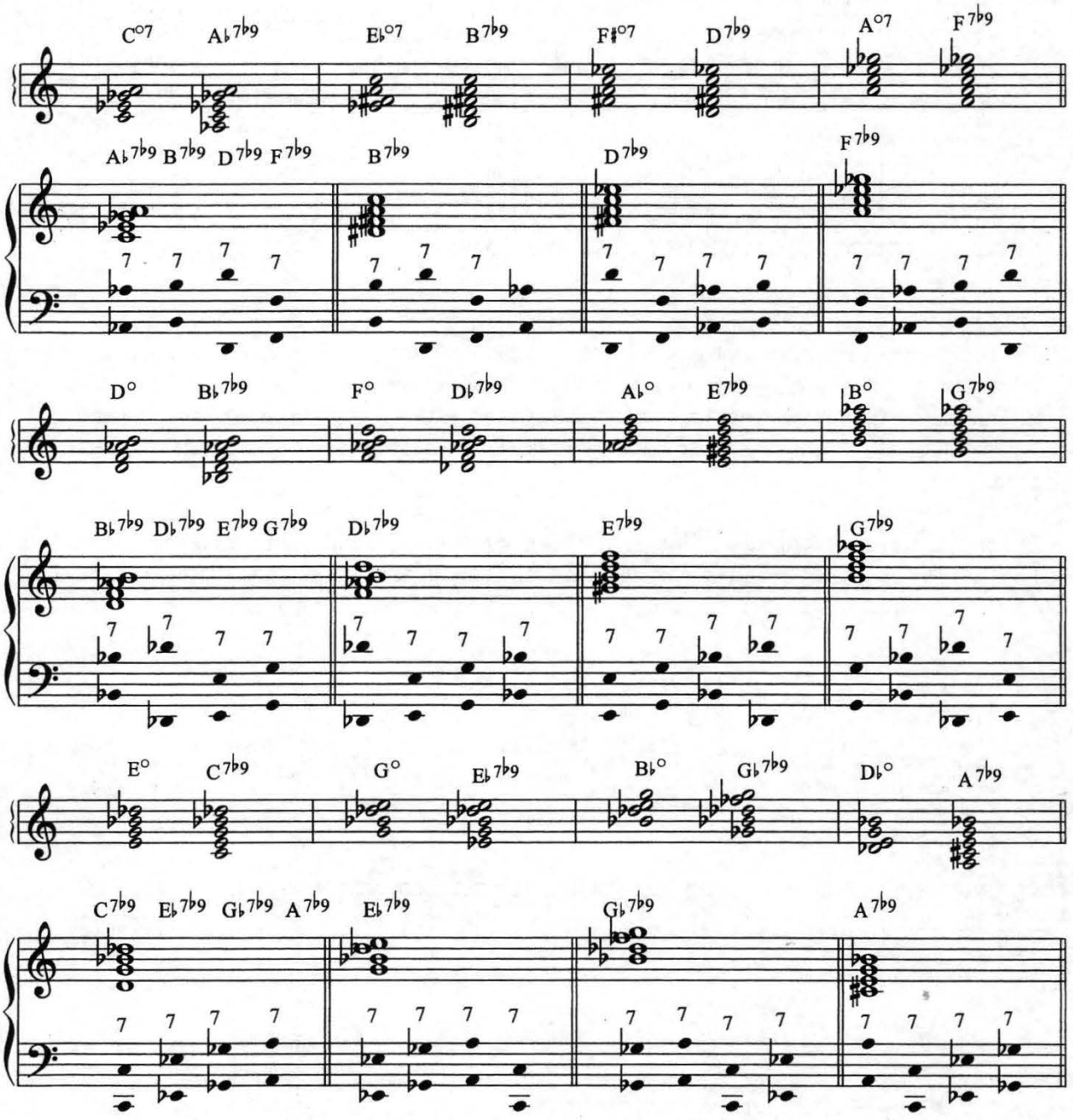
1. Sing the soprano part and play the alto and tenor parts (RH) and bass part (LH).
2. Sing the alto part and play the soprano and tenor parts (RH) and bass part (LH).
3. Sing the tenor part and play the soprano and alto parts (RH) and bass part (LH).

We do not have to sing the bass part, because your ear should be able to recognize intervals as you sing the chords. Remember if you can do the exercise in one key, it is the same for all the other keys.

There are three chords in this song that need further explanation. The second chord in the second measure is Dm; this chord could also be an F^6, since the relative minor is determined by the 6th step of the scale (F). In the first measure of the second line there is a Gm chord that contains a C. C is the 4th of G, and to arrive at another interval number, we add 7 to the number of that note (4 + 7 = 11). In the fifth measure of the second line is a chord name C^{sus}; 'sus' is the abbreviation for 'suspended'. It is just another name for a 7th chord extended. You would play C^7 on the bass and Gm^7, Gm^9 on the treble.

The Seventh Flat Nine Chord

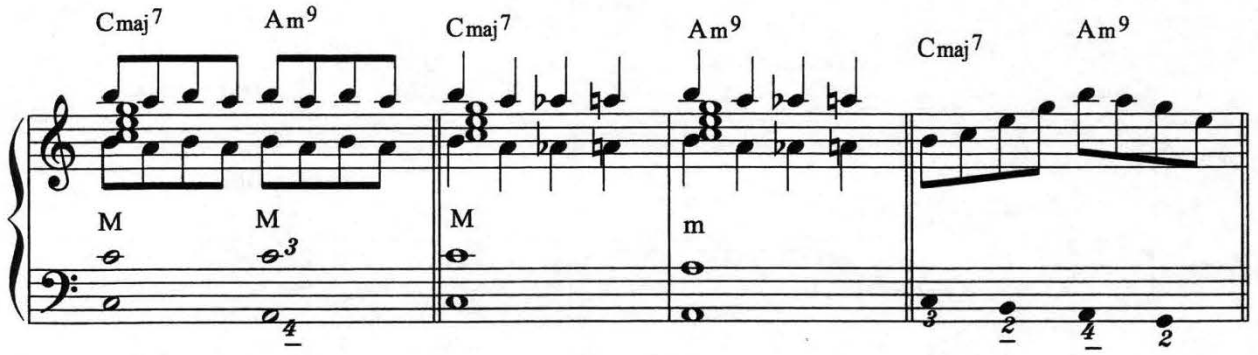
(using the diminished)



The diminished chord is one of the most misused chords. Many times the chord in reality is a $7b^9$. An example is the occurence of a diminished before a minor seventh chord, (G^{dim}, Dm^7); it should really be A^7, Dm^7.

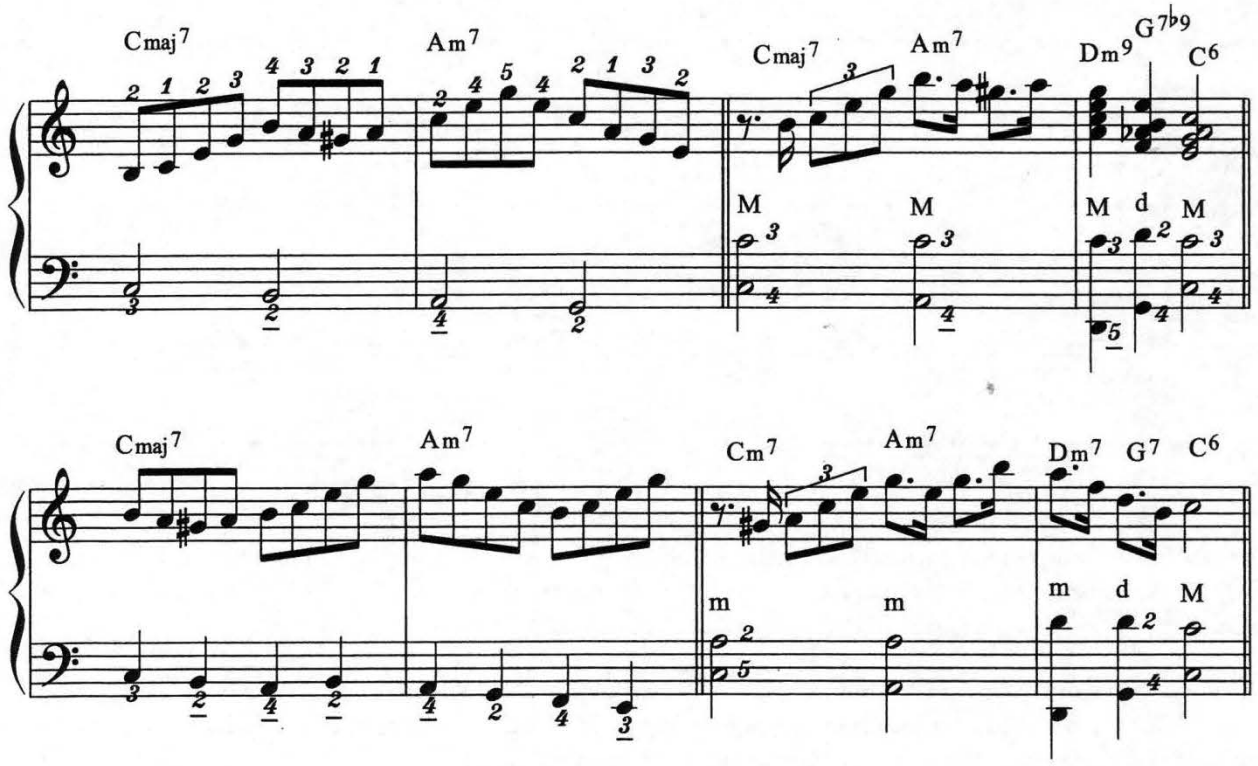
The above examples show how the diminished can be used for the $7b^9$ and how the bass note changes the chord. Also observe the bass progressions in each measure. Each one forms a diminished chord. (For example: 1st measure of the last line.....C Eb Gb A = C diminished chord).

Major Seventh and Minor Ninth



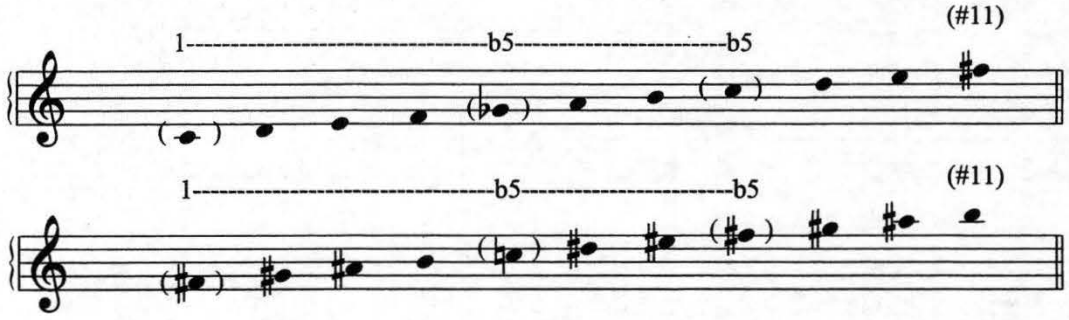
The first series of examples (measures 1, 2 and 3) can be used as background when another instrument or singer is playing or singing the melody. The first measure above can be extended to 2 measures or more. It would depend on the amount of beats for each chord. The 2nd and 3rd measures can be played as individual patterns. This would depend on the beat(s) for each chord.

The chords are interchangeable; for example the CM^7 can be C^6, and resolving to Am^7 or Am^9. The bass and chords do not change, as they fit both patterns. You should now start to see the relationship of chords and how a change in bass note changes the chord.



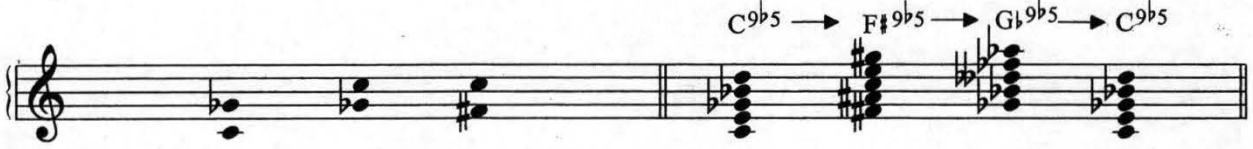
The Reversible Interval Flat Five (b5)

The only interval that is reversible (equal to itself) is the flatted fifth (b5). As an example: C Gb C. Gb is the b5 of C, and C is the b5 of F#.

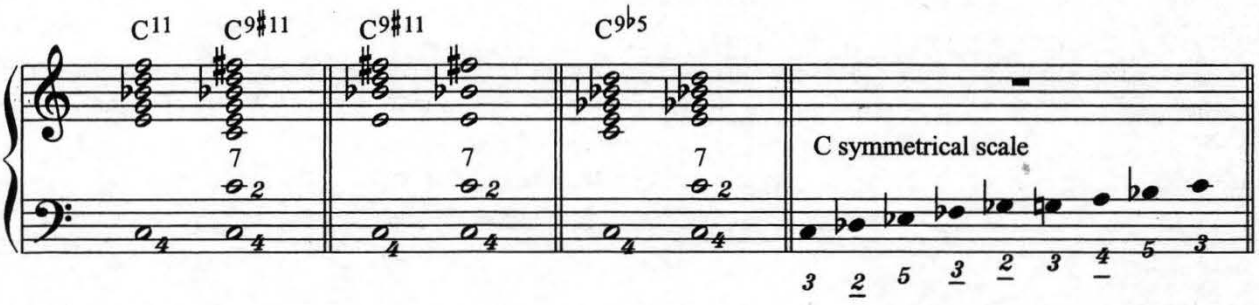


In the above examples you should be able to transpose this to all keys. You must kow the 12 Major scales and their key signatures.

This is an important page in your pursuit of "Jazz". It will help in your chord substitutions and improvisation.



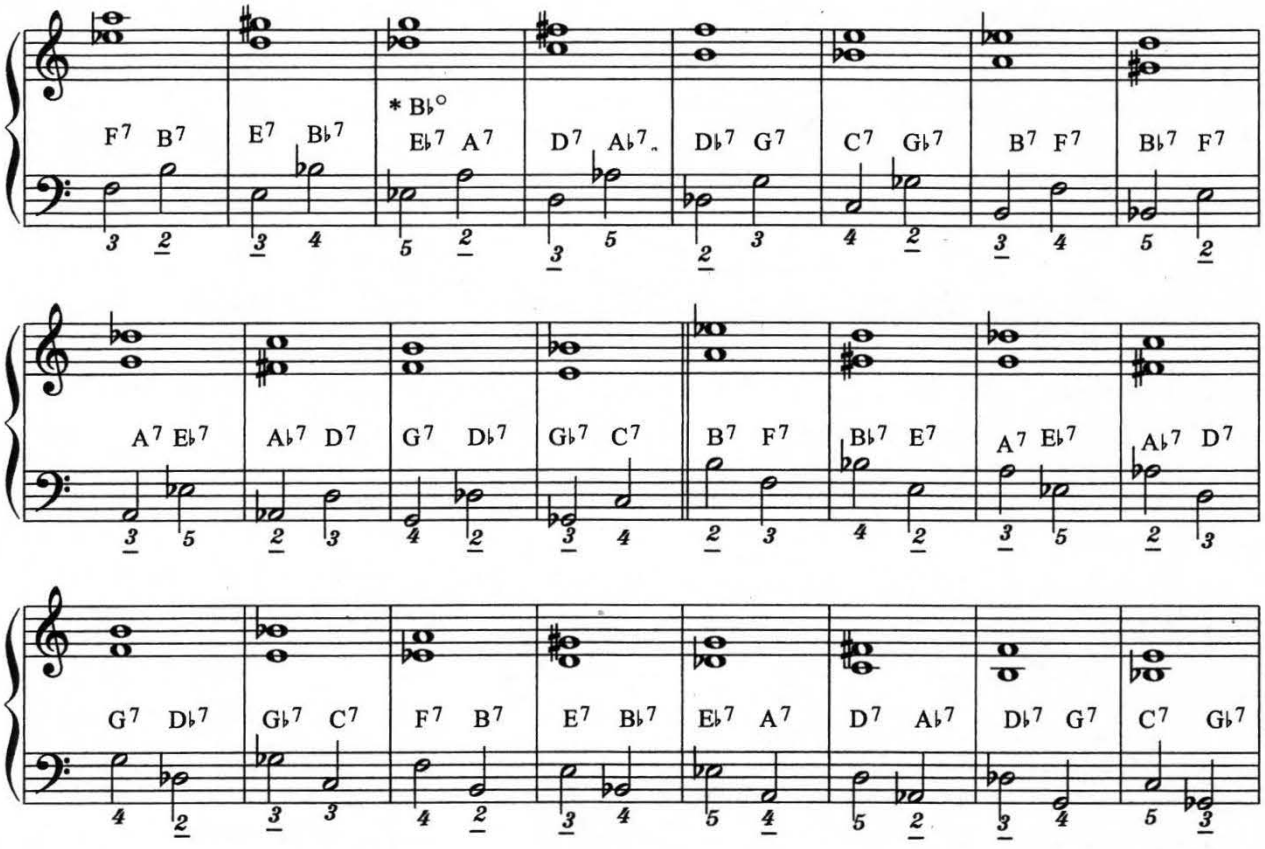
Look at the first and second lines on this page. You may wonder why I have the #11 in parenthesis. Remember that earlier in the book I showed you how to arrive at another interval number in the scale. "By adding 7 to any step of the Major scale, that step becomes another number". For example, the 2nd is also the 9th, 4 = 11 and 6 = 13. The #11 is another important chord/interval.



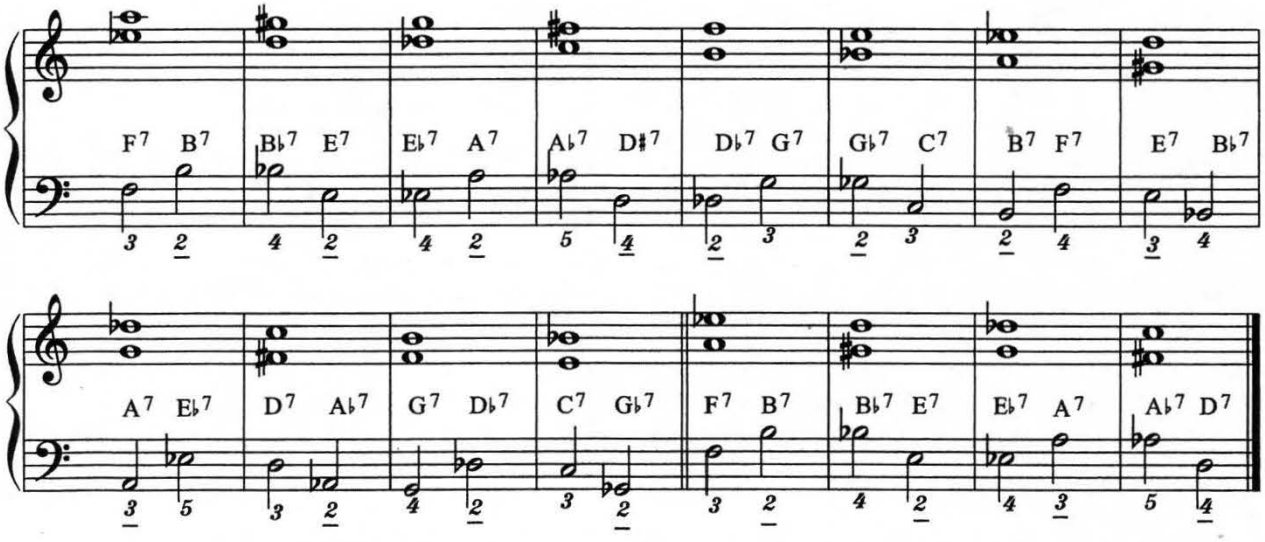
These are some examples of chords and voicings. In the 1st measure it is impossible to play all of the notes in the $C^{9\sharp 11}$ chord. You would leave out the I (C) and put it in the bass. The 2nd measure shows you some more voicings. You can either use the I of the chord in the bass or the I & 7 (C^7 bass chord). The last measure shows you the use of the symmetrical scale. We previously learned that it is a form of the diminished scale. In this instance it is a D flat diminished scale. We start a half step before the I of the scale.

Two Note Chords

The use of just two notes on the right hand, with a bass note, can be a very full sound. Notice that by just changing the bass note we have changed the chord.

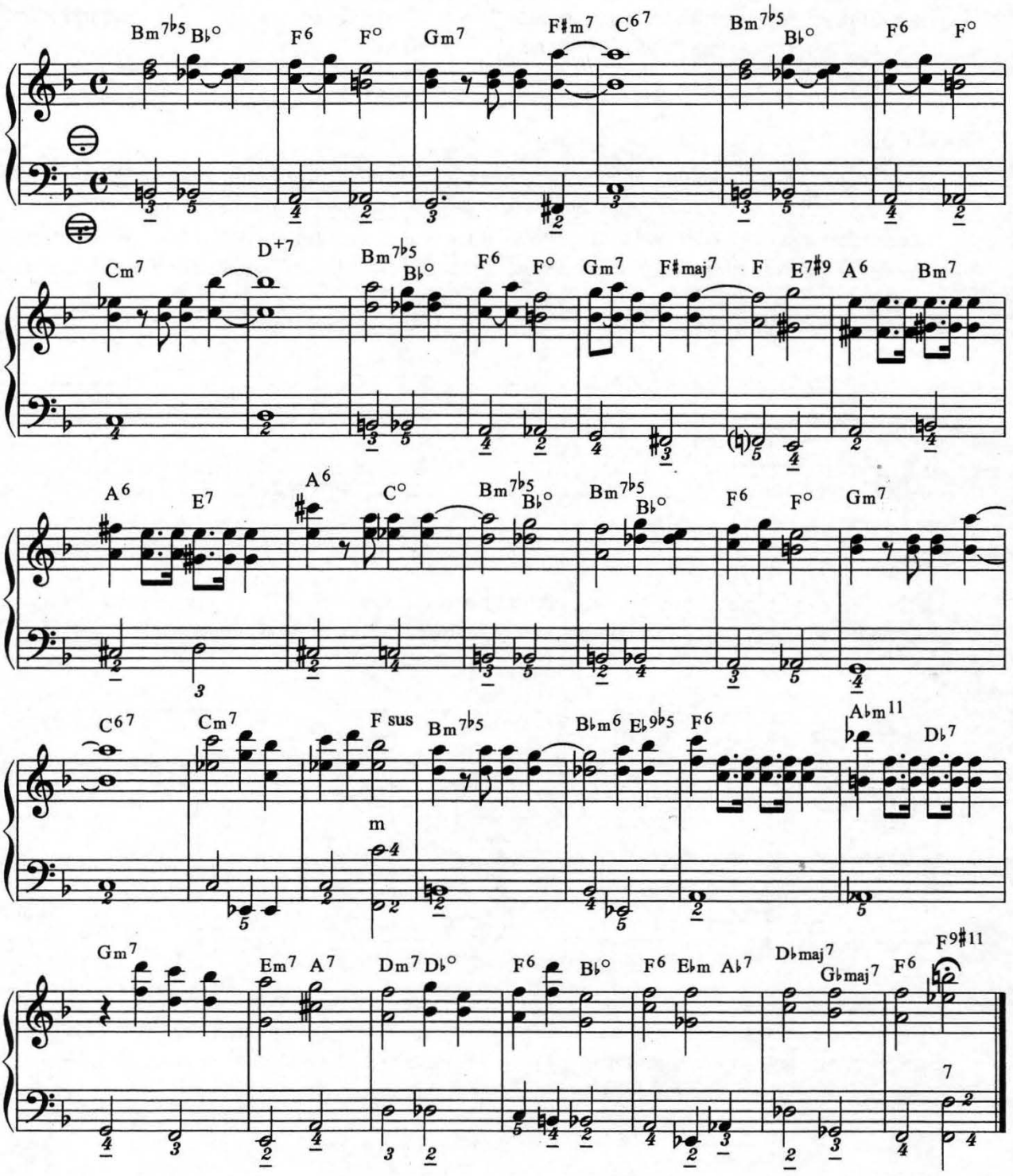


* 1st measure of "HOW ABOUT YOU" (on the following page). I used B flat diminished; I could have used A^7 but I wanted to maintain the "bass line".



The following song (How About You) is one of the great standards of music. The entire song is an example of Two Note Chords. This is a simple example and not a final arrangement. I will use this song as we go on and add more changes and substitutions to it. This is a great tune for the reader to work with, as so much can be done with it (See page 96).

How About You



Turnarounds

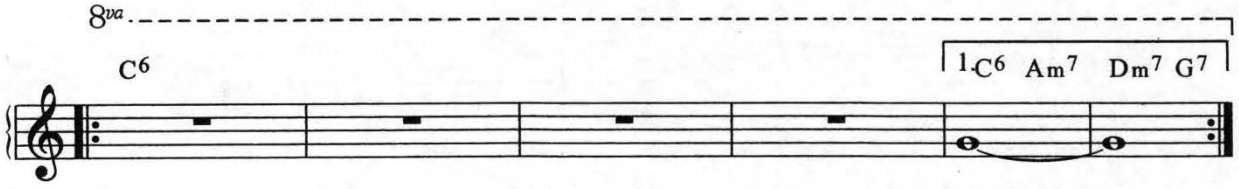
(Endings)

We have learned what to play throughout a song by applying modes, scales and chord substitution. This is called improvisation. We now have to learn what to use as an introduction, first and second endings, and how to end the song itself.

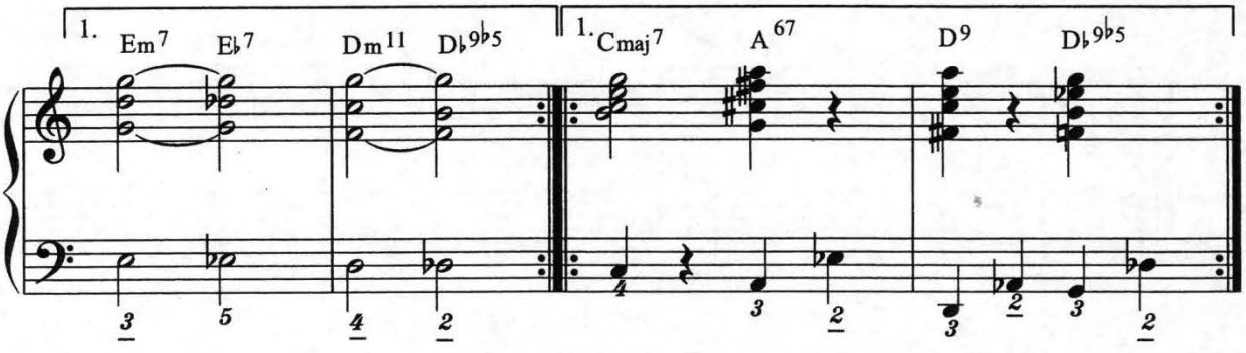
Form

Form is the order in which phrases are arranged. Learn the form of the tune and divide it into sections which are named alphabetically for convenience: A A B A for example. This form means that song has a 1st and 2nd ending with a bridge, and going back usually to the main theme. Two examples of this form are the songs "I'll Be Around" and "Changing Partners".

Let's use the A A B A form as an example in the key of C.



Above are the typical chord changes for a turnaround on an A A B A song. Below are shown some of the possibilities that can be used in place of the standard changes.

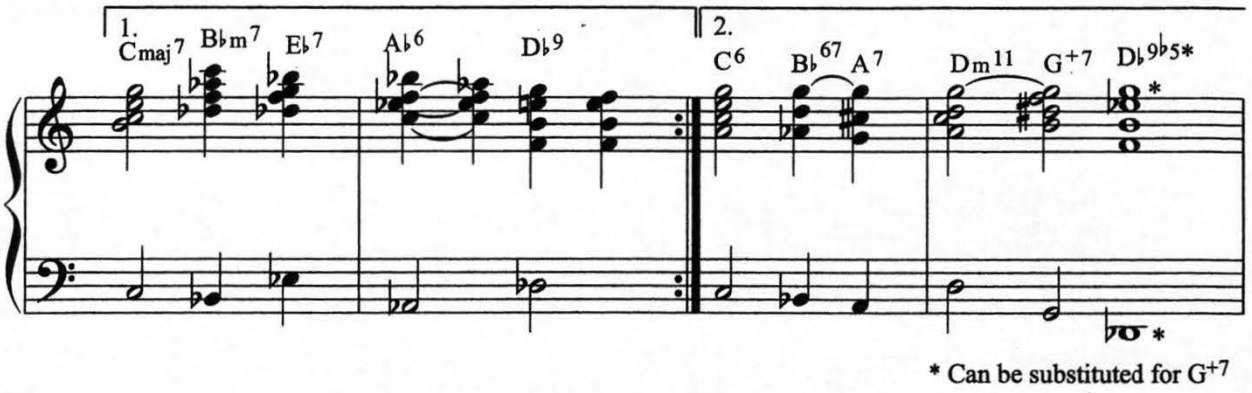


The above endings can also be used an Introductions. They can be played as 4 bar or 8 bar intros. You can choose to rhythmatize them or play them as you feel. They can also be used as endings; of course you would resolve to the I (in this case C Major).

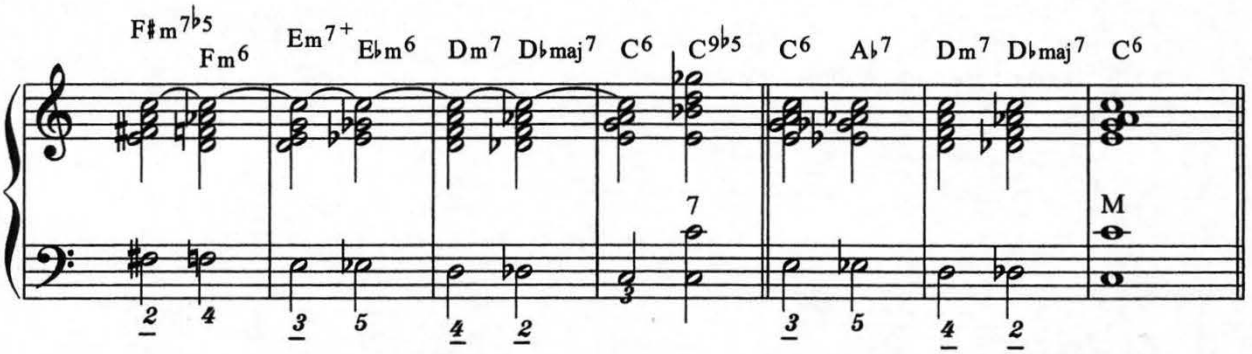
Turnarounds

(continued)

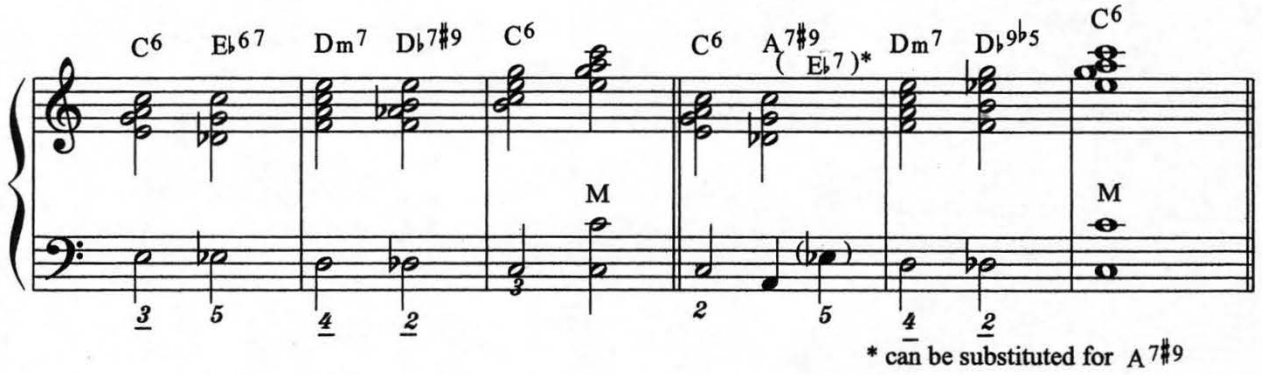
The examples of turnarounds, intros and endings can also be played on as single notes. Learning to play on these changes is good practice.



Endings



The second example of an ending is just a variation of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th bars of the first example. You can rhythmatize them any way that you choose. Learn in all keys.

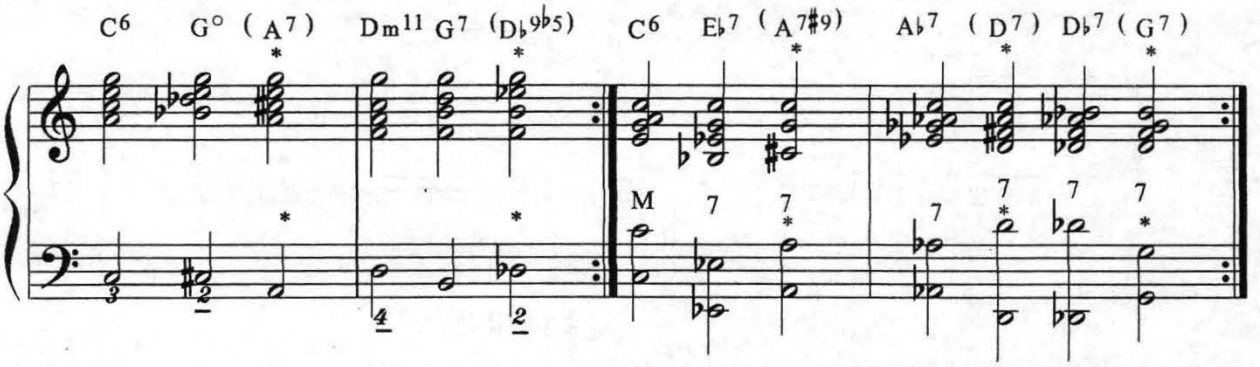


The above endings are basically the same; they are just variations. They can also be used as turnarounds. Do not always use them in the same order. Be adept in using them in different ways so that you do not become 'pat' in your style.

Turnarounds - Endings - Intros

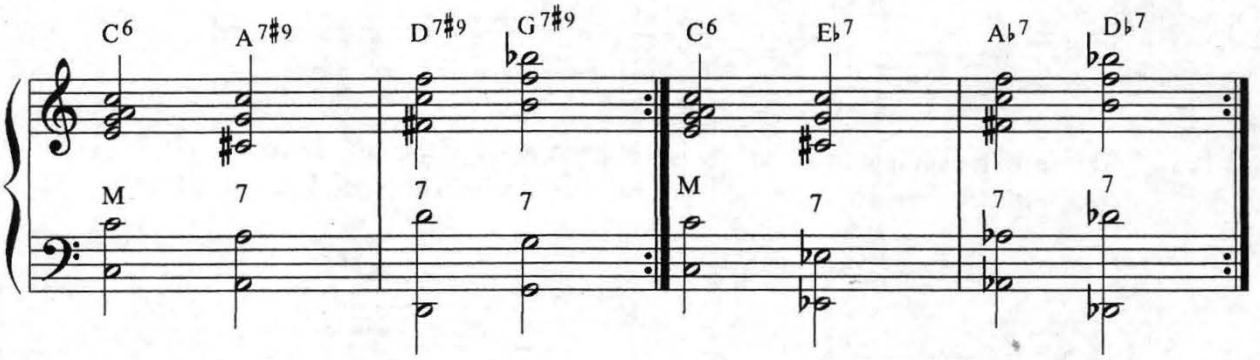
(continued)

We now have an opportunity to combine previously learned material. Earlier I described that the only reversible interval is the flatted fifth (b5); the importance of this is demonstrated in the following examples. I will also show that the G diminished chord is like a b9 chord (depending on the bass note).



* - chords in parenthesis can be used as substitutes

In the first measure I show that G diminished can be used in place of A^7. You could continue using the $C^{\#}$ in the bass.

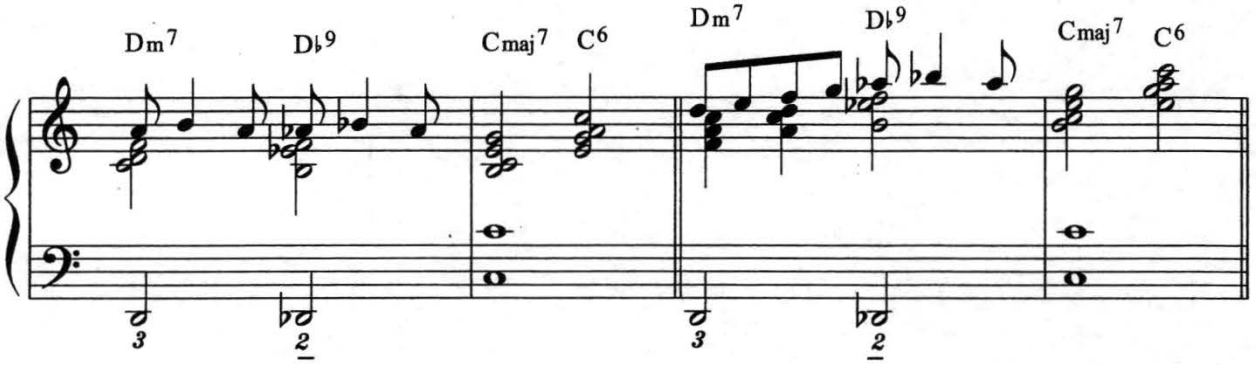


Remember that the only interval that is reversible is the flatted fifth (b5). That is why you can use the same notes in the right hand for the $A^{7\#9}$, $D^{7\#9}$, $G^{7\#9}$ as the Eb^7, Ab^7 and Db^7. (Eb is the b5 of A; Ab is the b5 of D; Db is the b5 of G.)

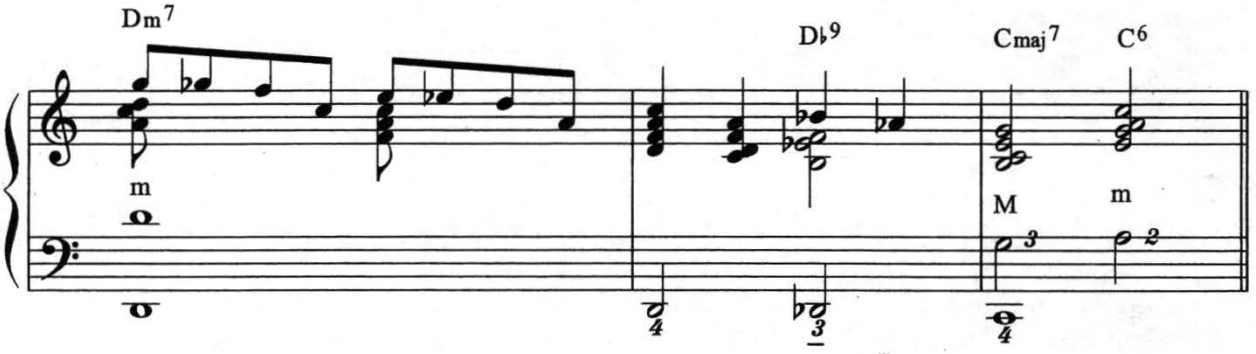
We can use all of the above as turnarounds, introductions and endings. Play them in all keys and in different rhythmic patterns.

Turnarounds - Endings - Intros

(continued)



The above endings are basically the same; they are examples of how you can vary an idea. The chords are taken from the IIm V^7 sequence (Dm^7 - G^7), the Db^7 being the substitute for G^7.

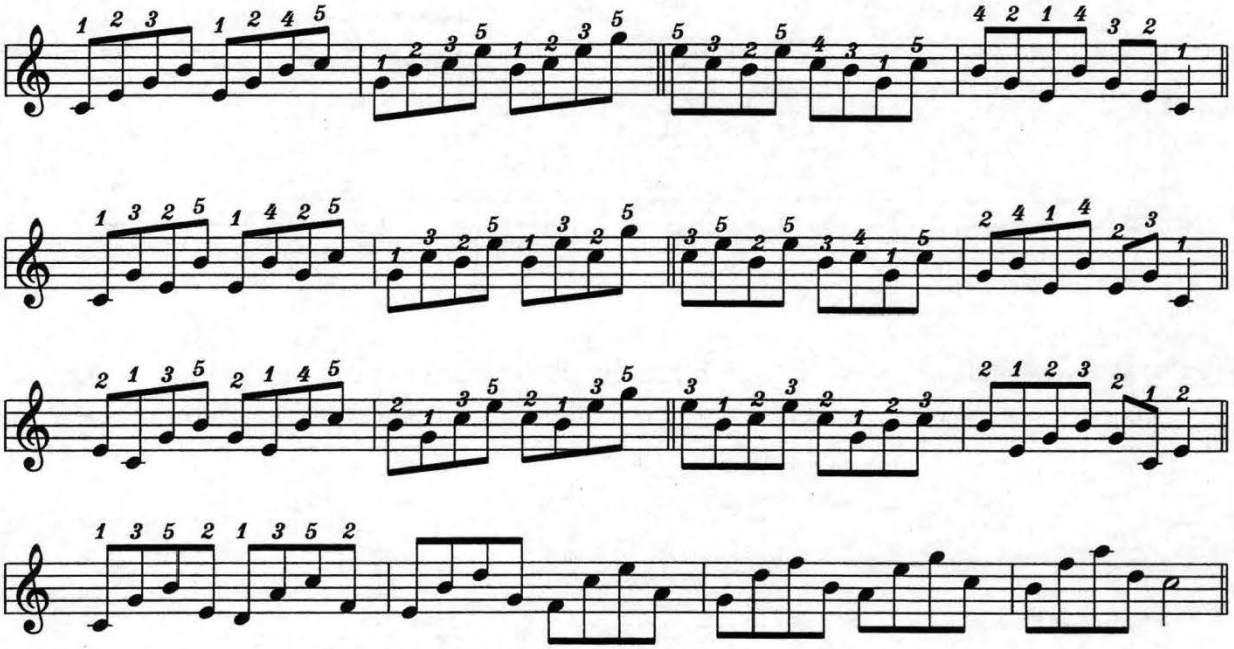


Here is another variation of the IIm V^7 sequence. Notice the last measure where I used the G Major chord and C bass, and the Am chord with C bass. These are permutations which were outlined previously in chord formations.

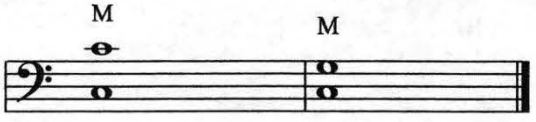
You must use your own ideas for Intros, Endings and Turnarounds. I have given you enough examples for you to begin creating on your own. Do not be afraid to try new ideas because it is the only way to learn. I remember the great drum teacher CHARLES TAPPAN who once said "If you're going to make a mistake, make a big one". This is how you develop ideas.

Diatonic Seventh Chord Patterns

The Major seventh chord is frequently used in jazz. To develop the dexterity necessary to use at your command, I have written a series of patterns. These will help you become more proficient in using this chord.

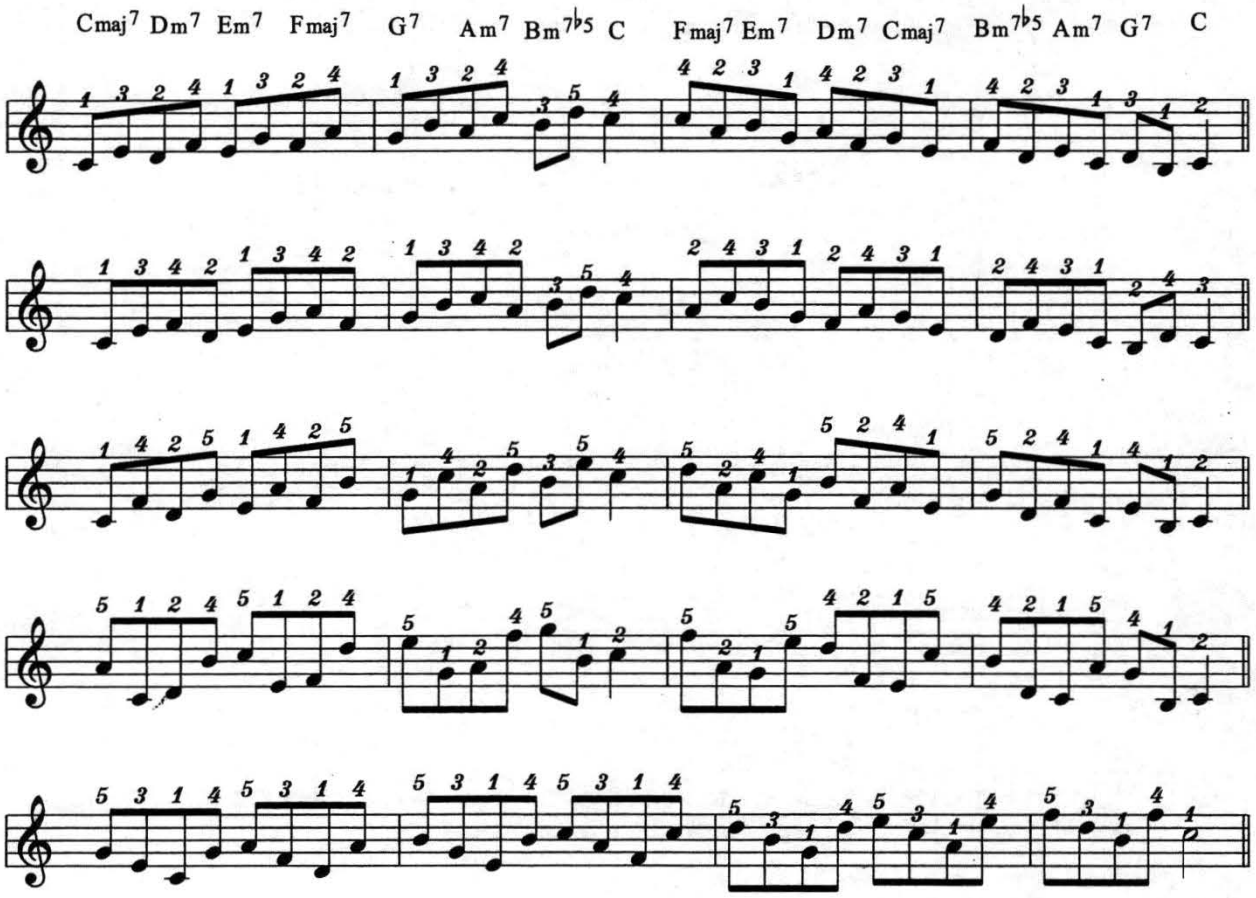


There are a number of ways to form the M^7 chord on the bass; the most common way is by sustaining C bass with the C Major chord. An alternative to this is to sustain C bass and the G Major chord. I would use these chords with the above exercises in order to hear the Major seventh chord.



Diatonic Scale Exercises

The following are a series of figures that can be applied to the Diatonic scale. They should be played in 12 keys in order to develop the ability to play in any key. You should also know the chords from the Diatonic Mode in order to use them on the left hand while playing these figures on the right hand.

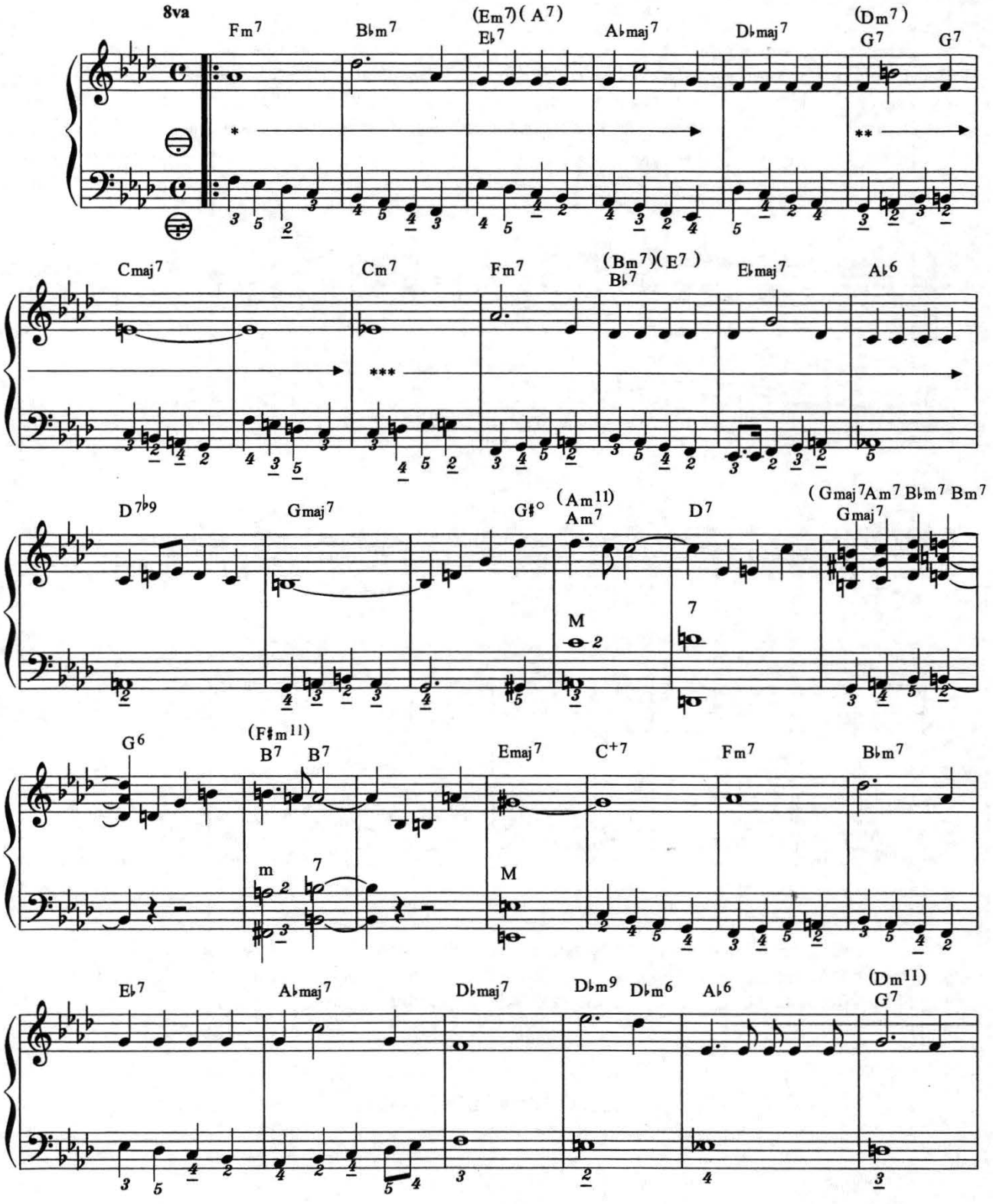


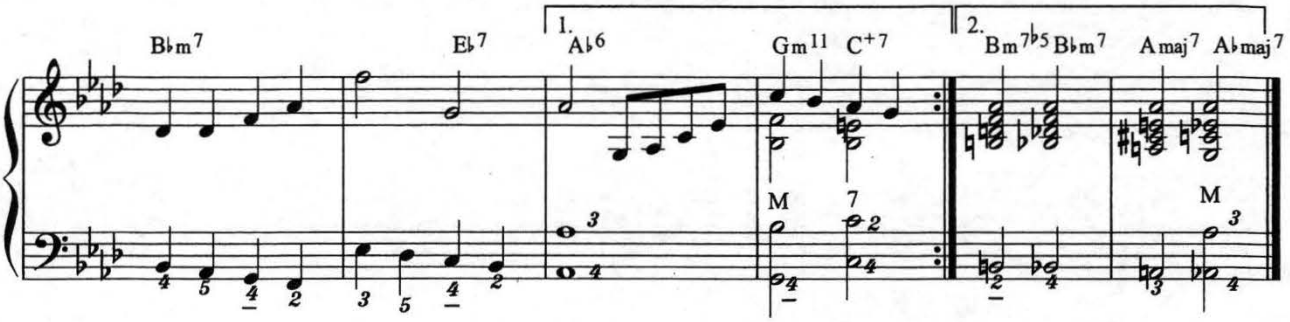
There are endless combinations of notes that can be played; these are just a few examples. I would try to sustain chords against these figures, once you are comfortable playing in all keys. You could sustain any of the chords from the Diatonic mode; this will enable you to hear the different changes that can be played.

Apply different rhythm patterns

All The Things You Are

Jerome Kern
with ideas by Ralph Stricker





( ).....Chord substitutions
*.....Ab scale can be played (Aeolian Mode)
**.....C scale can be played (Mixolydian Mode)
***....Eb scale can be played (Aeolian Mode)

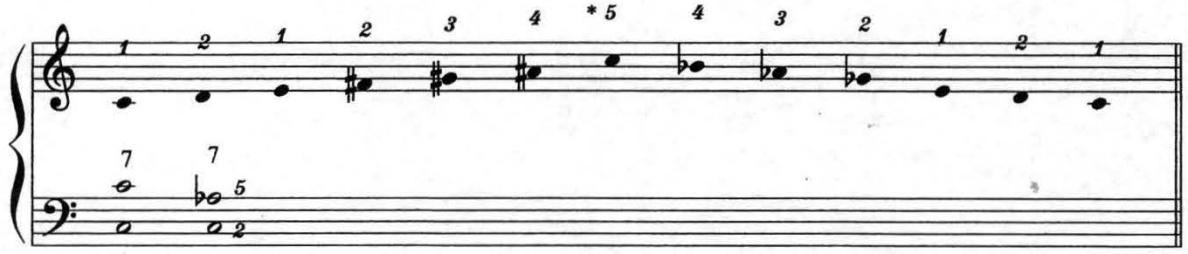
This song was originally written as a ballad not a jazz piece, but it remains the most recorded jazz song of all time. I use it as an example because it illustrates so much the material in this book (e.g. Modes, Scales, Chord Substitutions, Voicings, Turnarounds and Bass Lines).

The third measure is an example of two subjects: 1. Substitution of the Vm^7 for the I^7 (Em for A^7), and 2. showing that the only interval that is reversible is the b5 (A^7 for Eb^7); A is the b5 of the Eb scale.

In the second measure of the first ending we have an example of voicing of the Gm^{11} (V^7), resolving to the C^7 (I^7). This is also shown in the 17th and 21st measures.

In the first ending we have an example of a turnaround; in the second ending we have an example of using chords as an ending and/or a turnaround.

Whole Tone Scale

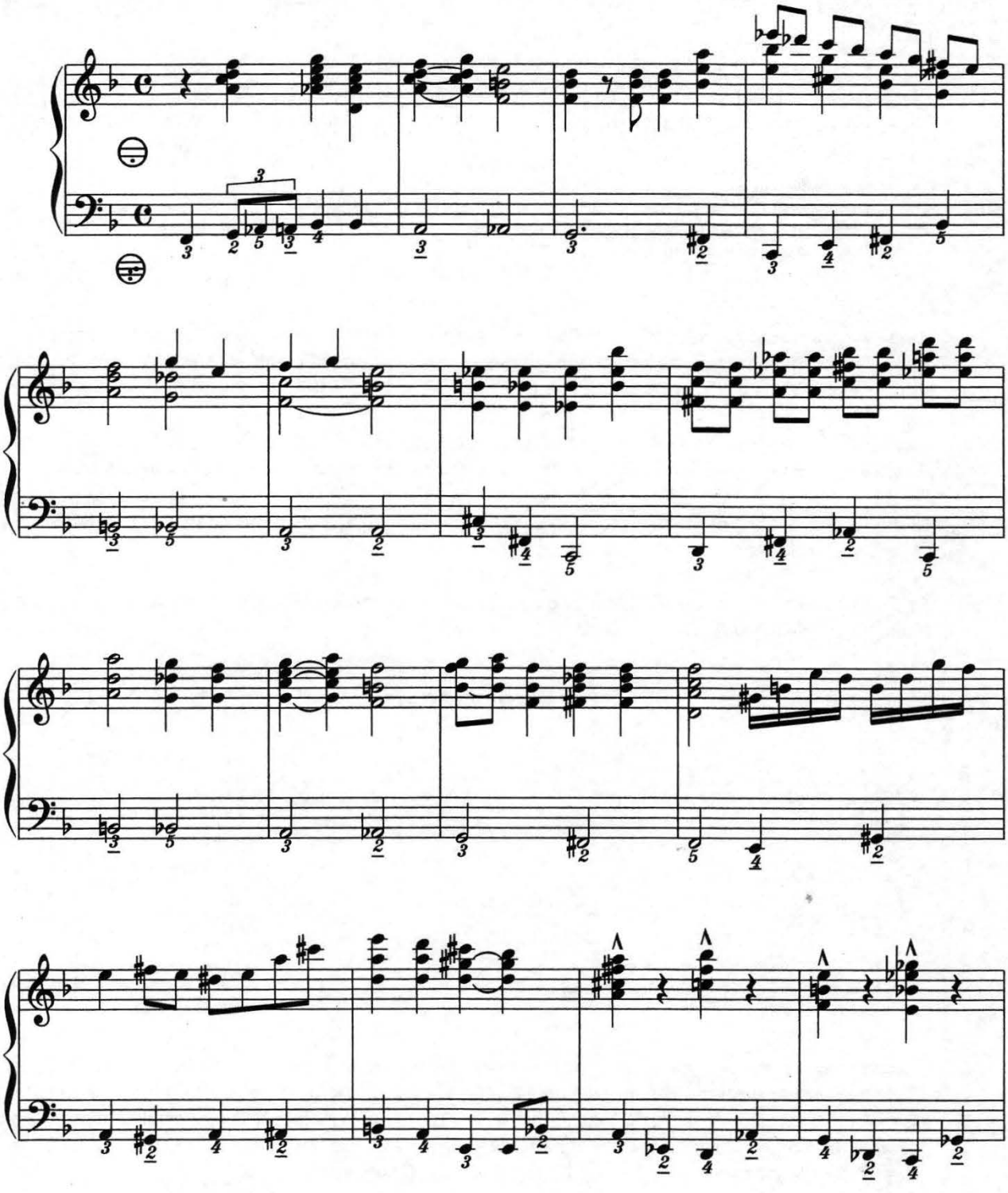


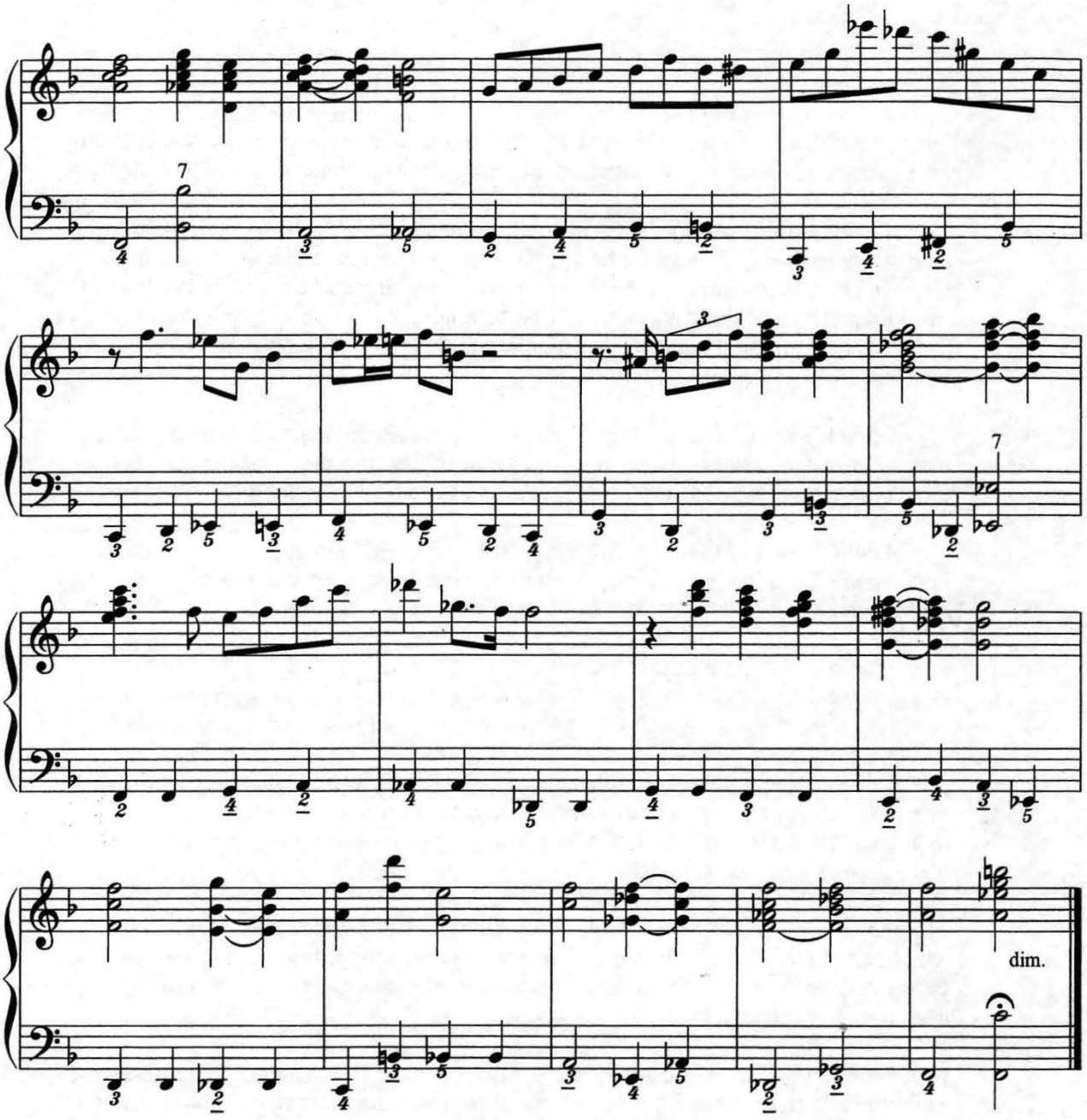
* If you play the scale in double octaves, you would use the first finger on C. The scale can also be used with augmented chords.

I previously omitted this scale, but I feel that now is the time to include it. It is a versatile scale as it can be played against seventh and augmented chords. You can use any of the notes in the scale as starting notes against the C^7 chord (preferably the C, E, F#, A# / Bb). You may ask "Why the F# ?". Remember the reversible interval, the b5? C is the b5 of F#, and F# is the b5 of C. Practice this against all seventh and augmented chords (the second measure in the first ending shows the C augmented chord).

How About You

with ideas by Ralph Stricker





This arrangement of "How About You" contains many of the harmonies and progressions that we have previously learned. It is not an arrangement that I consider to be final, but only an example of how to apply some of the work contained in the book.

Time to Reflect

I would like to take this time to advise the reader to stop for a moment and reflect upon what he or she has learned to this point. It definitely pays to review the study materials on a periodic basis to be sure that all of this knowledge has been absorbed thoroughly.

You should be able to apply the course material to songs currently in your repertoire and also to any new songs that you intend to work on. I have found that working with new songs is better because it is easy to get stale when working on things with which we are overly familiar; it is also easy to run out of fresh ideas when working on old material. In addition, a wonderful learning tool is to play songs in different keys than the one in which we normally play.

Try to develop a system in your approach to practice; let one segment of your practice lead you into the next. When playing the scales, follow with the modes in that scale and then try to create lines that are from the material that you are working on at the time.

You should know all of the chord and inversions and be able to apply them in song form. Play the melody of the song in chords and then sing the melody and play a chord background.

Do not be afraid to experiment. The only way you can learn is by trying different ideas. Don't get into a rut and always play the same figure of chord in the same place. When you make a mistake, be aware of the mistake and try not to make the same one again.

I recommend that you practice with a metronome, setting a tempo that is comfortable for you. One suggestion is that you do not increase the tempo of the metronome initially, but rather play more notes per beat. If you are playing a figure using eighth notes, then play that figure using sixteenth notes.

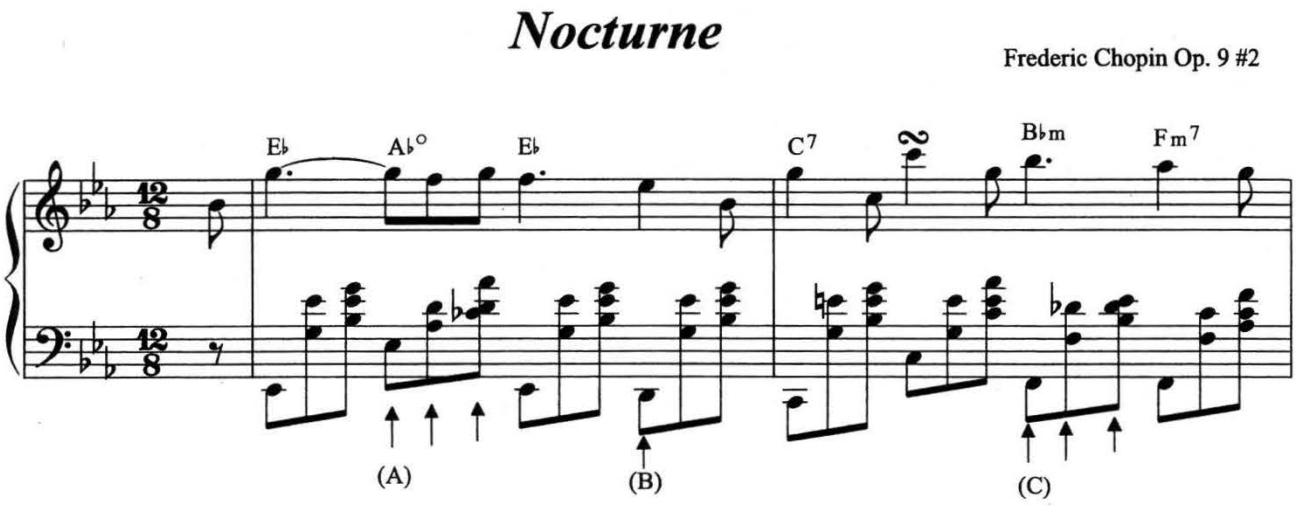
The knowledge that you should have at this point will help you to understand the remainder of the work in this book. I stress that you try to analyze each new study that you undertake. It is not enough to simply play things physically or mechanically, you must also know them mentally.

I am aware that some of you are trying to learn the material in this book by yourselves. This could be an advantage if a teacher is not familiar with these studies; however, if you have a teacher who is well versed in jazz, then you have a distinct advantage.

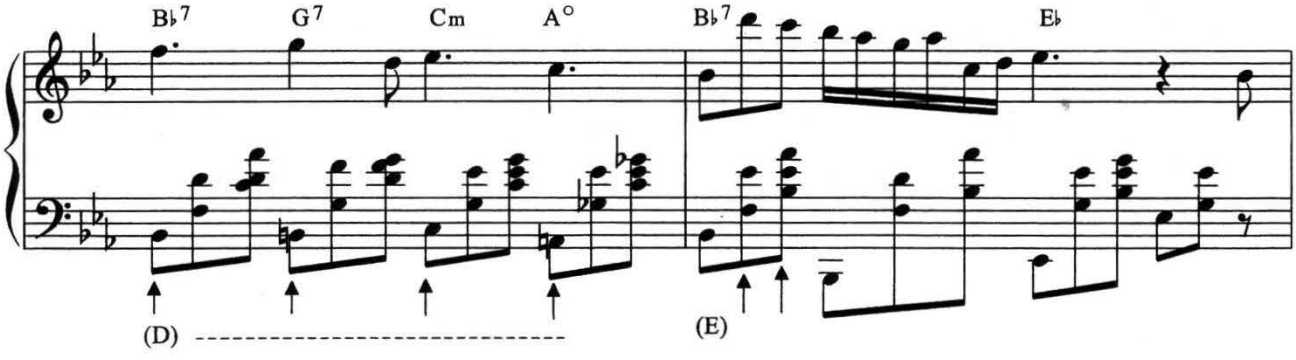
THERE ARE NO "NEW" CHORDS

Since the inception of "Bop" we have been led to believe that the chords used in that art form are new. This is a myth, as the masters in the 17th and 18th century used them in their music. They were just called by their pure harmonic names.

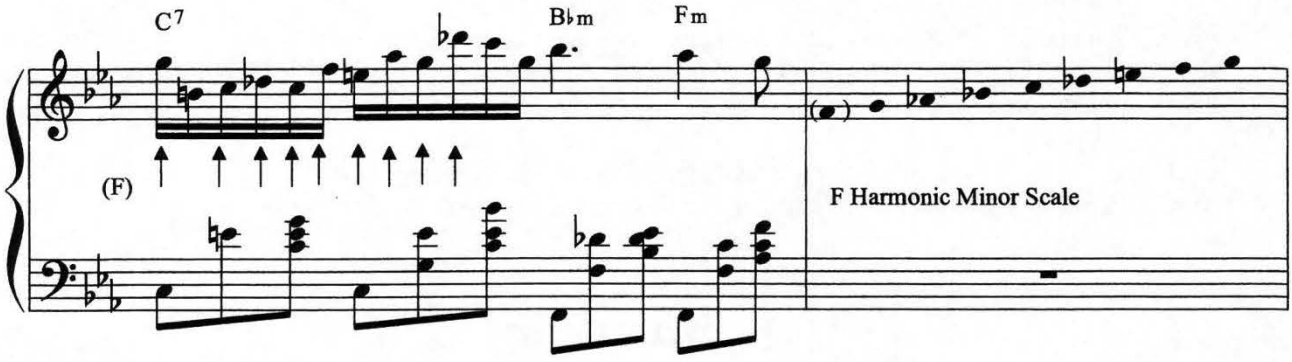
Bach was the Art Tatum of his time and Chopin was the Bill Evans of his era. I will use Chopin's NOCTURNE IN Eb as an example of modern day chords that were used 150 years ago.



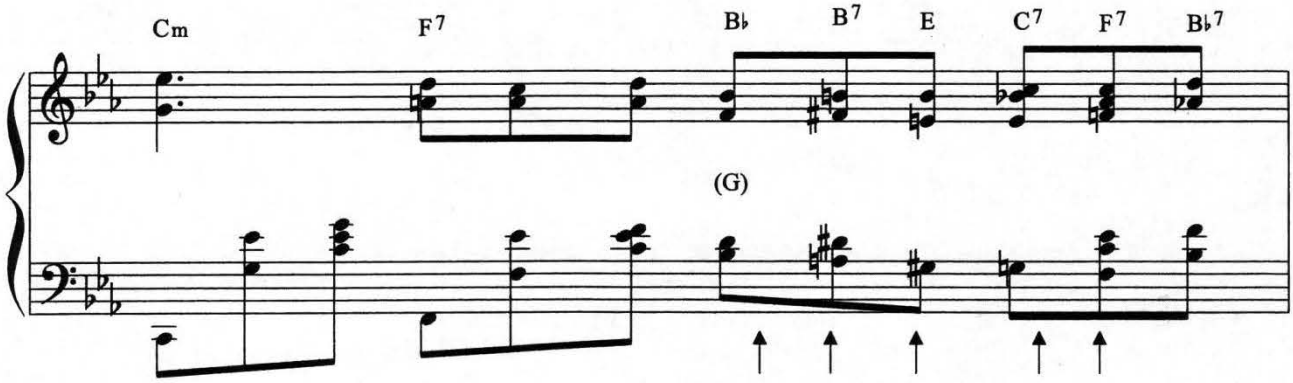
Notice the genius of Chopin and how he uses bass lines (B), and the use of the Eb bass against the $A\flat^{\circ}$ (A). In example (C) he uses a BbM^{11} with the F in the bass. The use of the Eb bass against the $A\flat^{\circ}$ chord is, in essence, a $B\flat^{7\flat 9}$, which leads to the Eb and EbM^{7}.



This is a perfect example of a bass line connecting notes from one chord to another (D). The next example (E) is the use of the Bb ^{sus} chord.



Chopin used the harmonic minor scale masterfully (F) against a $C^{7\flat9}$. He started on the second step of the harmonic minor. This is used in jazz as notes to be played against the m^{7b9}, 7b9 and others which are covered in this book.



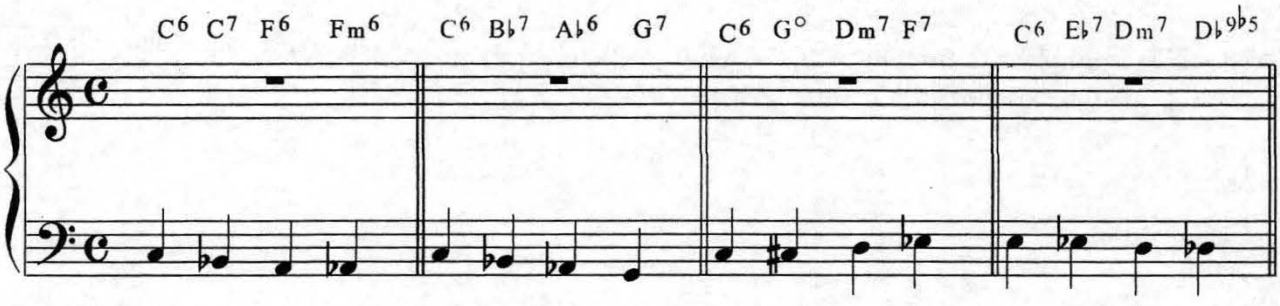
Notice the contrary motion bass progression in (G). The changes and bass lines are beautiful.

There are many examples of modern chords and modes used by the masters before anyone ever knew what jazz was. The student who has studied classical music has such an advantage when he/she eventually learns jazz.

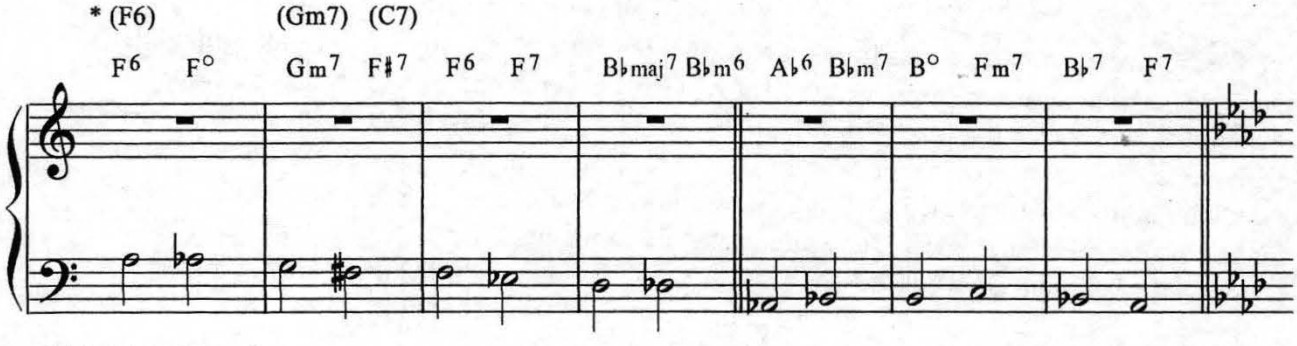
Learning How to Write Bass Lines

The left hand (bass) of the accordion has been sorely neglected in the learning of jazz. Many players use what is known as the "polka bass" in their playing of jazz. One of the reasons for this is that accordionists are generally accompanied by bass players. When accordionists are called upon to play the part of the bass player, they find themselves up the proverbial 'creek without a paddle'. You will learn from these examples how to determine a bass line.

Bass lines, whether ascending or descending, should not be more than 1 ½ steps apart; preferably they should be only ½ to 1 step apart. In the examples below you will see that I have taken a note from one chord and a note from the next chord etc. There is no more than one whole step between bass notes.



Sometime we have to play a substitute chord for the original in order to keep the bass line moving, and remain within our preferred rule of one whole step. In the last measure of the above line, the original fourth chord was a G^7. I substituted $D♭^{9♭5}$ instead of G^7. This was musically correct as the Db is the b5 of G (reversible interval G-Db-G). I've written the above examples in the key of C to make it easier for those just starting to learn jazz. You should transpose all of them in other keys.

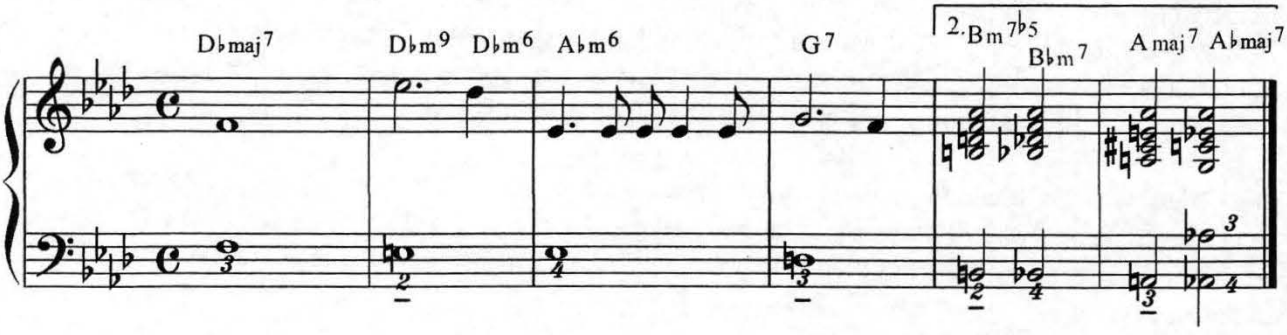


* ( ) original chords

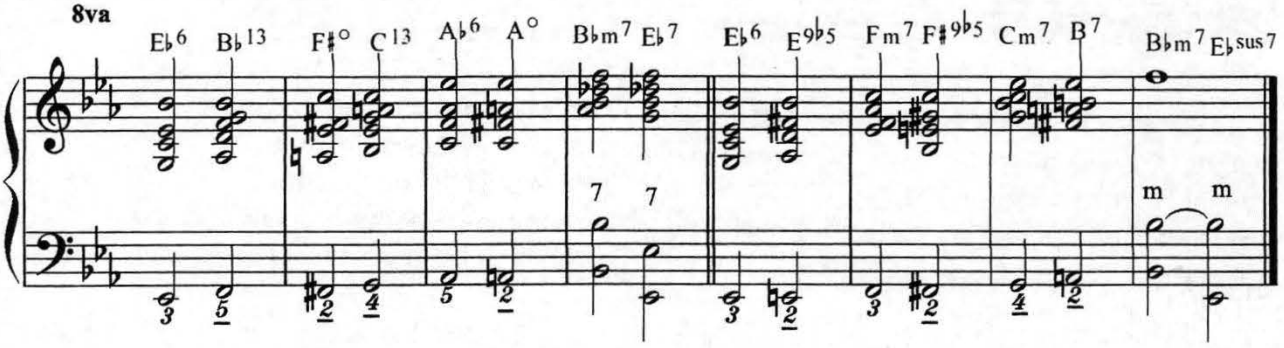
Once again I kept within a whole step when moving the bass line. In the first example I had to substitute two chords (F diminished and $F\#^7$) to follow the rule. Notice that instead of C^7, I substituted the b5 of C which is $F\#^7$.

Learning How to Write Bass Lines

(Continued)



The above examples are from the song "All the Things You Are". The complete arrangement is in the book (pp 94-95). For each chord, try to determine how the bass note was derived.

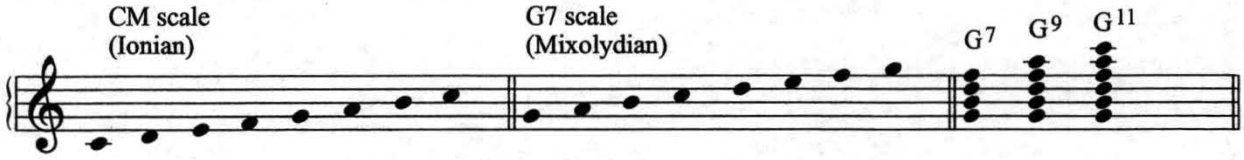


Above are two examples of bass lines and how to substitute chords to keep the 'line' going. Both examples are the first four measures of 'Liza' by George Gershwin. In the second example I substituted an $E^{9\flat5}$ for the Bb^{13} (Bb/E/Bb). Notice in the last measure I used an $E\flat^{sus7}$, which is an extended 7th chord. This is usually an 11th (Eb, G, Bb, Db, F). By using the Eb (I) bass and the Bbm chord, which has an F (4=11) in it, we now have an $E\flat^{sus7}$. You can use this example for any sus (suspended) chord. The same can apply to the right hand. Play Eb bass with the Eb^7 chord on the bass and Bbm^7 chord on the right hand. It is a very full sound. Play in all keys.

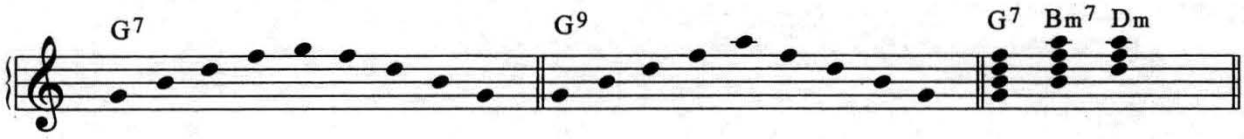
Super-Imposing Arpeggios

We have not yet discussed arpeggios. I have tried to present the material in this book in an easy, progressive way, and I believe that once the reader is versed in chords and scales, everything else will fall into place.

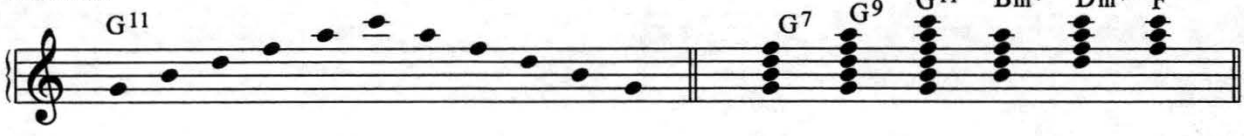
The next study will deal with arpeggios and their extensions; I refer to extensions and super-imposing. Let us examine them and understand them before attempting to play them.

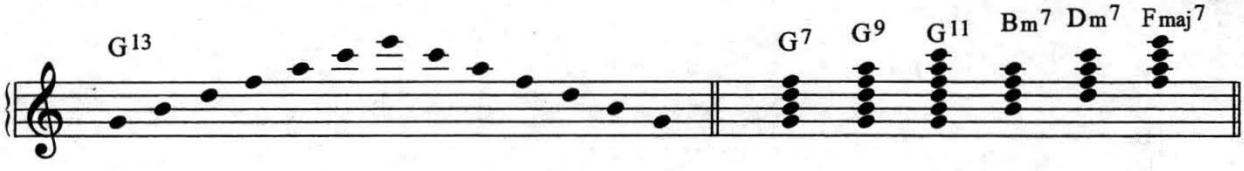


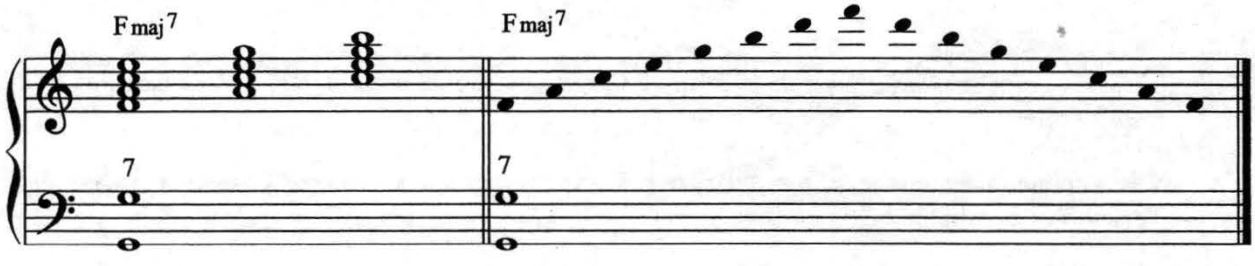
The G^7 (Mixolydian) scale is taken from the CM scale, by starting on the 5th step of the Major. The first chord we derive from this scale will be the G^7, followed by the G^9 and the G^{11}. We can now form our arpeggios from these chords.



We play through the G^7 and G^9 chords to form the arpeggios, but observe the other chords that are also found within the parent chords. This takes us back to the study of the modes that we learned.

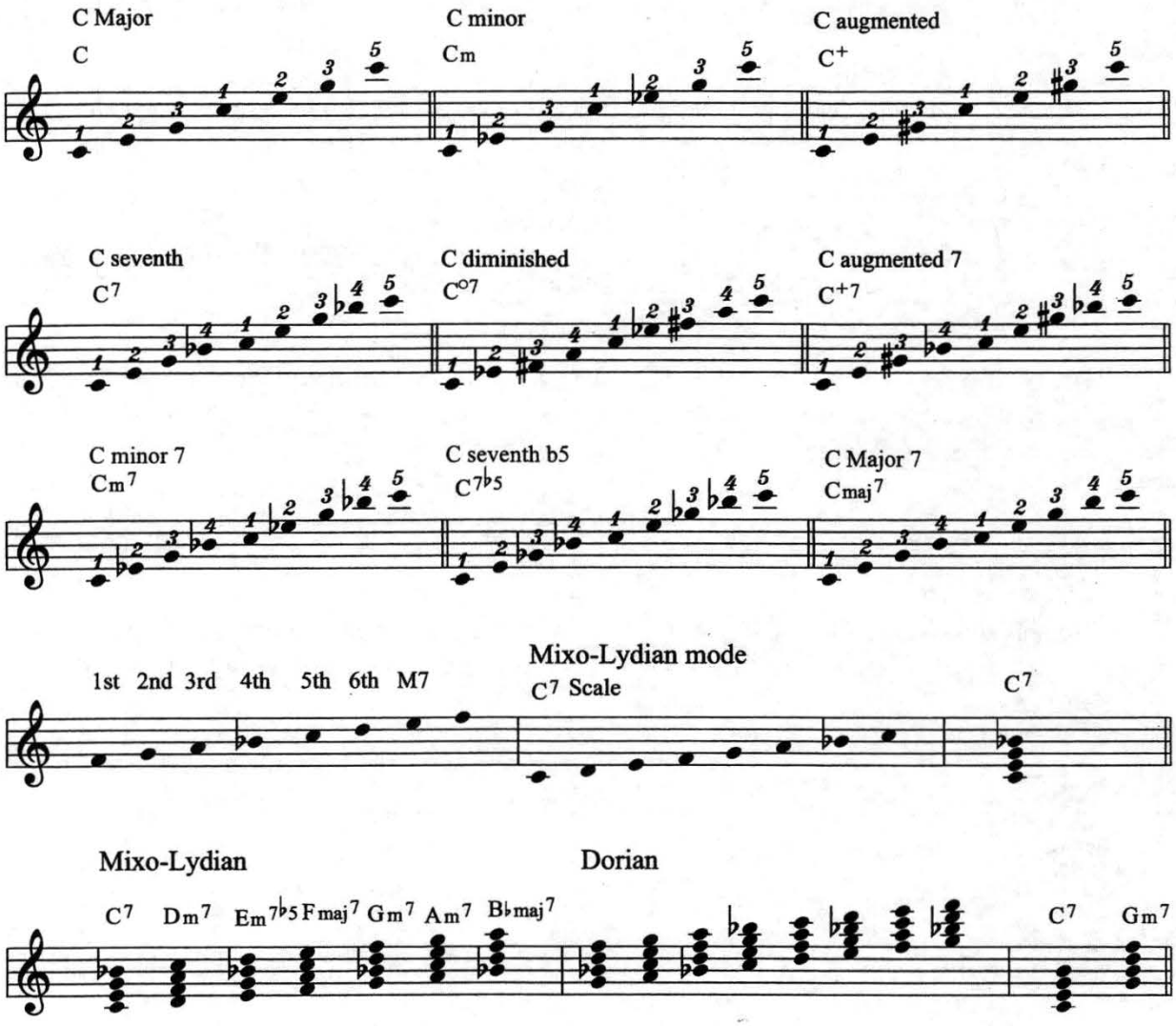






Notice that when we start on F we play through the G^7 chord eventually; if we start on G, we eventually play through the FM^7 chord.

Arpeggios

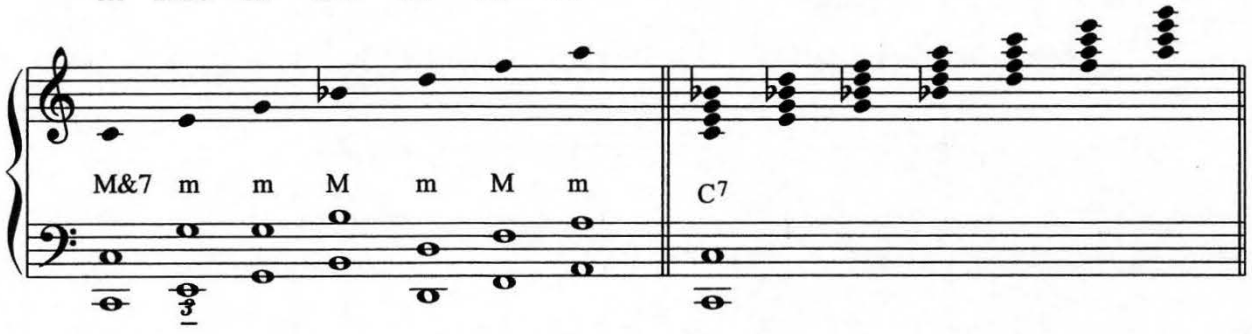


The above arpeggios must be played in all 12 keys. You should be able to play the arpeggios starting from any note in that arpeggio.

When playing through the arpeggios, try to be aware of the different chords that you are playing. This will be illustrated on the next page.

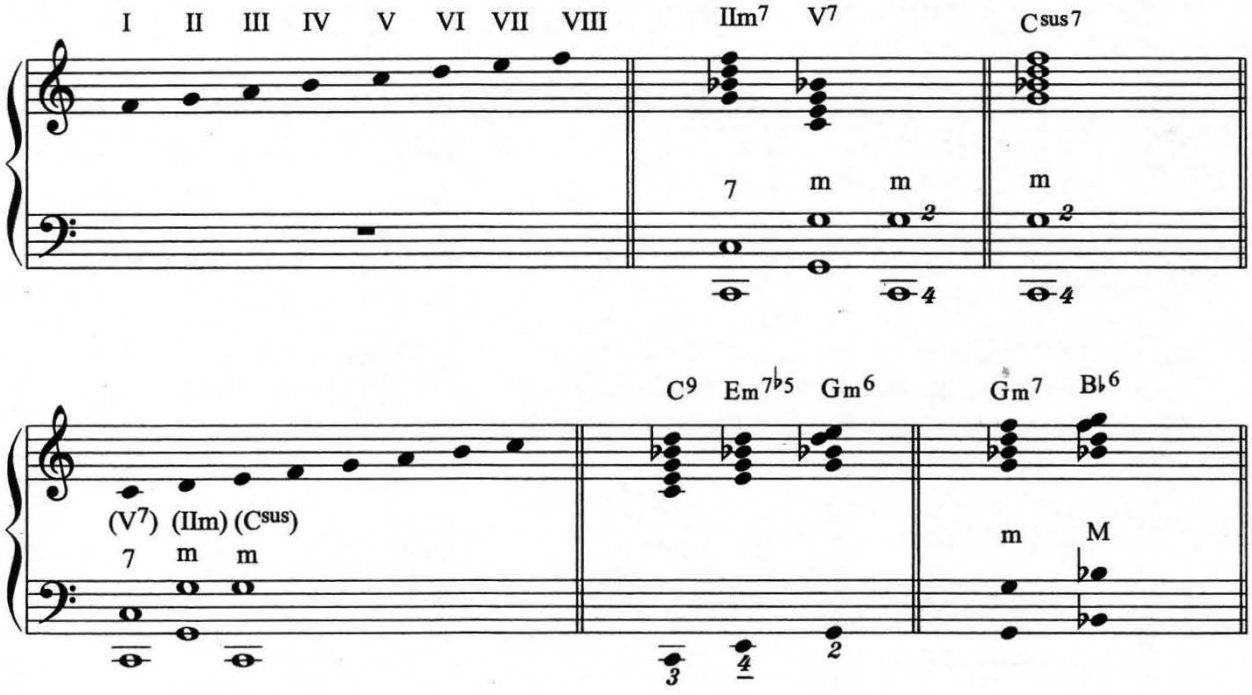
Arpeggios in Modal Form

C13	Em11b5					
C11	Em9b5	Gm11		Dm11		Am11
C9		Gm9	BbM9	Dm9	FM9	Am9
C7	Em7b5	Gm7	BbM7	Dm7	FM7	Am7
CM	Emb5	Gm	BbM	Dm	FM	Am

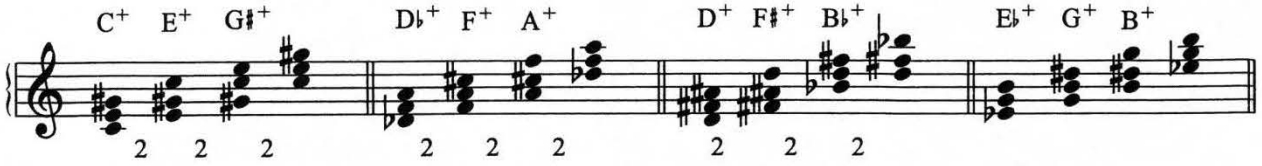


Once again we learn of the many pemutations that can be derived from the arpeggios in their extended form. The above examples must be played in all keys

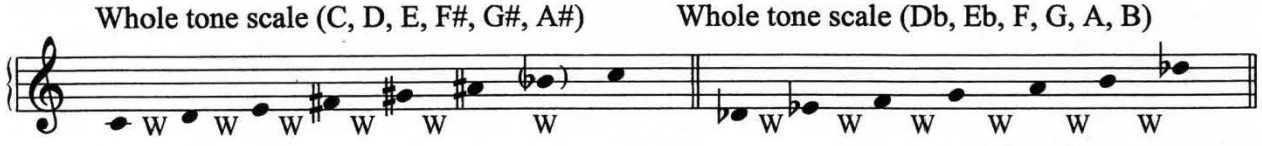
The examples below show us the relationship of chords, once again pointing out how the bass changes the chord.



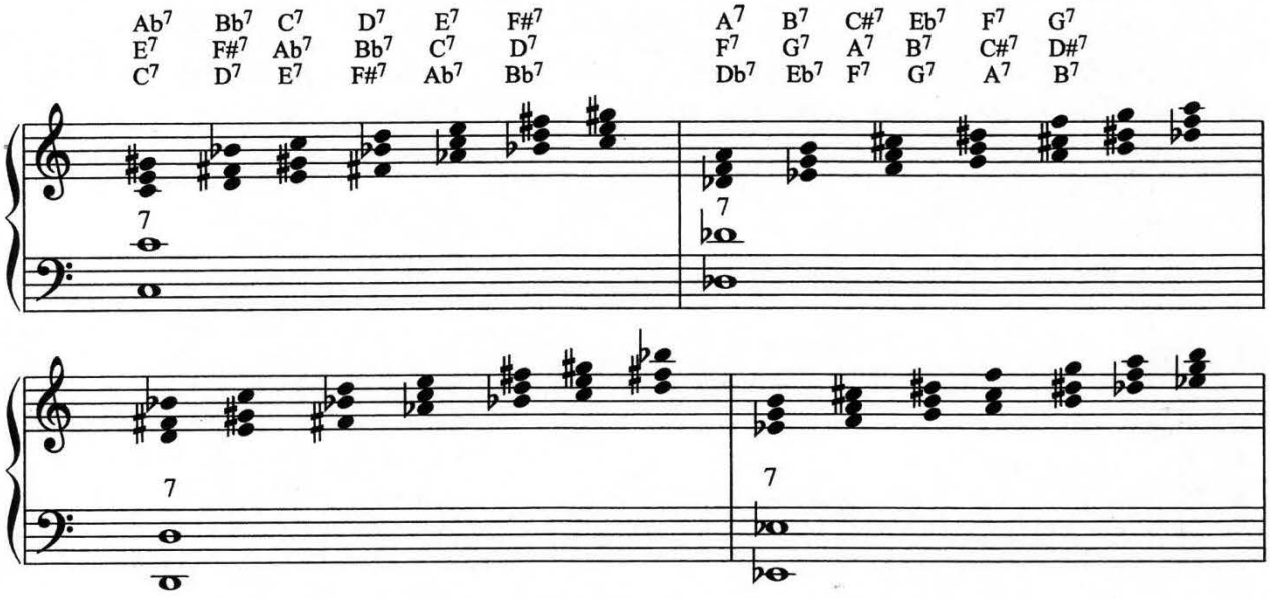
Augmented Chords and Substitutions



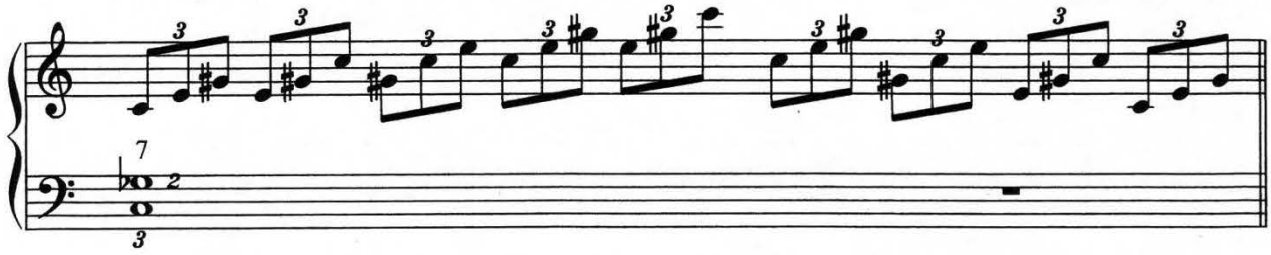
Augmented chords repeat themselves every 2 whole steps. There are only four different augmented chords (C^+, Db^+, D^+, Eb^+).



The whole tone scale is an excellent scale to substitute for the 7th chord and also the 9b5 chord. Remember that we can substitute the 9b5 chord for the 7th (Gb^{9b5} for C^7).



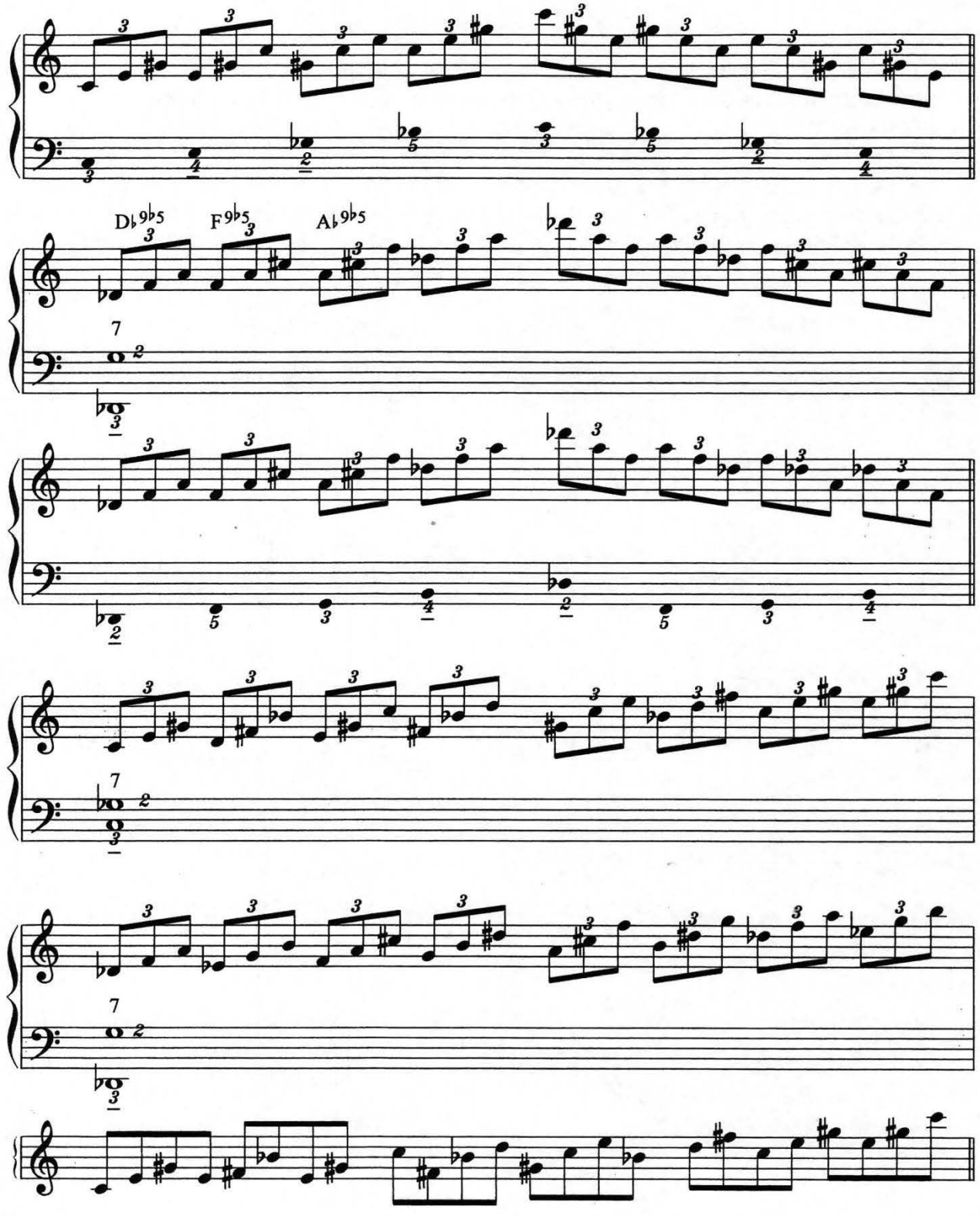
The chart above shows the augmented chords in whole tones. Notice that the D^+ whole tone is a repeat of the C^+ whole tone scale, and the Eb^+ is a repeat of the Db^+. Below are augmented chords played in broken chord form against the 9b5 chord.



Notice that the 1st note of each sequence forms the C^+ chord (C, E, G#).

Augmented Chords and Substitutions

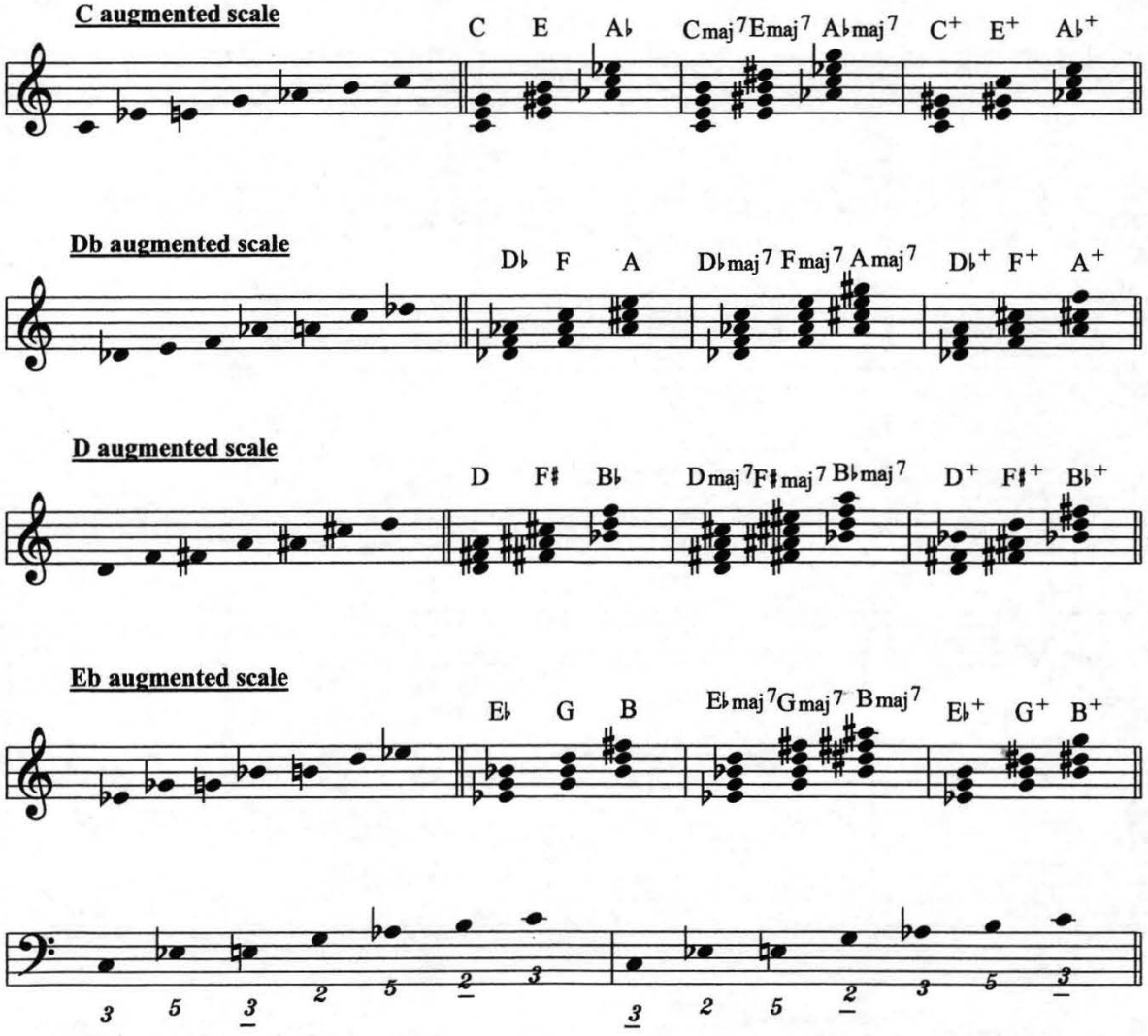
(continued)



Augmented Scale

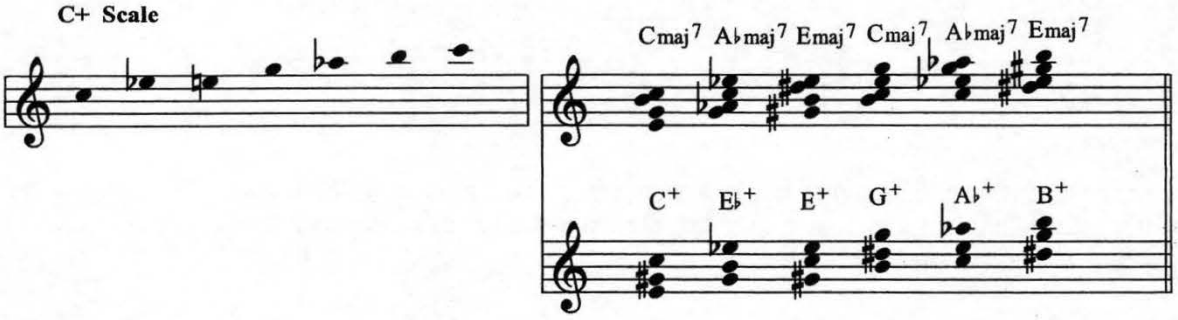
The augmented scale is an excellent scale to use in jazz as it covers many chord substitutions. We have already learned that augmented chords repeat every two whole steps (tones); therefore, by learning four augmented scales, we will know twelve (3 roots x 4 augmented scales = 12).

There are three roots in each scale; therefore we have three Major chords in each scale. There are also three augmented chords in each scale. The scale can be used against the Major seventh and the augmented chord which, in itself, can be used against the 9b5 (#11) chord.

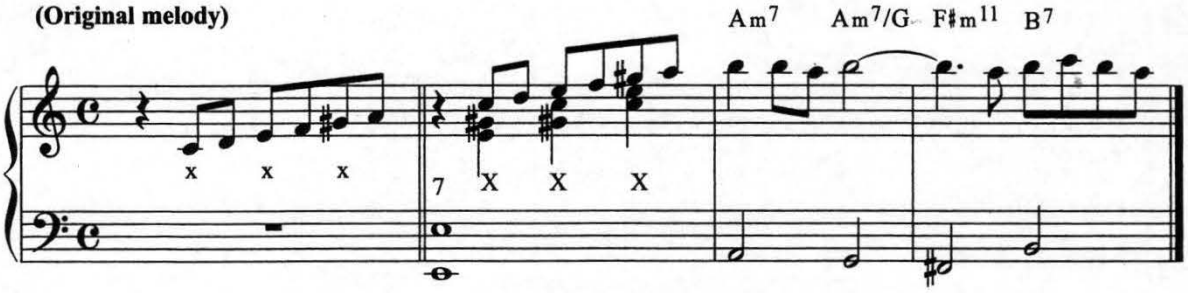


Augmented Scales in Chord Form

The augmented scale in chord form is one of the most beautiful studies to know and use in jazz. The diversity of ideas that can be used harmonically in background as well as melodic structure is awesome. The permutation of ideas is unlimited. I will give a few examples of how to use and play the augmented scale in chords. The student must experiment to become familiar with the many uses of this scale.



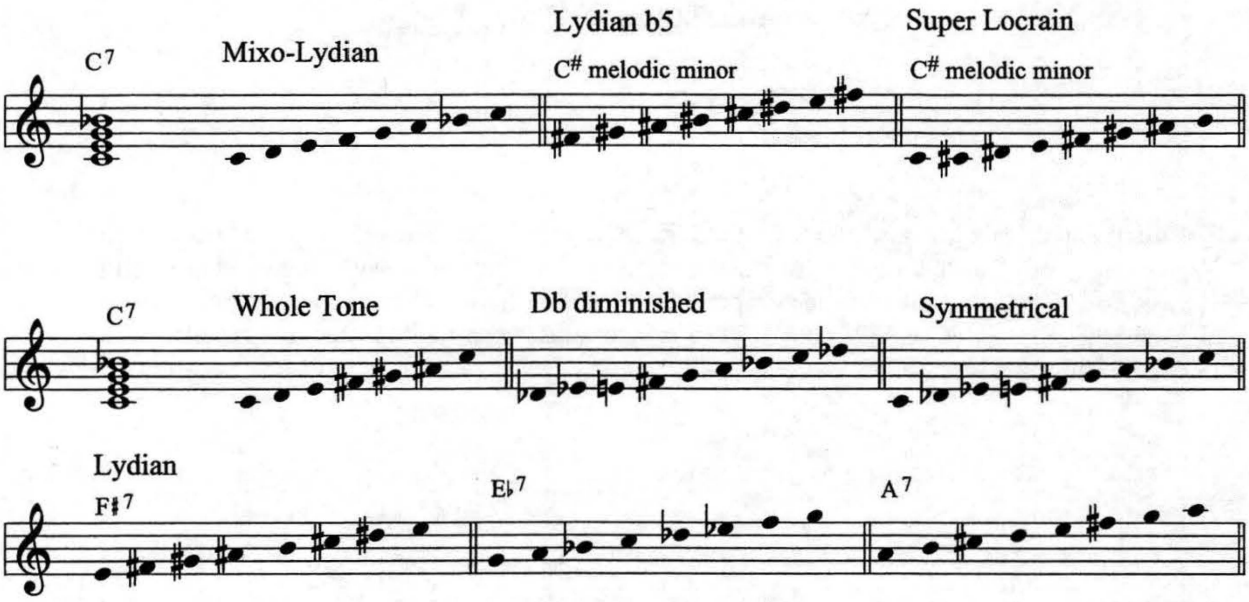
Example of Augmented



The above is an example of using the augmented scale in chord form. The song is "What are You Doing the Rest of Your Life" by Michel LeGrande. The notes marked with an X are the notes of the augmented scale.

Scale Substitution

(seventh chord)



We have countless options at our fingertips that can be used against the 7th chord. The chart below shows most of the scales that are available. The excuse of not knowing what to play is ludicrous; you just have to learn to use these scales.

Scales that can be played against the C^7 chord.

C^7 (F Major scale)
C# melodic minor
C Super Locrian (C# melodic minor)
F# Lydian b5 (C# melodic minor)
Whole tone scale
Db, Gb, Bb, and G diminished
C Symmetrical (Db)
Eb^7
$F\#^7$ (B Major) Lydian
A^7

The chart below show the optional substitutions; the C is the flatted fifth of F# and F# is the flatted fifth of C. They are interchangeable...one can be used for the other.

Relative flatted fifth (#11)

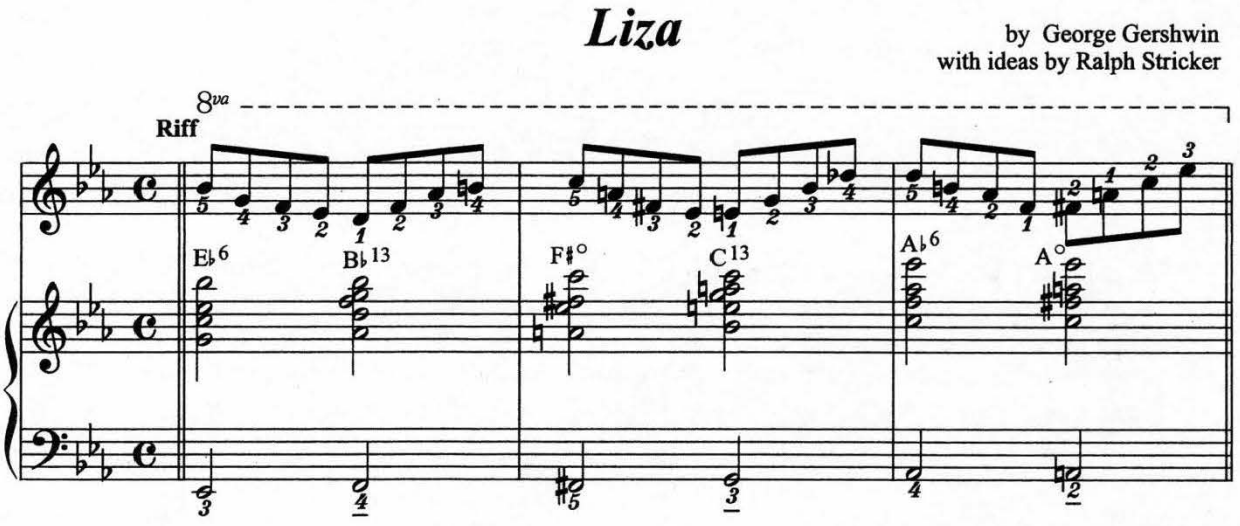
C F#	F# C
Db G	G Db
D Ab	Ab D
Eb A	A Eb
E Bb	Bb E
F B	B F

Plethora of Ideas

The following pages will cover some of the subjects previously explained. They will also encompass some new ideas to expedite your playing of jazz.

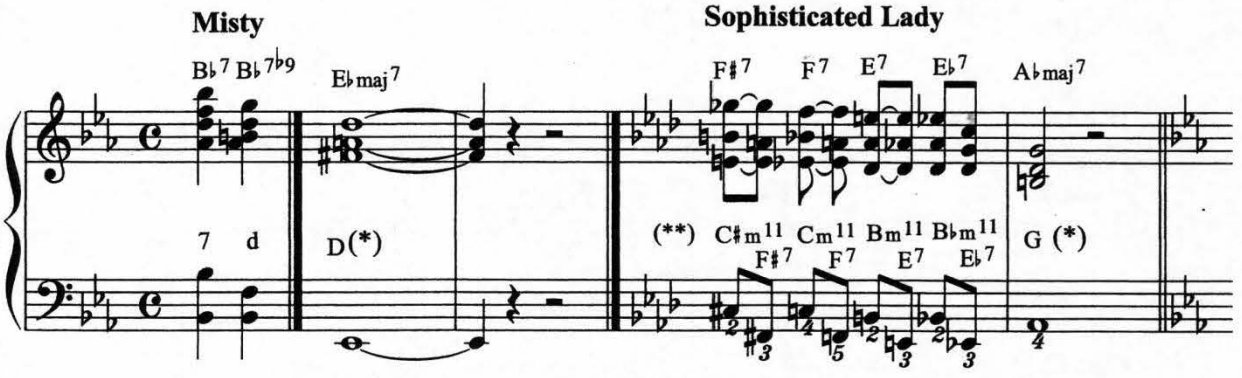
I use the song LIZA as an example of what can be done to enhance your playing.

1. Look at the use of "spread or open chords". They give the sound of a big band. (Previously Covered)
2. Notice the bass line and how it moves ascending no more than one whole step apart. (Previously Covered)
3. The top line is what we call in jazz "a riff". A riff is a series of notes played instead of the melody; the notes follow the same theme from measure to measure.



Let's look at the riff played against the $B\flat^{13}$ and the C^{13}. The notes over the $B\flat^{13}$ and the C^{13} form a D^{o} and an E^{o} respectively. D^{o} is part of the $B\flat^{7\flat9}$. E^{o} is part of the $C^{7\flat9}$.

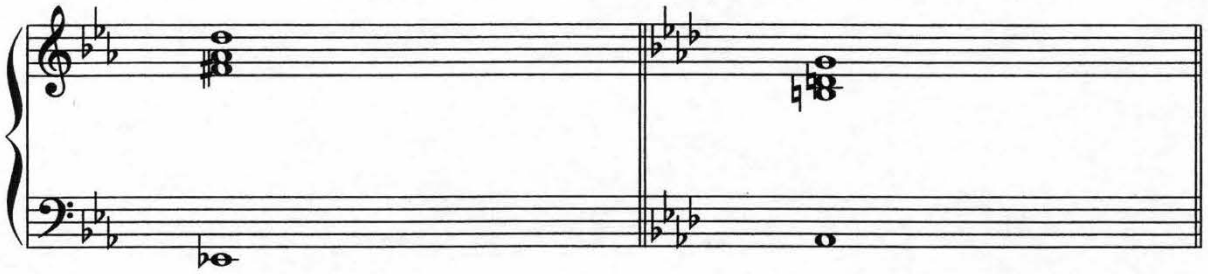
Substitution of the Major Seventh Chord



When the Major seventh note (D) of a chord (EbM^7) is the melody note, we use that note (D) to determine the name of the chord (D Major). I used the first measure of Misty (*) and a measure of Sophisticated Lady (*) as examples. I also use a measure of of Sophisticated Lady (**) for the substitution of m11 for the 7th chord. (Previously covered).

Plethora of Ideas
(continued)

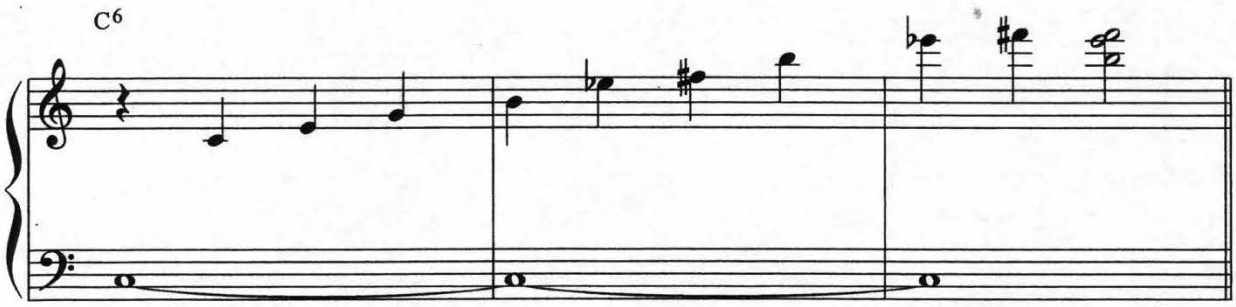
The use of the three note triad on top of the I of the Major seventh is not unusual. Example: D triad over the Eb bass. Let us examine the notes from bottom up using the previous two examples.



In the first example we used a D triad over an Eb bass. The notes bottom up are Eb, F#, Ab, D. They are part of an E♭° chord. The D added to the chord creates what is known in jazz as a "half diminished" (Symbol: Ø)

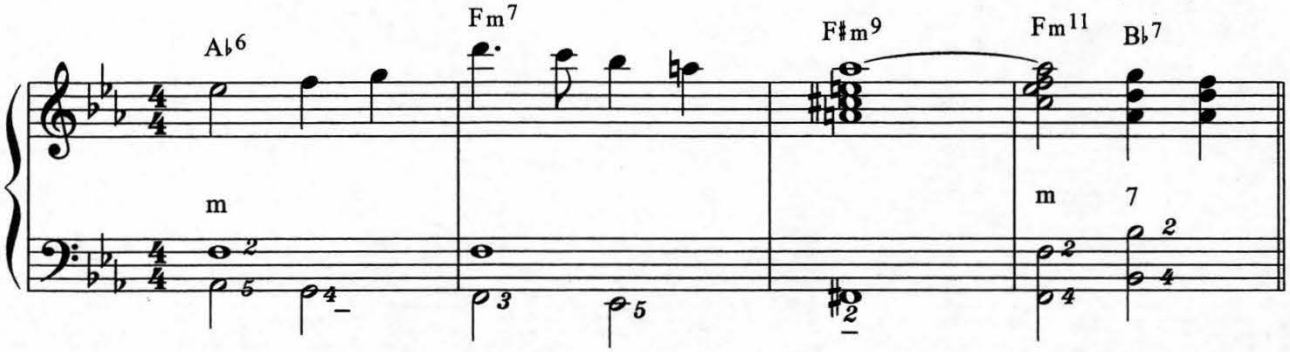
In the second example we used a G triad over an Ab bass. The notes from bottom up are Ab, B, D, G. They are part of an A♭° chord. The G added to the chord creates the half diminished.

What we have learned from the above examples can also be used as an ending. In the second measure we use the B Major triad over a C bass. (B is the M^7 of C)

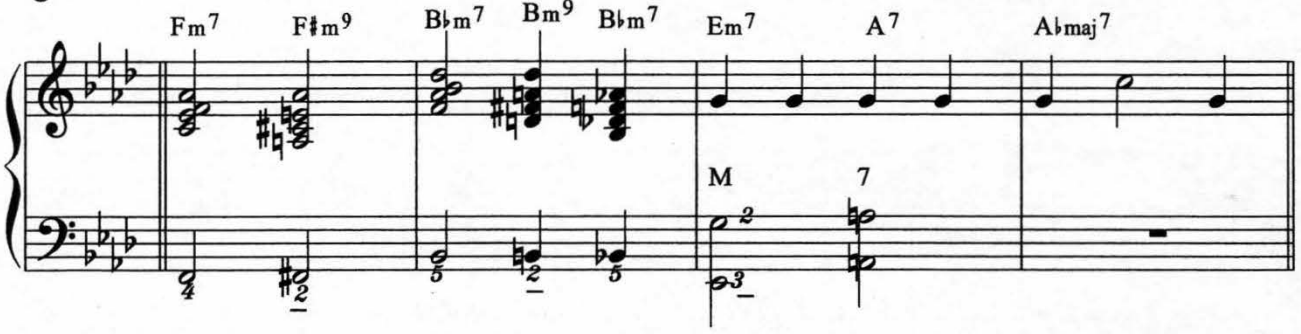


Plethora of Ideas
(continued)

Here is another idea to use. The following four measures are from "My Funny Valentine". The third measure was originally written as an Fm^7. Whenever the melody note is the minor third of the chord (Fm/Ab) you can raise the chord a half step and then revert back to the original chord. That is what I did in this example. The Ab melody note becomes the 9th of $F\sharp m$.



The following example is an extreme case of substituting the minor chord. I would only do it once in a song (All The Things You Are). Notice that in the third measure I substituted Em^7 and A^7 for the original chord Eb^7. When making substitutions be sure to try them to make sure that they sound good.

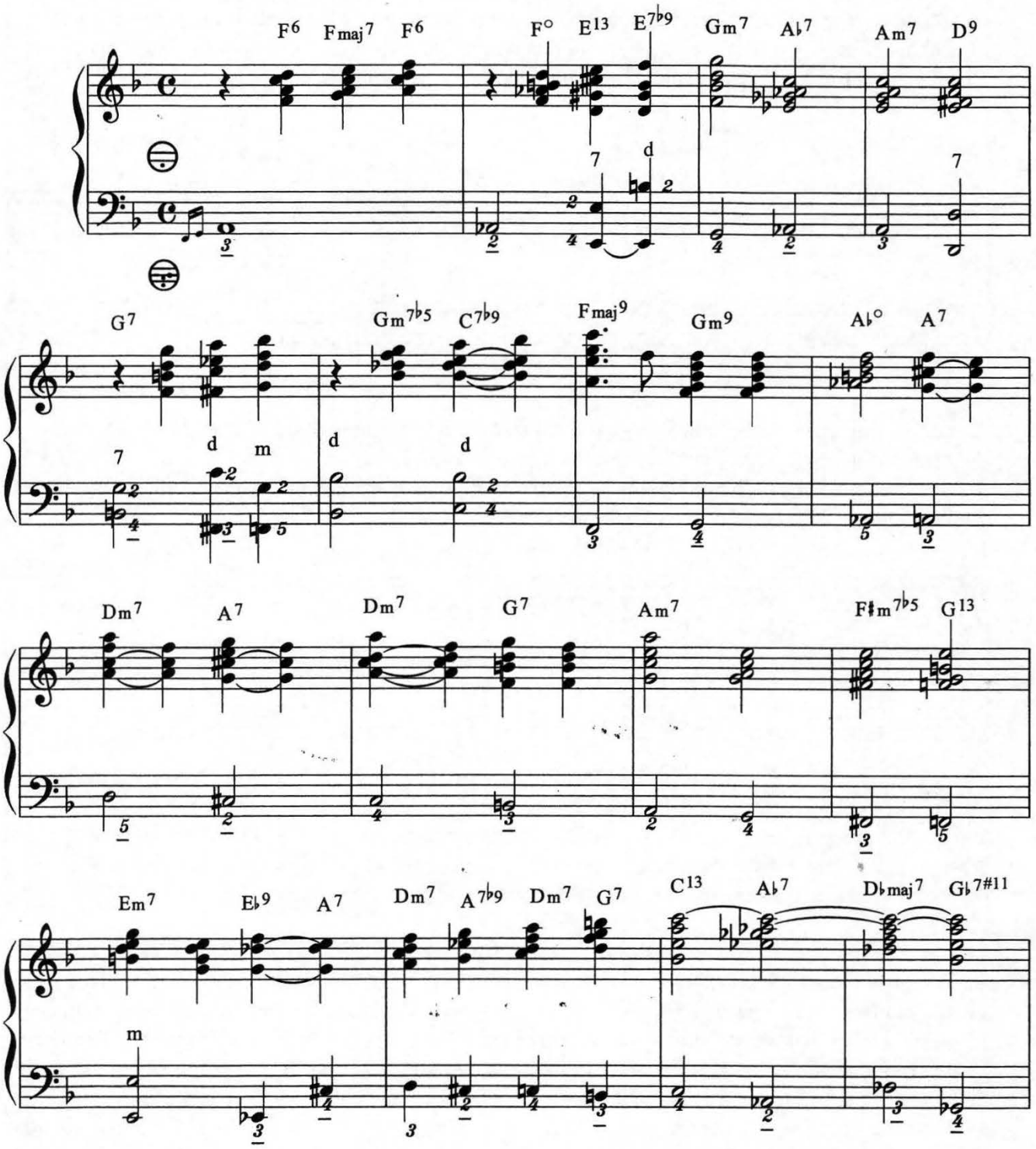


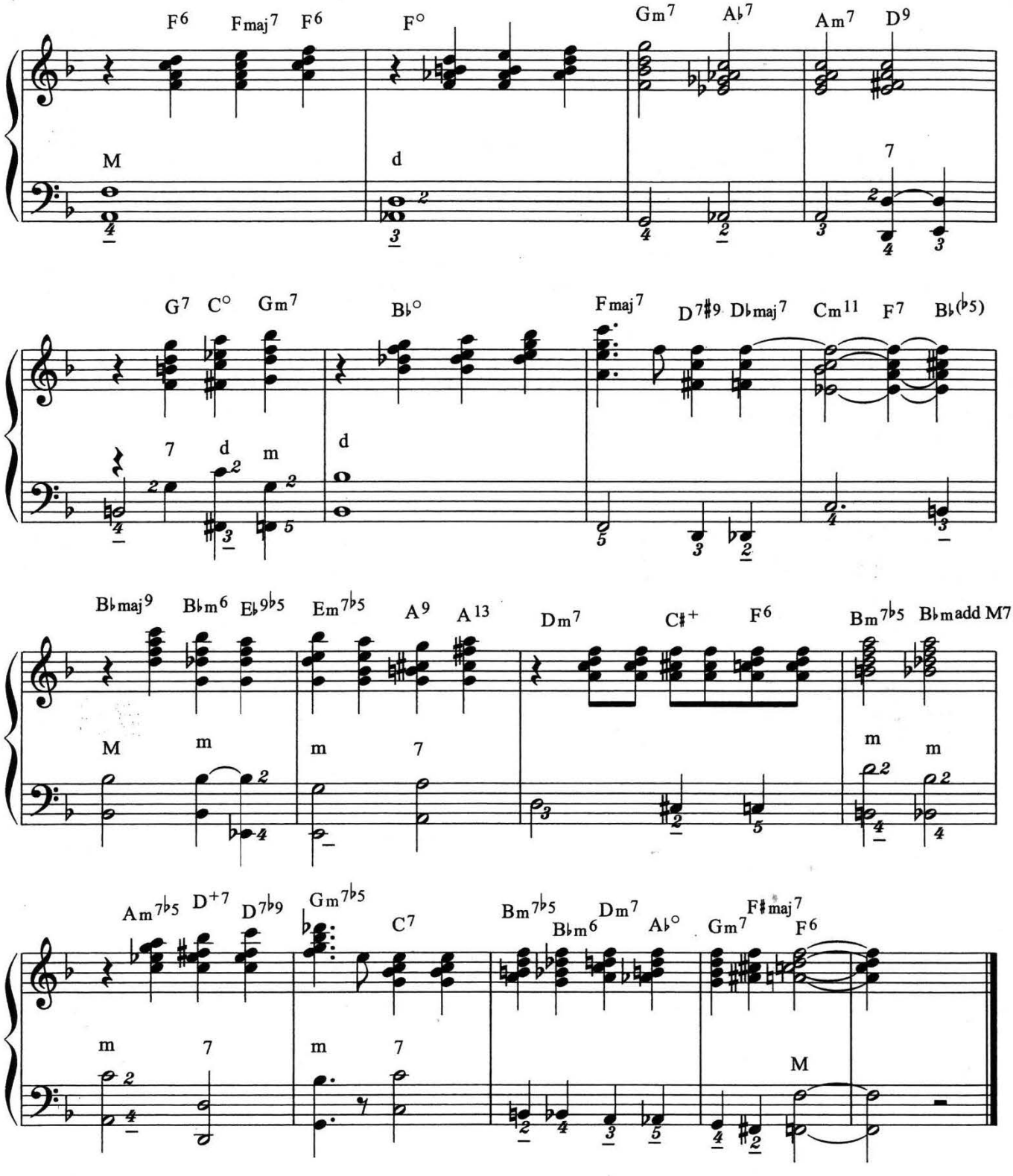
On the following four pages are two variations of 'Embraceable You'. The first is a somewhat easier version and the second shows what can be done by using more substitutions and bass lines. Neither should be considered arrangements, but rather ideas to help in other songs.

I would like to point out some chord substitutions that I made in the second variation (pages 116-117) and compare them to the simpler version (pages 114-115). In the second measure of page 116, I substituted Bm^7 & E^{13} resolving to E^{7b9}, for the Ab diminished found in the same measure of page 114. Remember that we can substitute the Vm^7 for the 7th chord (E^7 being the I^7 and Bm^7 being the Vm^7). Examine the E^{7b9}...it is a perfect substitution for Ab^o. Comparing the second measures in the first lines of pages 117 and 115, I went back to the B diminished chord which can also be A flat diminished. In the second measure of the fourth line on page 117, I substituted $F\#^7$ for the C^7 found in the same measure of page 115. Remember that the only interval that is equal to itself is the flatted fifth. ($C^7/F\#^7/C^7$).

Embraceable You

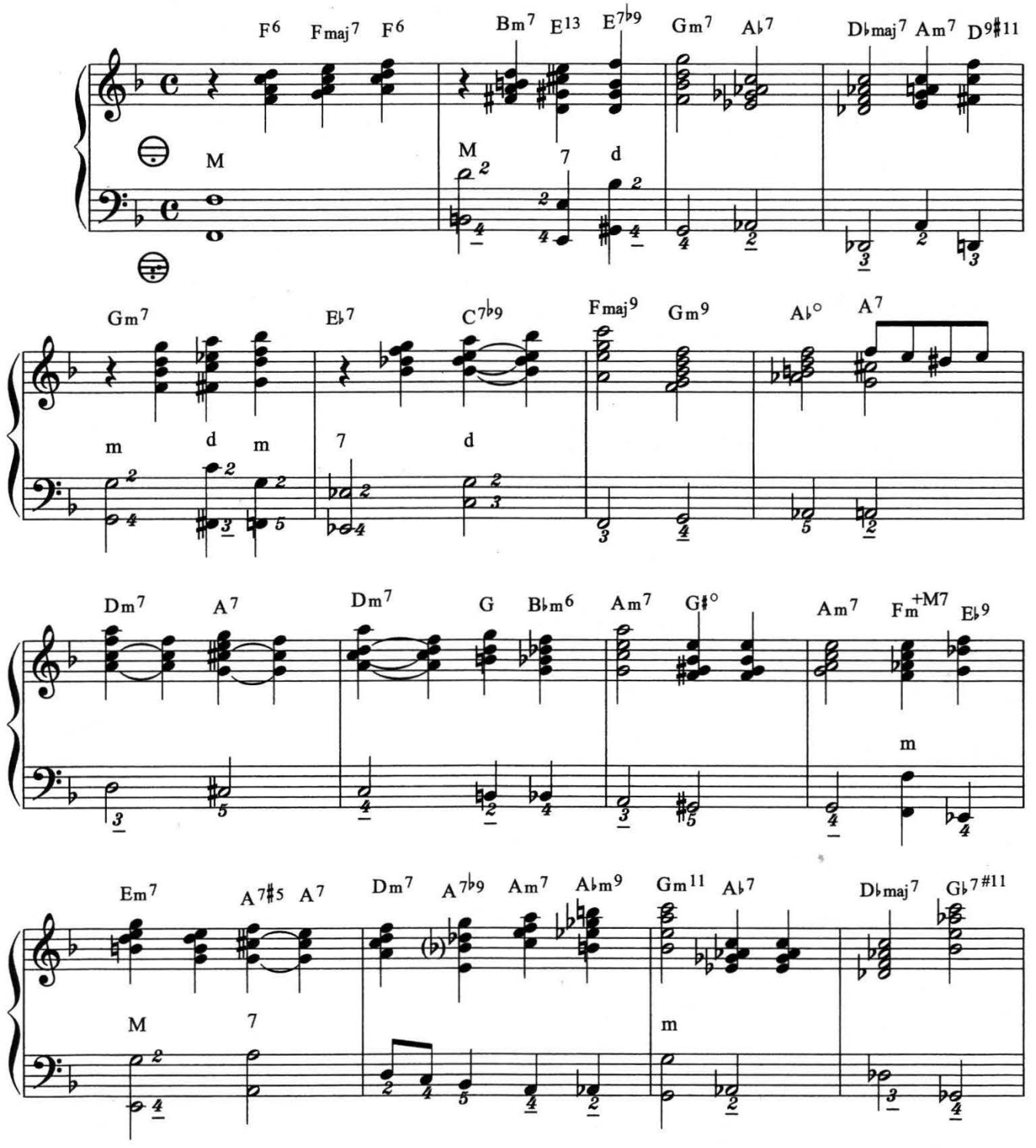
George Gershwin
with ideas by Ralph Stricker

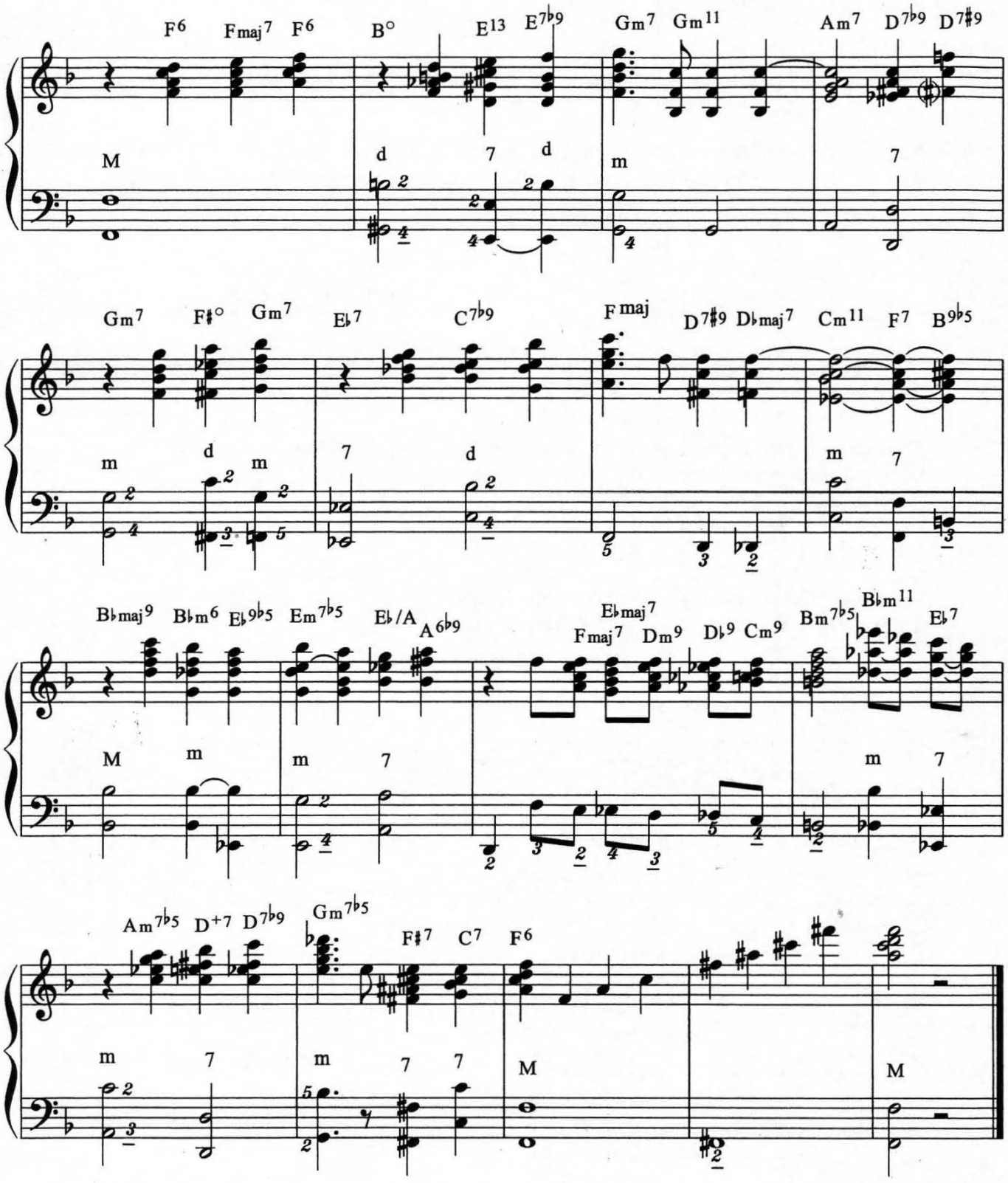



F6 Fmaj7 F6 F° Gm7 A♭7 Am7 D9
M d 7
G7 C° Gm7 B♭° Fmaj7 D7♯9 D♭maj7 Cm11 F7 B♭(♭5)
7 d m d
B♭maj9 B♭m6 E♭9♭5 Em7♭5 A9 A13 Dm7 C♯+ F6 Bm7♭5 B♭madd M7
M m m 7 m m
Am7♭5 D+7 D7♭9 Gm7♭5 C7 Bm7♭5 B♭m6 Dm7 A♭° Gm7 F♯maj7 F6
m 7 m 7 M

Embraceable You

George Gershwin
with ideas by Ralph Stricker




F6 Fmaj7 F6 B° E13 E7♭9 Gm7 Gm11 Am7 D7♭9 D7♯9
M d 7 d m 7
Gm7 F♯° Gm7 E♭7 C7♭9 F maj D7♯9 D♭maj7 Cm11 F7 B9♭5
m d m 7 d m 7
B♭maj9 B♭m6 E♭9♭5 Em7♭5 E♭/A A6♭9 E♭maj7 Fmaj7 Dm9 D♭9 Cm9 Bm7♭5 B♭m11 E♭7
M m m 7 m 7
Am7♭5 D+7 D7♭9 Gm7♭5 F♯7 C7 F6
m 7 m 7 7 M M

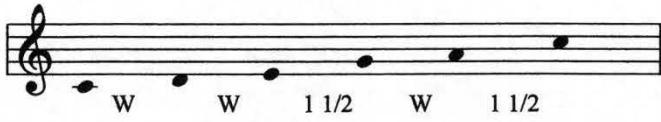
Exercises - Pentatonic Scales

The use of the Pentatonic scale in jazz is very important to the serious student who wishes to learn everything possible about jazz. The permutations that can be used are limitless.

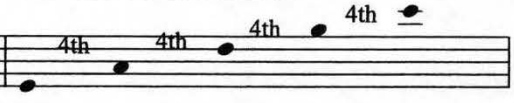
Sometimes it seems that there is no end to the amount of knowledge that has to be learned. This is so, but that is what makes jazz and other musical genres so wonderful. There really is no end.

"Love it or leave it"

C Pentatonic scale



C Pentatonic arpeggio

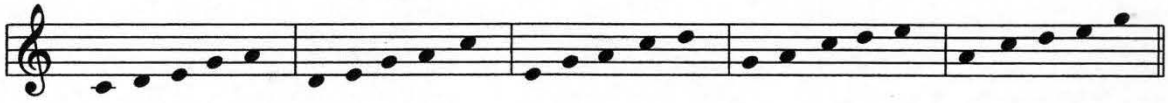


The Pentatonic scale has no 4th and no M7th step. The arpeggio is started on the 3rd step and there is a 4th interval between each step.

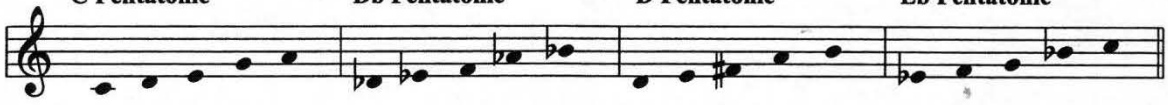
George Gershwin used the Pentatonic scale at the beginning of "Someone to Watch over Me" (Eb F G Bb C Eb).

Pentatonic scales as used in jazz are five note scales made up of Major Seconds and Minor Thirds. The scales act as chords, and are invertible.

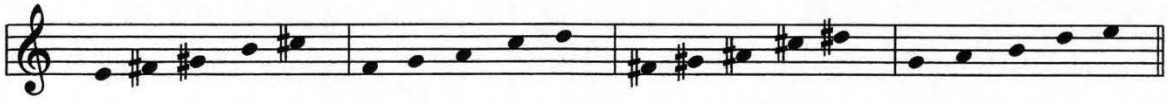
Mode I **Mode II** **Mode III** **Mode IV** **Mode V**



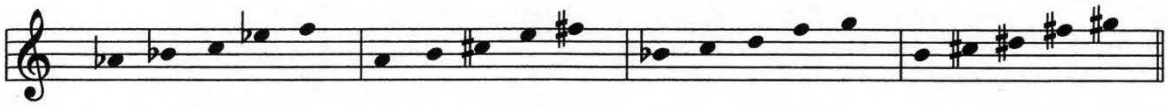
C Pentatonic **Db Pentatonic** **D Pentatonic** **Eb Pentatonic**



E Pentatonic **F Pentatonic** **F# Pentatonic** **G Pentatonic**



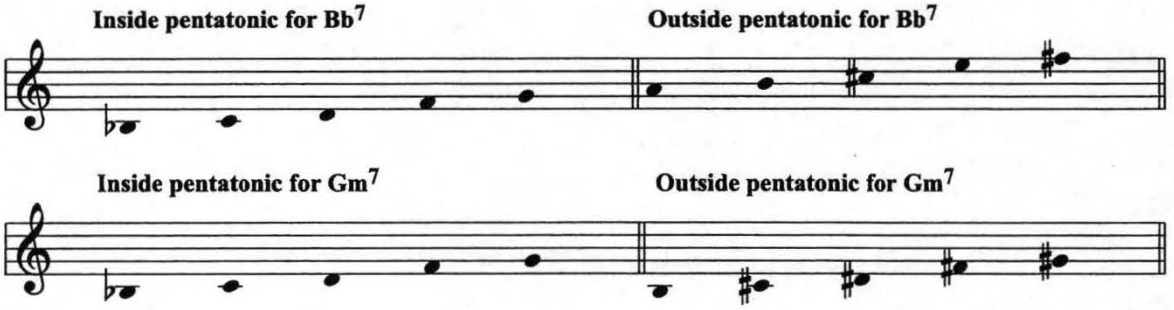
Ab Pentatonic **A Pentatonic** **Bb Pentatonic** **B Pentatonic**



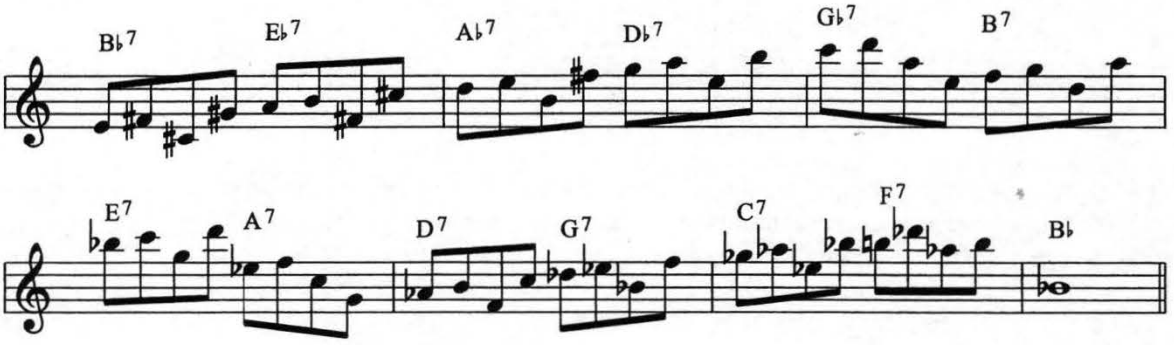
Pentatonic Studies

The study of pentatonic scales in their entirety is inexhaustible. For that reason I am recommending that the serious student of jazz continue with a qualified teacher. This book would become too voluminous for me to go into the complete pentatonic studies. To supplement the materials in this book, I recommend a book entitled "Pentatonic Scales for Jazz Improvisation" by Ramon Ricker. The publisher is Columbia Pictures Publications.

In Pentatonic studies there are both 'Inside Pentatonics' and 'Outside Pentatonics'. (Remember that the permutations in jazz are endless, something we found out when studying the modes). To form outside pentatonics we lower the inside pentatonic scales one half step (sevenths). For minor sevenths we raise the scale on half step, as seen below.



Using Outside Pentatonics

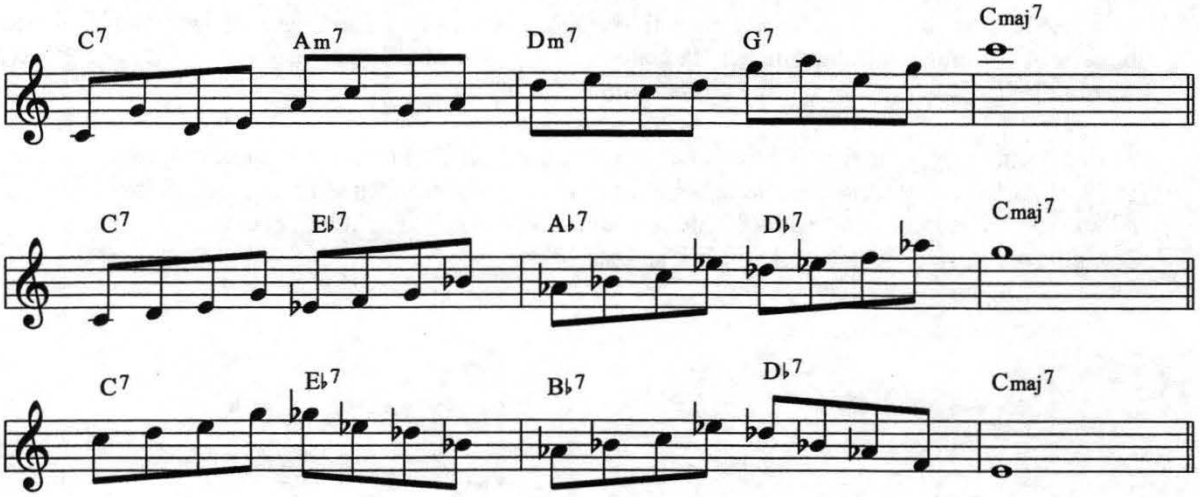


This is an example of using outside pentatonics. On each seventh pattern we are using the b5 (E is the b5 of Bb).

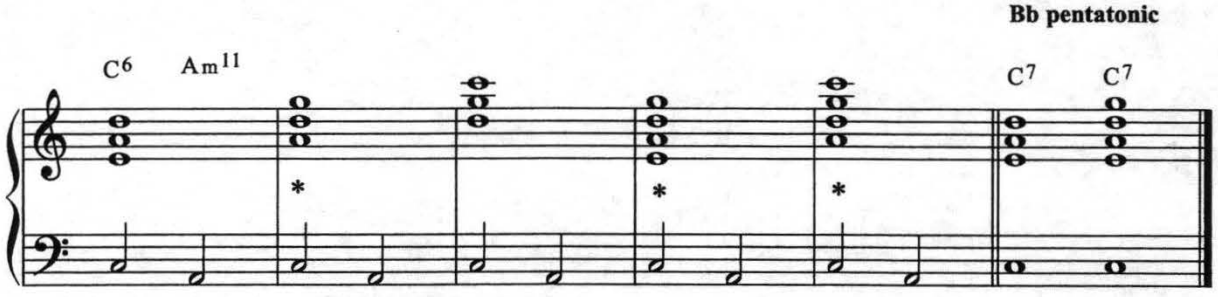
Do not be afraid to experiment. This is the only way you will learn. A book or a teacher can only show you so much; the rest is up to you.

Pentatonic

(continued)



Chords from Pentatonic



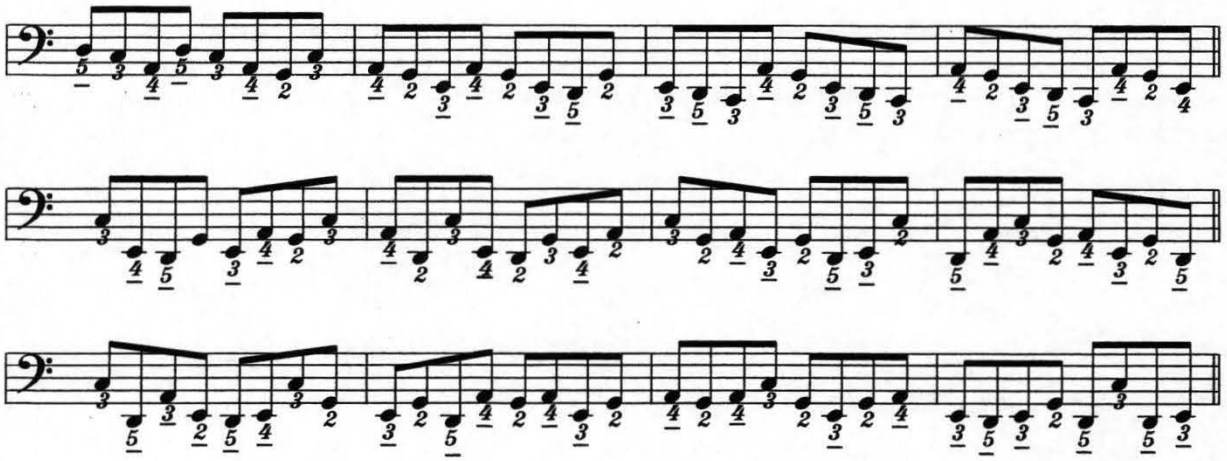
The above examples show you how you can voice chords using the pentatonic scales. Notice the full sound and richness of these chords, especially when we voice the four note chords. Also note that the intervals in each chord are fourths.

You should practice forming chords by building on the 4th interval, using three and four note chords on the right hand.

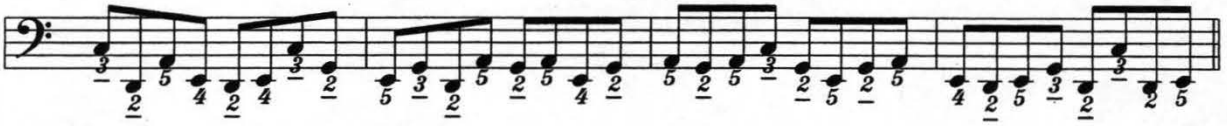
The measures above that are marked with an asterisk can be used as a Dm^{11} chord (D in bass); this is taken from the F pentatonic scale.

Bass Exercises - Pentatonic

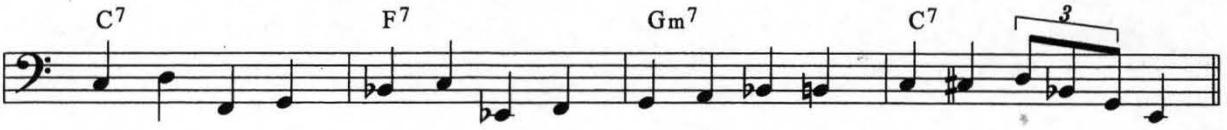
C Major Pentatonic



Alternate Fingering



This is the same bass line as the last line above. I have used the alternate fingering starting on C, counter bass of Ab. You should learn bass lines from any starting note on the bass.



The first two measures are parts of pentatonic scales which then lead into common bass progressions. This pattern could be used where the same chord is held for two measures or more. The first two measures can be played in one measure using eighth notes. Notice the first and third beats of the first two measures are 4th intervals (C/F) (Bb/Eb).

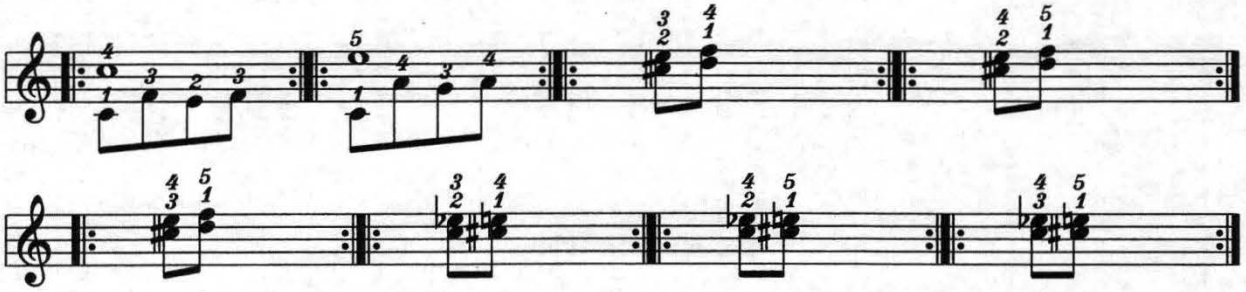
This is the end of the pentatonic studies in this book. They are so extensive that they are to be considered a study in themselves.

Preliminary Exercises

I have previously stated that exercises should correspond to what we are striving to learn musically as well as technically. In other words we should not just practice exercises for the sake of practicing exercises. How many times have the same exercises been taught by teachers, just because they followed a certain pattern handed down by their predecessors?

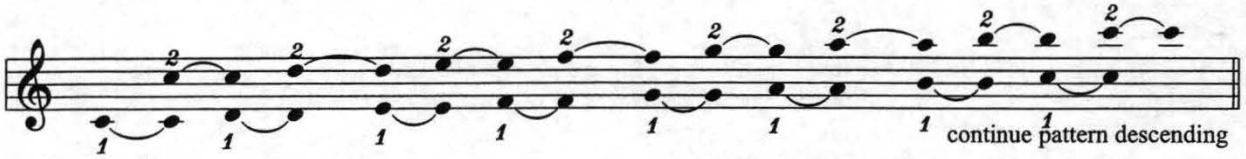
I am not against learning the Hanon Exercises, but they should be played in twelve keys. Most teachers use these exercises as written; therefore the student only develops technique in the key of C. For exercise studies that complement the generic ways of developing technique I highly recommend the following Schirmer publications:

Bach Two Part Inventions
Pischna Technical Studies
Brahms 51 Exercises for Piano

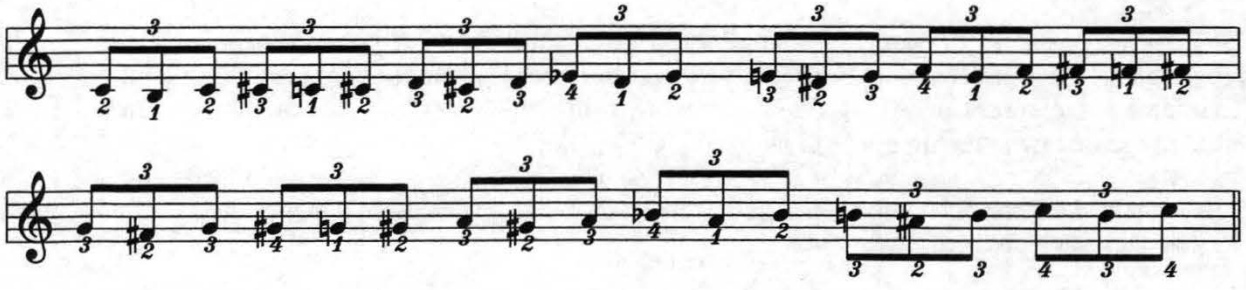


Stretching Thumb & 2nd Finger

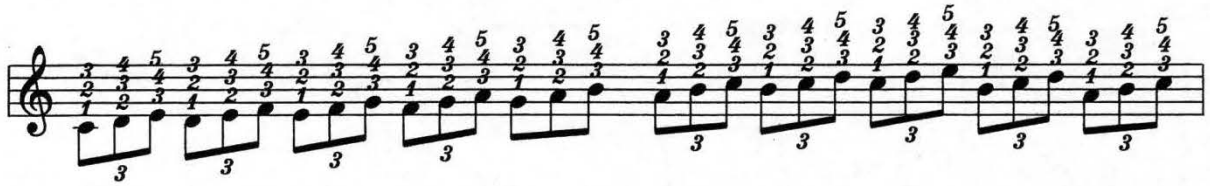
(sustain thumb)



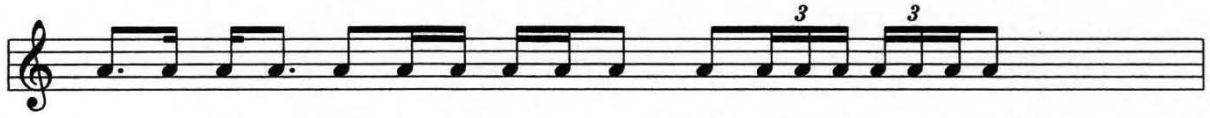
The thumb is sustained while you move the second finger to the next note (octave). Eventually stretch the 2nd finger to a 9th interval (C-D etc.).



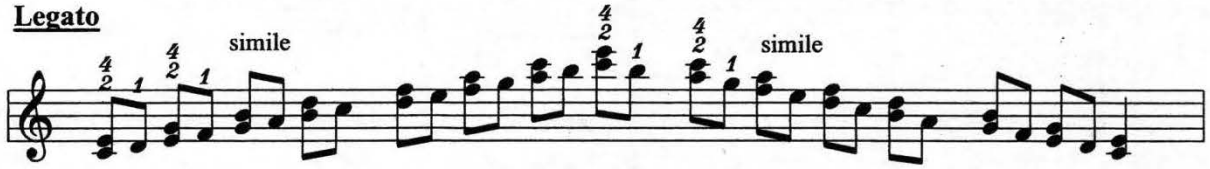
Exercises
(continued)



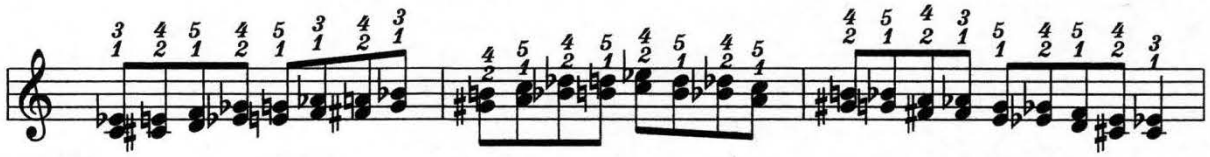
This exercise will develop all fingers equally. This example should be played in all keys ascending and descending. Play in different rhythms as shown below.



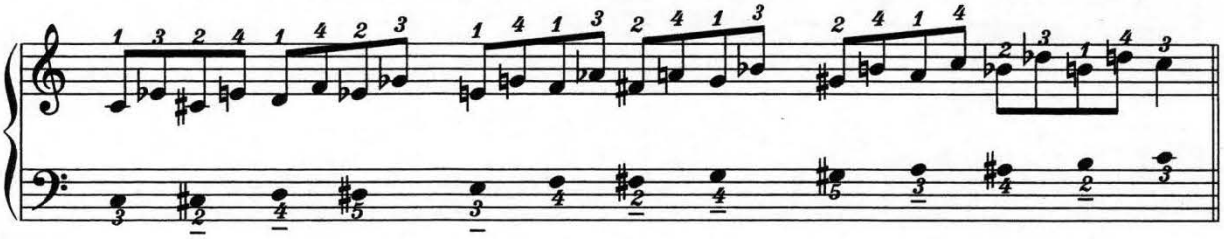
Legato



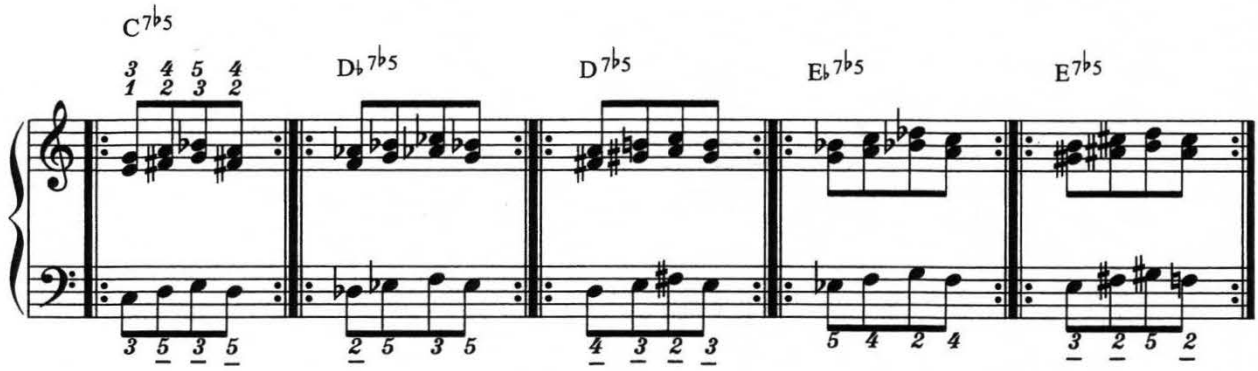
Play in all keys. This is an excellent exercise to develop the thumb.

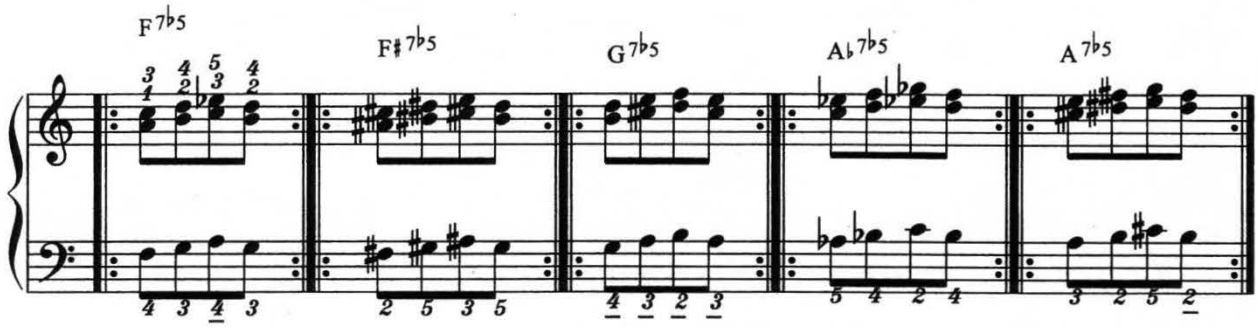


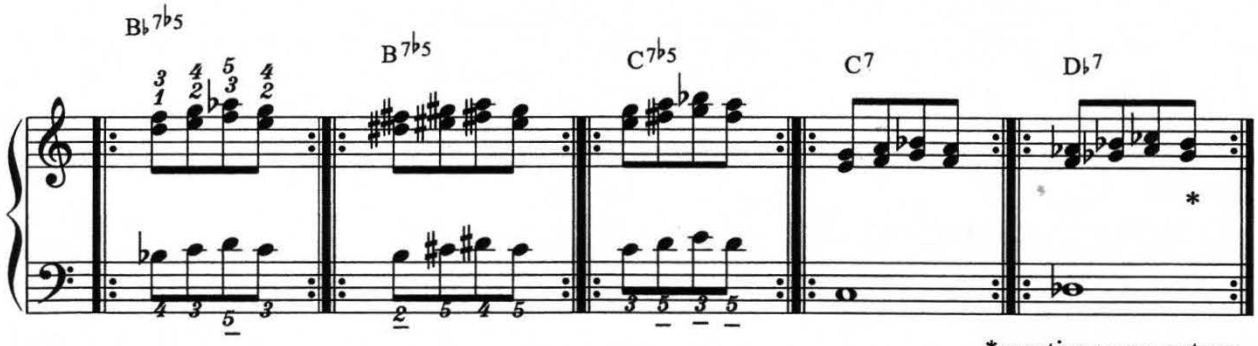
Play ascending and descending



Exercises



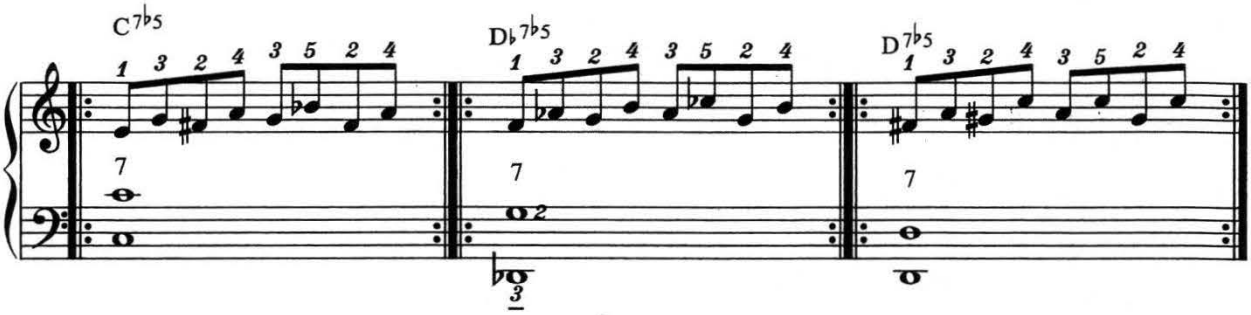




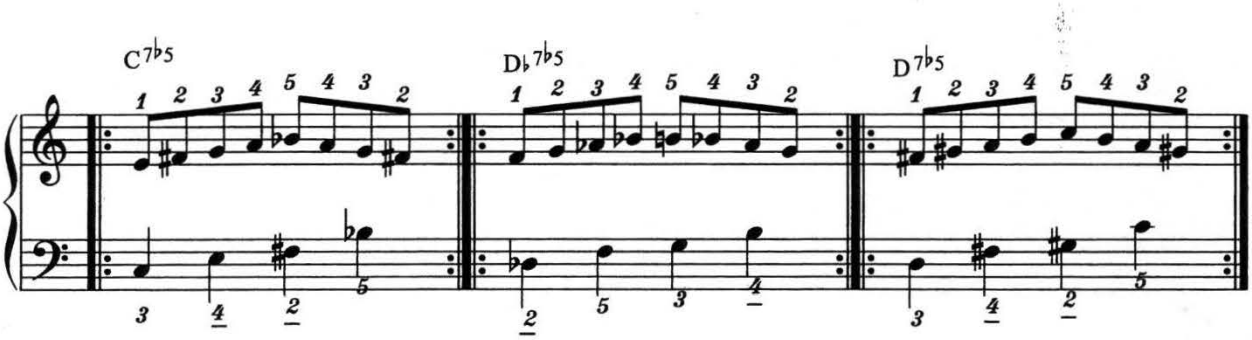
* continue one octave ascending and descending

Play the above exercises ascending and descending. Notice that by changing one note in the second example, you are now playing a different chord sequence. You should say the name of the chord as you play each measure.

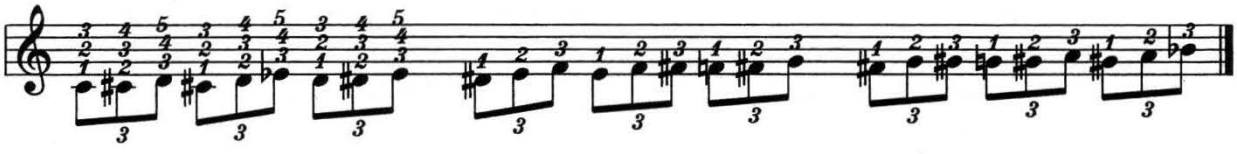
Exercises



The above exercise is a variation of the previous one. It should be played one octave ascending and descending. Although I have written one idea for a bass pattern, you may use different bass patterns as you see fit. Notice that I used the G7 chord with Db bass; we have covered this in chord combinations.

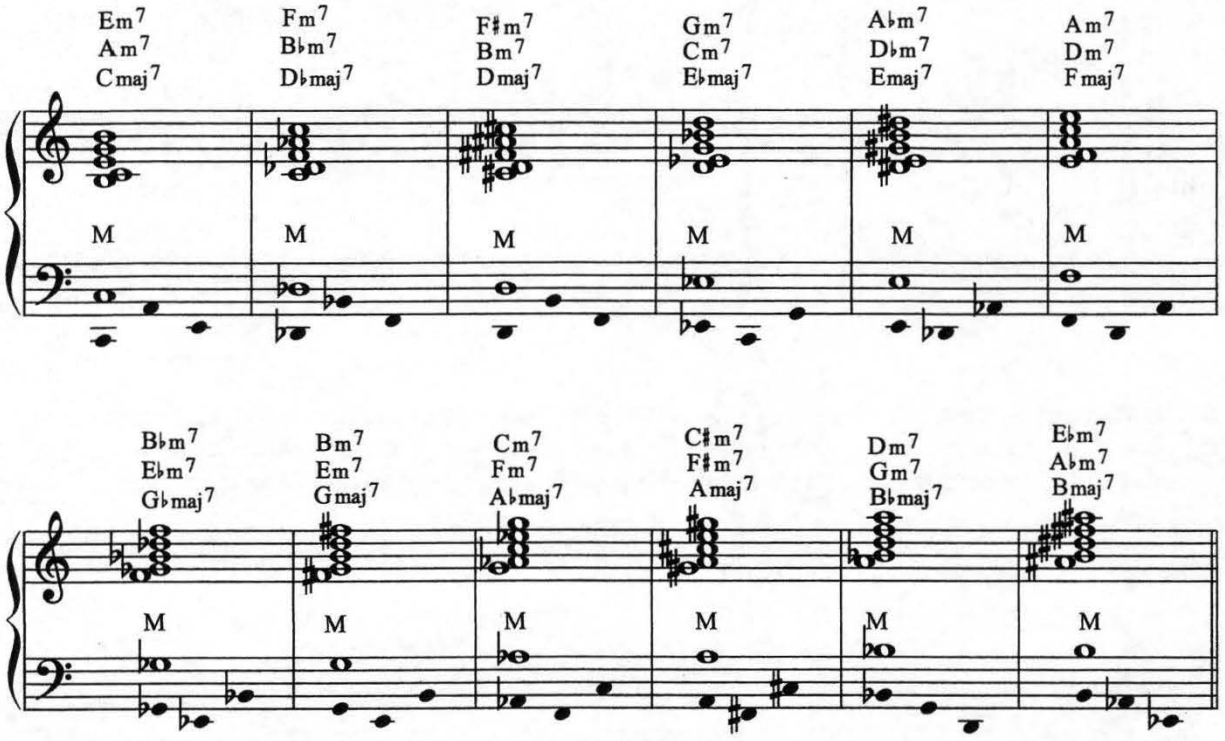


This is another variation of the previous exercises; continue the same pattern of an octave, ascending and descending. You are not only practicing technique but also learning chord changes. Notice that the first five notes of each measure are the first five notes of a diminished scale.

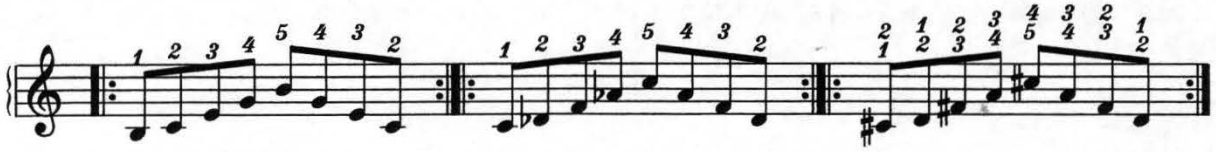


Continue one octave ascending and descending. Use the three marked fingerings in order to develop each finger evenly.

Exercises

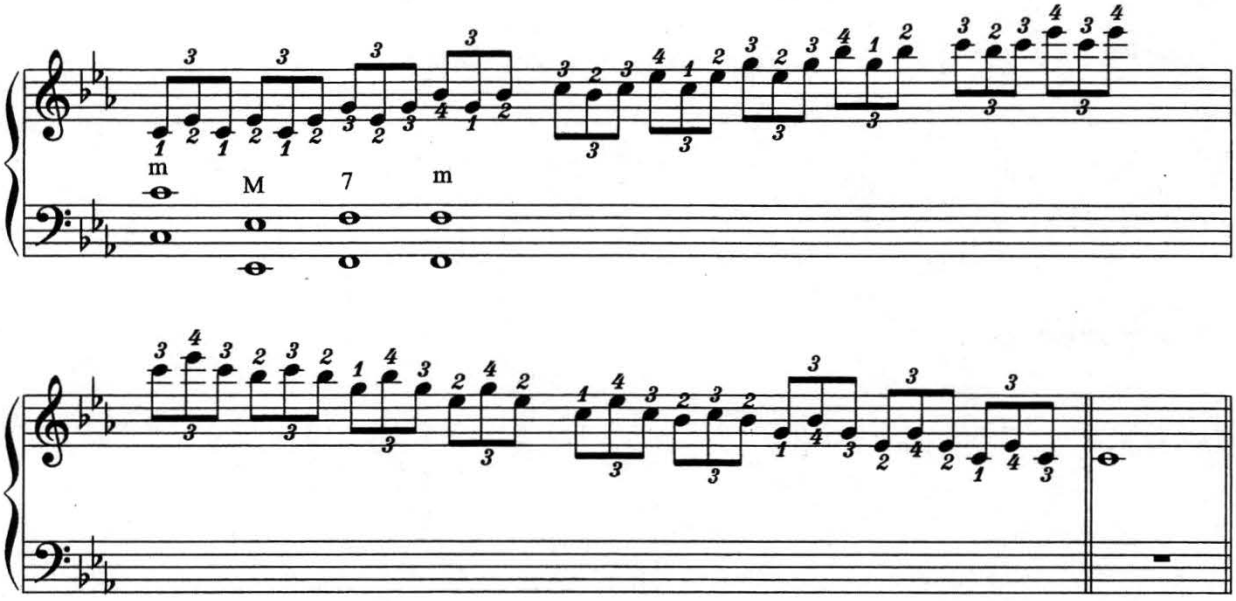


The above exercise is to be played without any time sequence, sustaining the Major chord while changing bass notes. You will simultaneously hear the changes and learn the relationships of chords.



Apply this pattern to the previous exercise using the same bass form. Learn the optional fingering for starting on sharps and flats. These exercises are not only for developing technique, but will help in improvisation as well. Play in all keys and develop different bass progressions for each and play in meter.

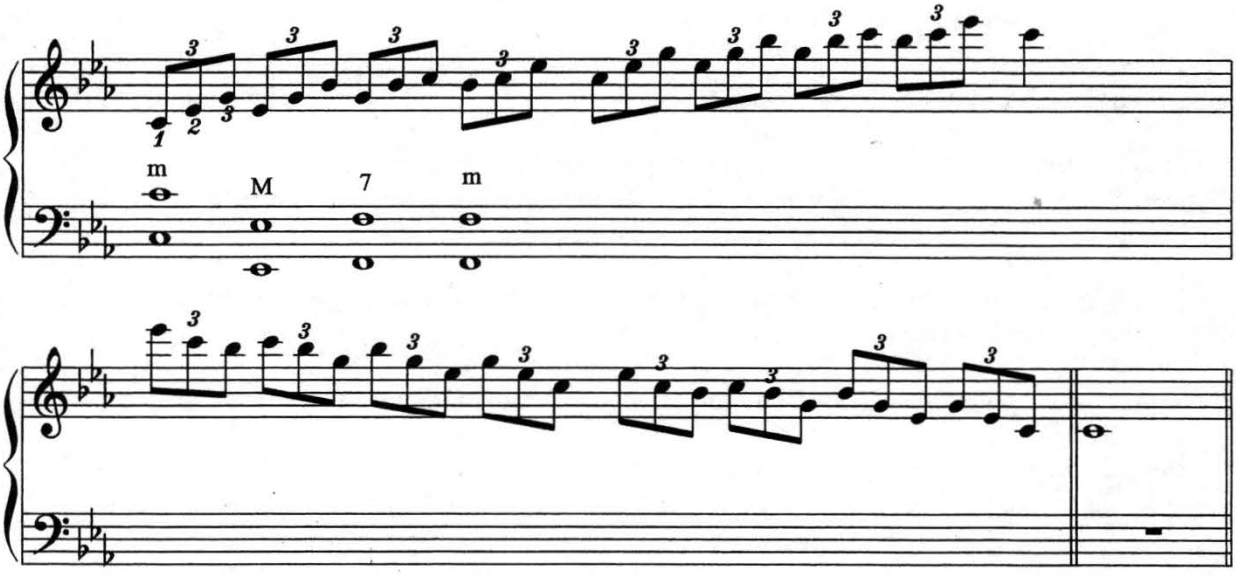
Exercises
(continued)



The above exercise is to be played sustaining the different bass and chords as you play through the right hand. This will familiarize you with the application of melodic themes against different chord patterns; in the process your ear will also develop. The main pattern is Cm^7 and Eb^6, although it can be played against the F^9 and Fm^7 (Fm^9, Fm^{11}).

You should also practice starting on different notes and play in 12 keys.

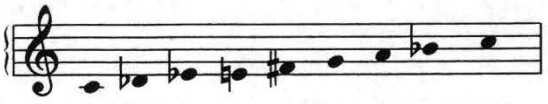
Variation on Above

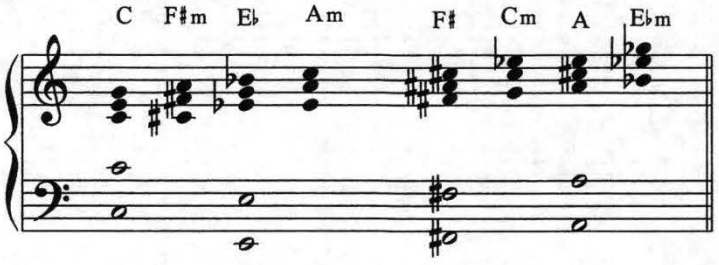


Polychords

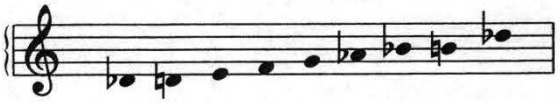
(Modal Form)

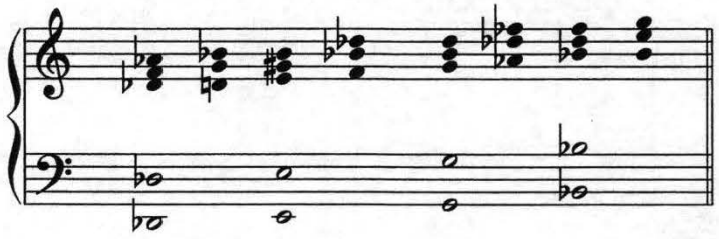
C Symmetrical Scale



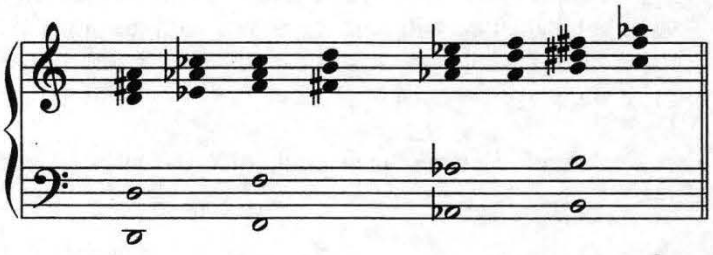


Db Symmetrical Scale





D Symmetrical Scale



We have previously covered the Symmetrical scales. We also learned that diminished scales can be played against four 7th chords. The symmetrical scale is a diminished scale starting a half step before the tonic (I).

Notice the progression in the Modal form of each polychord progression. The sequence is ..Major..Minor..Major..minor..Major..minor..Major..minor..in each mode. They repeat every 1 1/2 steps; therefore there are only three Polychord modes.

The [C Eb F# A] symmetrical scales are the same scales. They just start on different notes (see above). The [D F Ab B] also apply to the same format.

Scales that can be played against the Polychord mode are 'Melodic Minor' and the 'Super Locrian'.

You should practice in chord form and broken chord form.

Polychords

The following is a chart of **Polychords** in all keys, using the **seventh chord** as the reference chord.

Sharp Keys

C^7 =	Ab	A	D	Eb	Gb
G^7 =	Eb	E	A	Bb	Db
D^7 =	Bb	B	E	F	Ab
A^7 =	F	F#	B	C	Eb
E^7 =	C	C#	F#	G	Bb
B^7 =	G	G#	C#	D	F

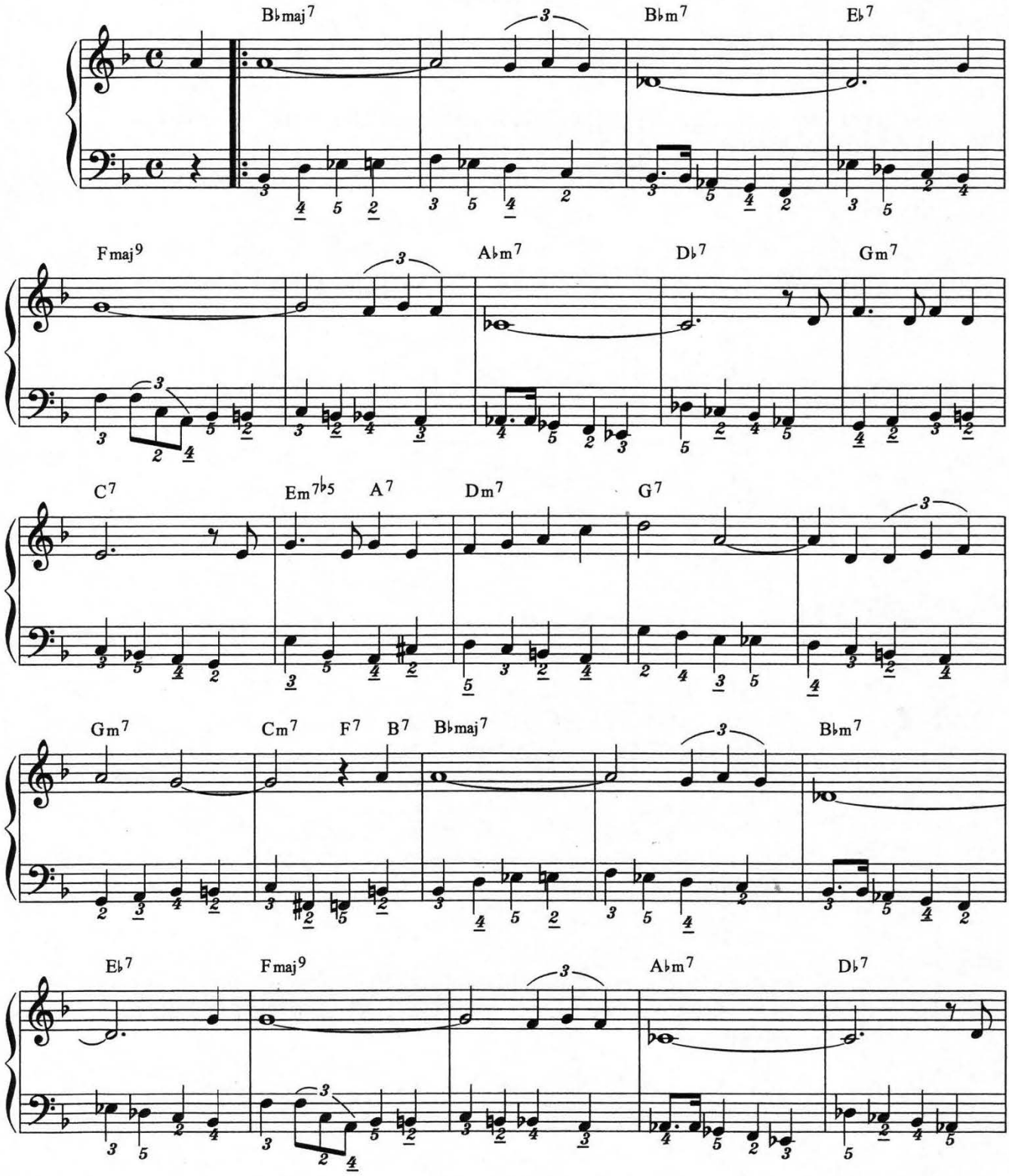
Flat Keys

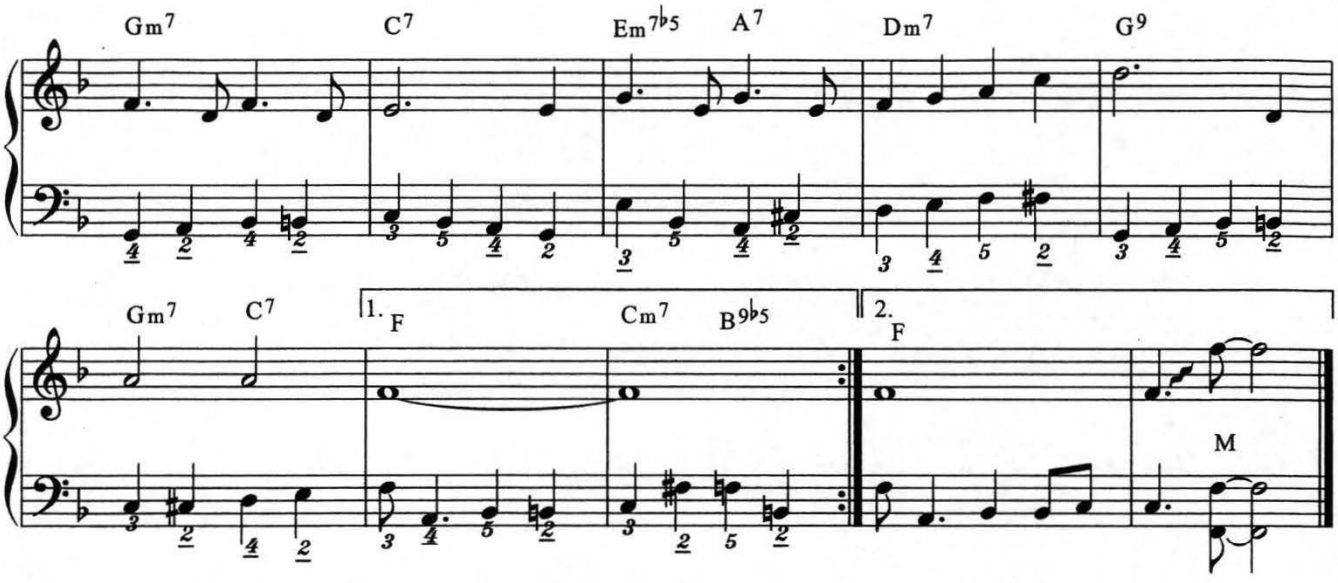
F^7 =	Db	D	G	Ab	B
Bb^7 =	Gb	G	C	Db	E
Eb^7 =	B	C	F	Gb	A
Ab^7 =	E	F	Bb	B	D
Db^7 =	A	Bb	Eb	E	G
Gb^7 =	D	Eb	Ab	A	C

The five chords that are played against the seventh are Triads. The Gb chord in the C^7 sequence is the split point for the octave. The B chord in the F^7 sequence is the split point for that octave.

Just Friends

arr. by Frank Marocco





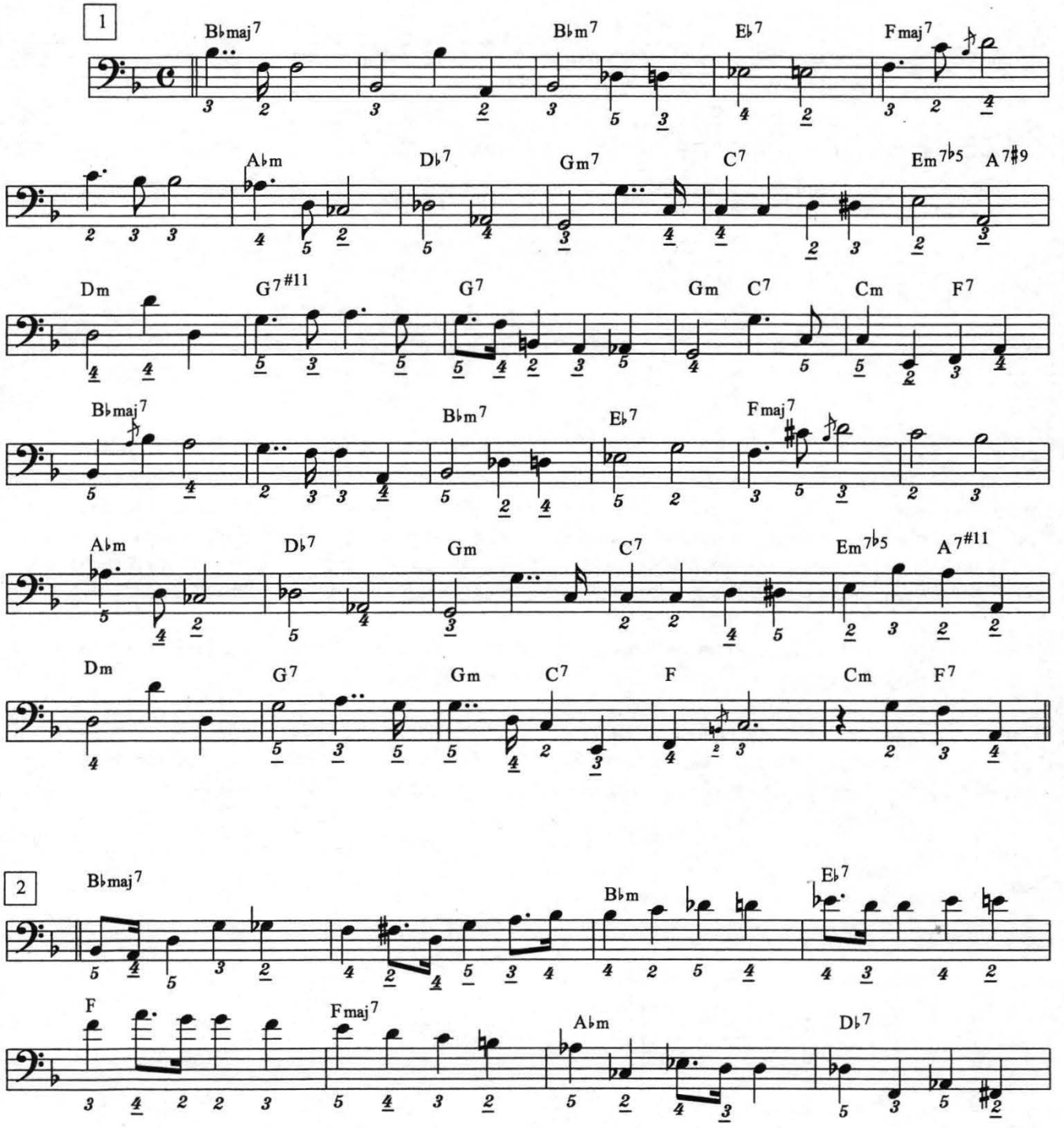
This arrangement was written by Frank Marocco whom I consider to be one of the great jazz accordionists ever. The bass line is kept very simple and is easy to play when improvising. The chord changes have also been kept close to the original. Frank could certainly have written a more complex bass and chord sequence but I asked him for a simple example to show the readers that you do not have to get complicated to sound good.

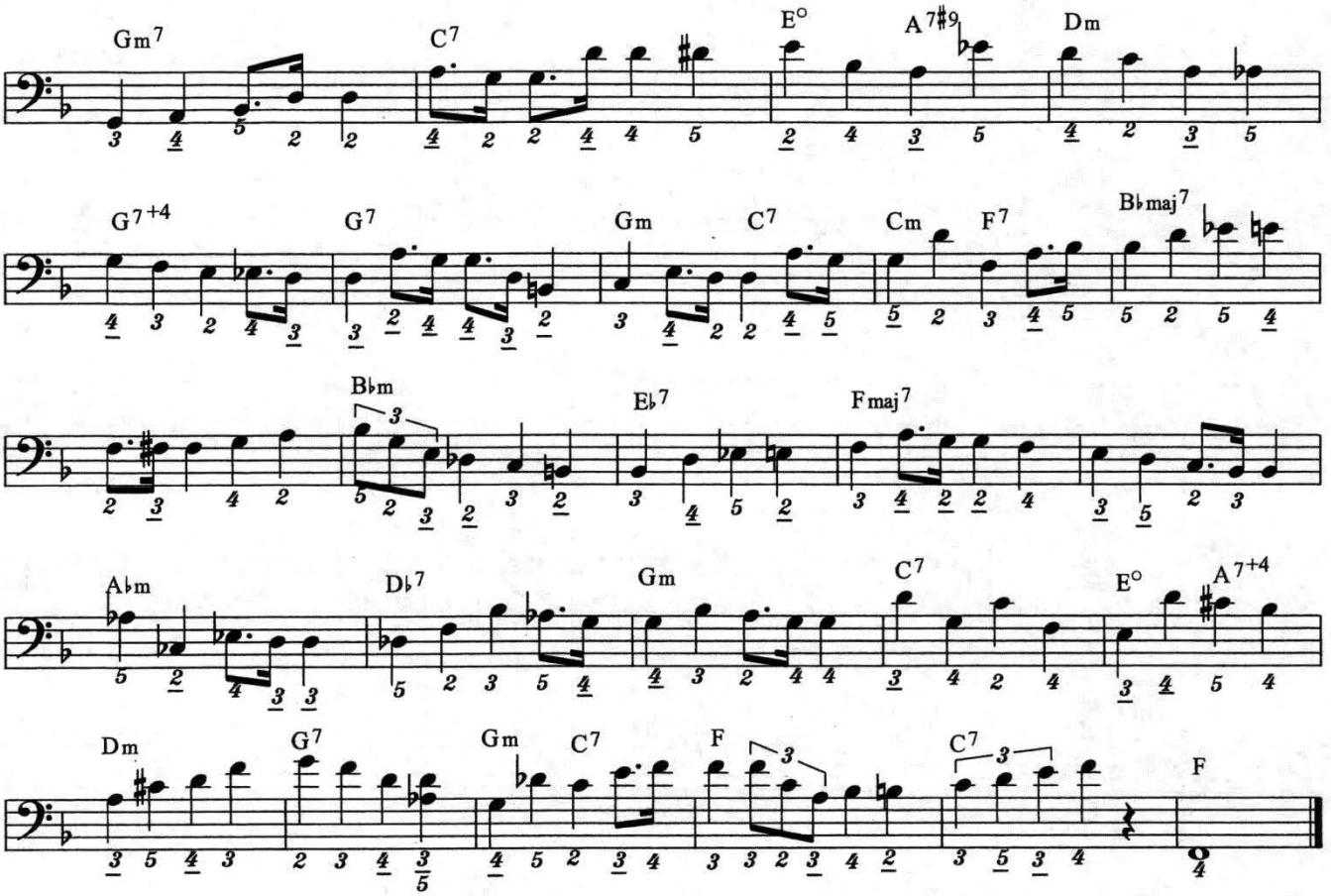
Notice how interconnected the bass line is; it shows how to lead one change into the next. This is an example of linear playing and the reader would do well to take notice of this style of playing.

There are many things that can be done with this tune; it is a perfect model to use in improvising. You can use almost all of the examples you have learned previously. For example there are many IIm V^7 progressions, m7b5 to 7 and 7 to b5. I would work on this song until I could play it in any style and in different keys.

Just Friends

(Bass Line)



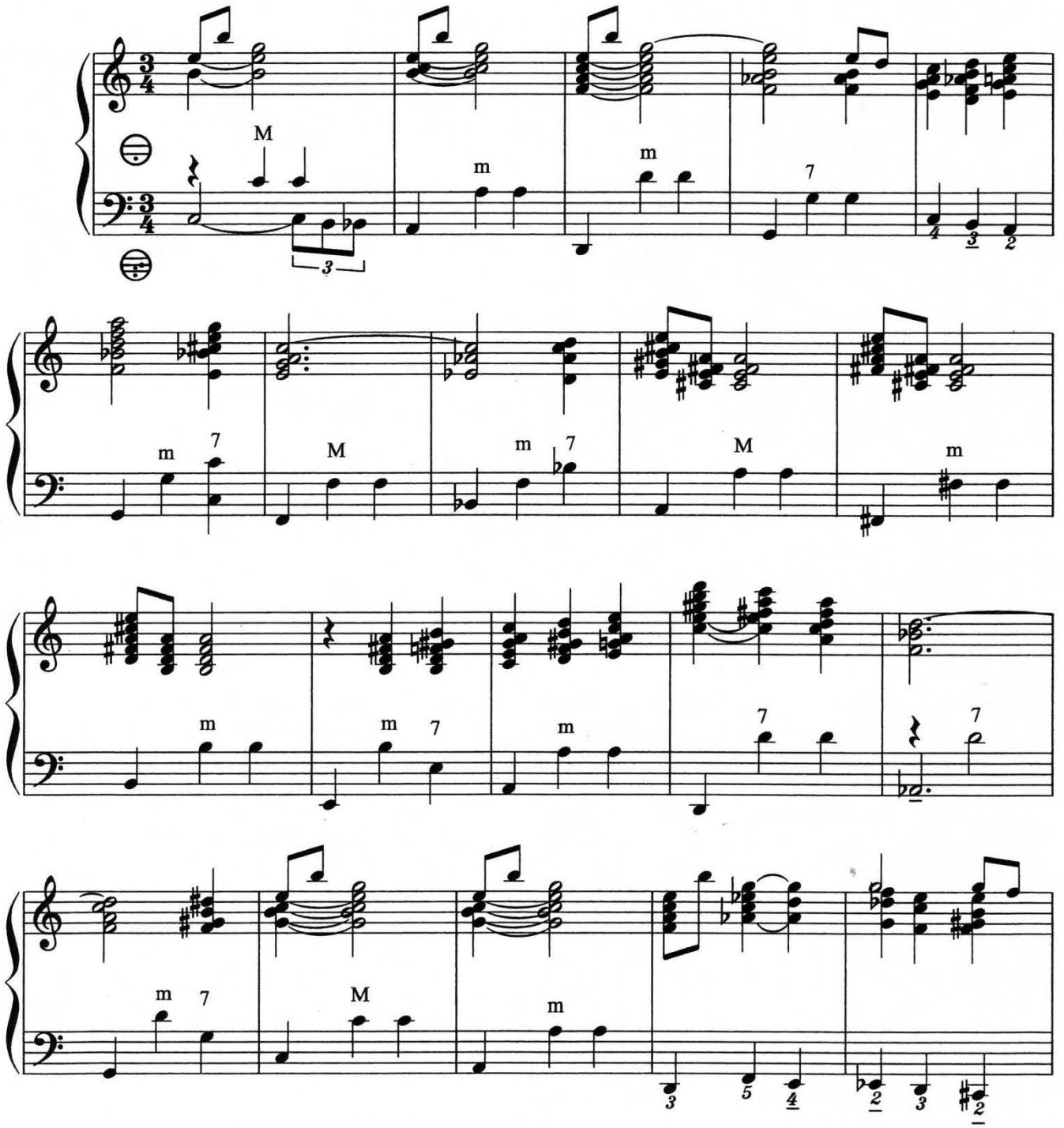


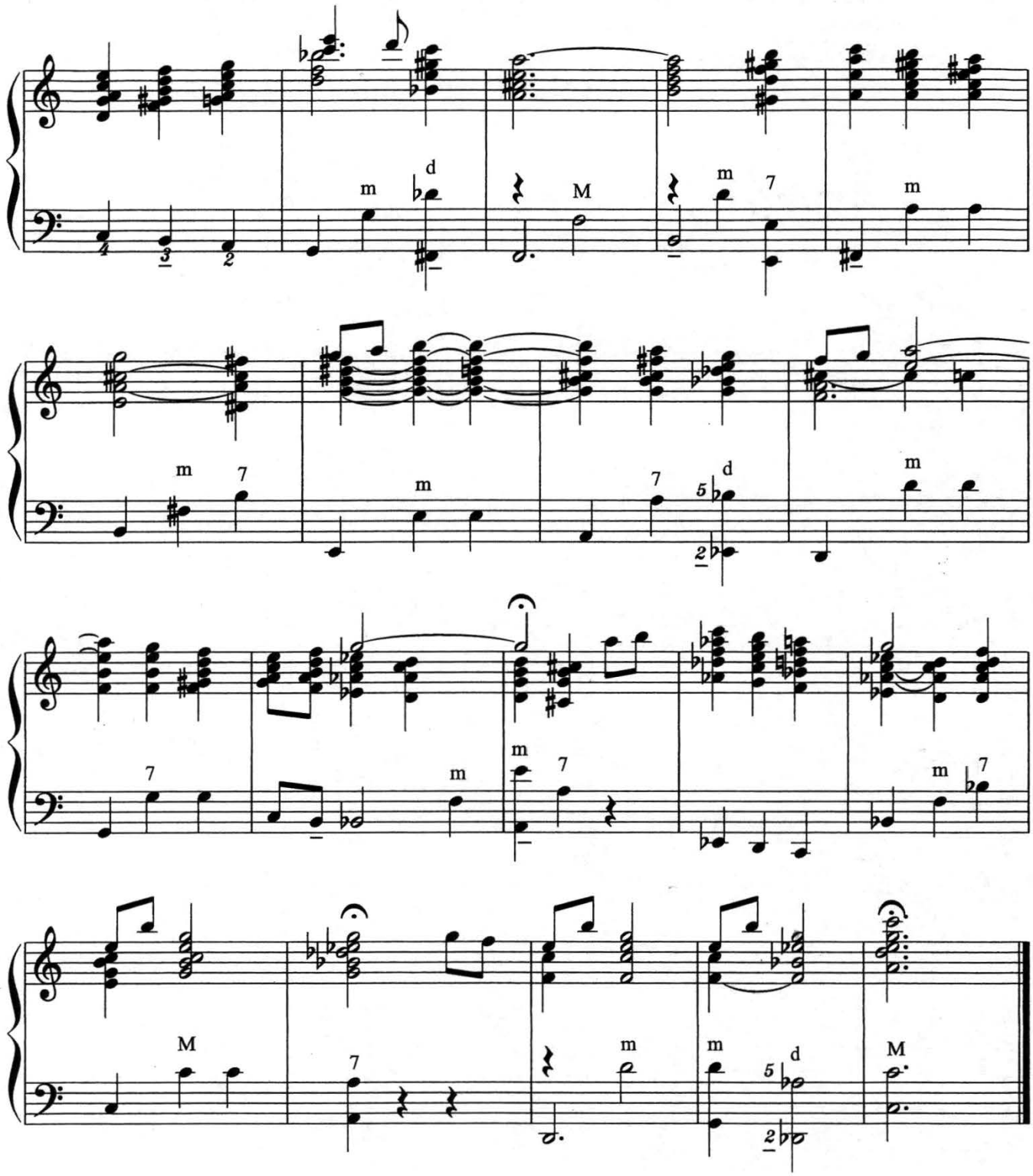
These are two choruses of a great standard. I have written the bass line as a bass player would read it. We know that there are no octaves on the accordion left hand, but you should learn to read bass parts as written for the bass fiddle.

There is a MIDI-accordion that plays octaves on the left hand, so it is pertinent for those interested in MIDI-accordion to develop original bass lines written for the bass. That is one of the reasons that I have emphasized learning how to play the left hand on the accordion from all positions.

Emily

arr. by Eddie Monteiro




m
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7
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7
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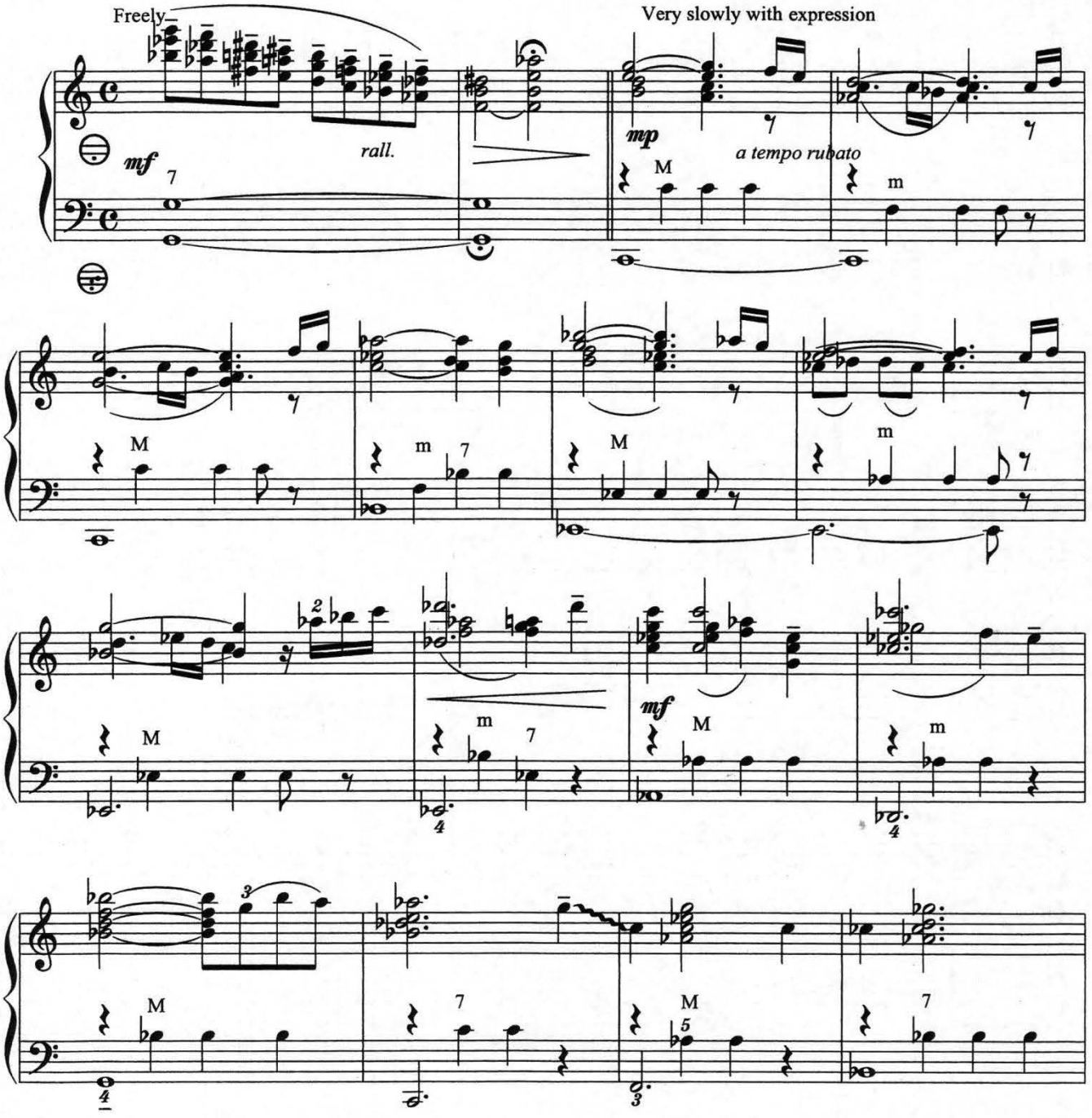
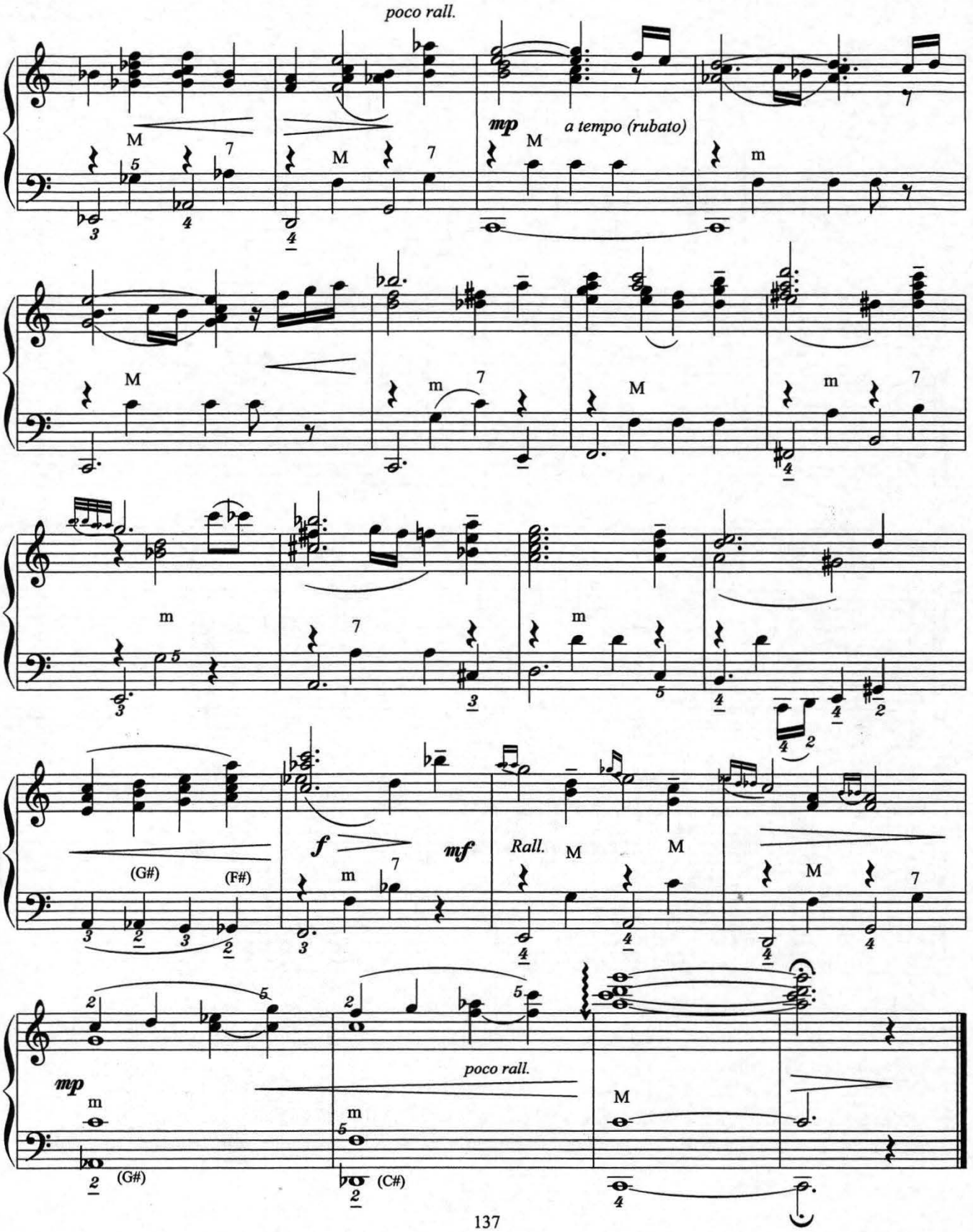
M

This is an original ballad written by Frank Marocco, dedicated to his wife Anne. It is a beautiful and harmonically sensitive piece and is a perfect example of bass and chord combinations, and how to enhance the right hand. The reader would do well to learn this song; it will serve as an example of how to use these harmonies in other songs.

Ballad for Anne

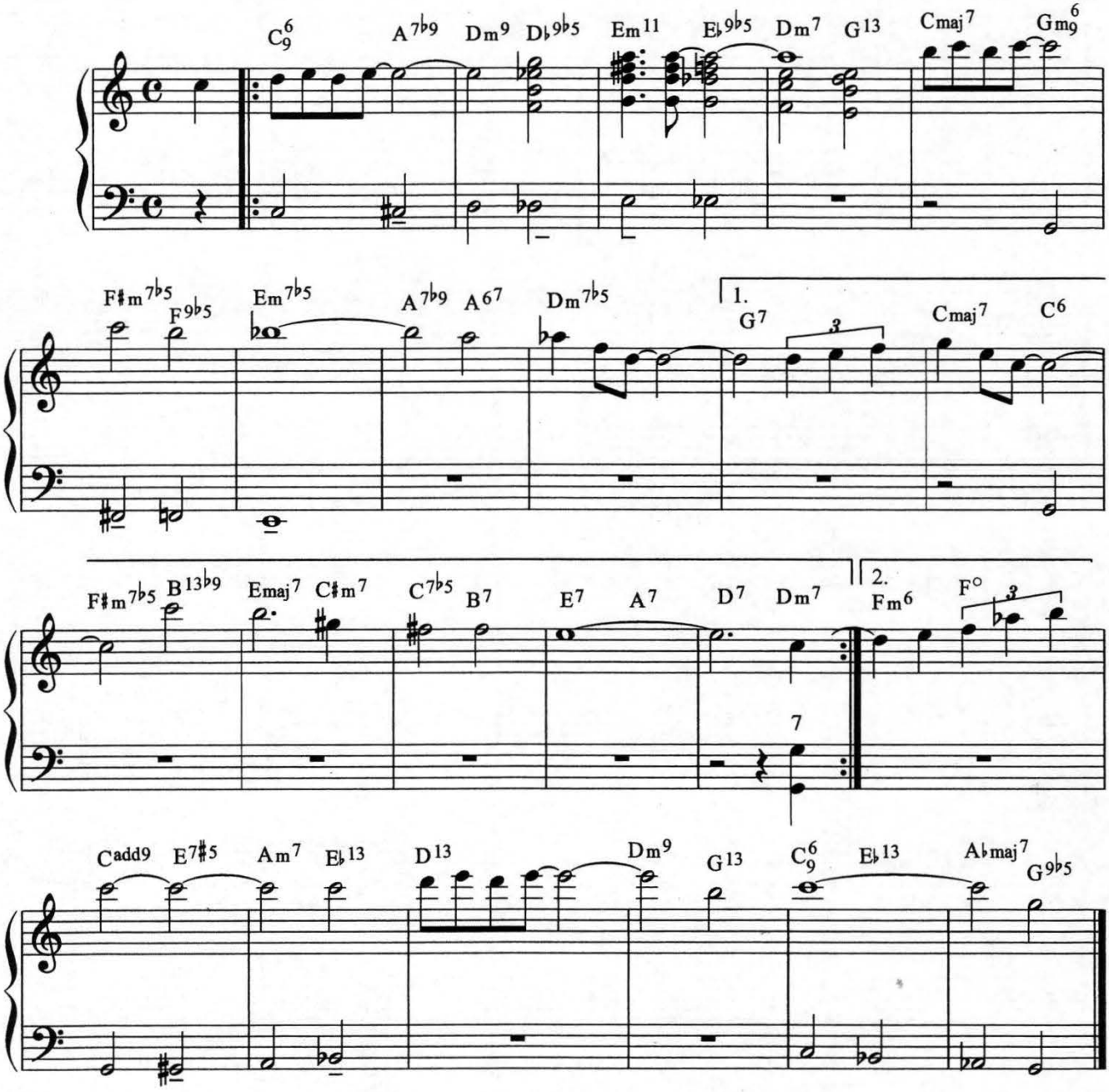
by Frank Marocco




poco rall.
mp
a tempo (rubato)
(G#)
(F#)
f
mf
Rall.
mp
poco rall.
(G#)
(C#)

The Touch of Your Lips

ideas by Ralph Stricker

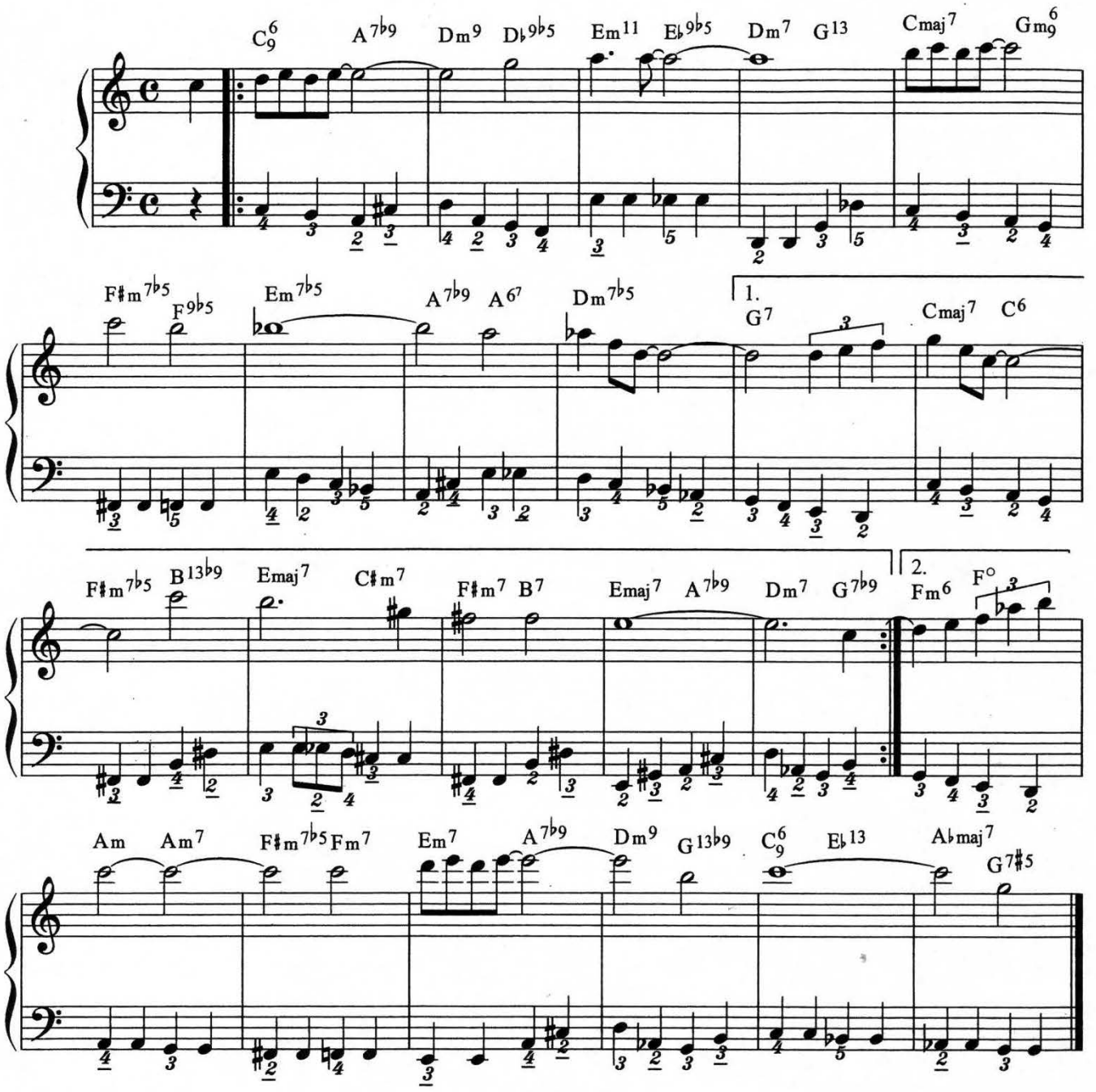


This is an example of chord substitution in a great standard; to fully appreciate the changes you must know the original chords.

I have not put in the notes for the right hand changes as I feel the readers should use their own voicings. The bass lines in certain measures are only to be used as examples of what can be used.

The Touch of Your Lips

ideas by Ralph Stricker
bass line by Frank Marocco

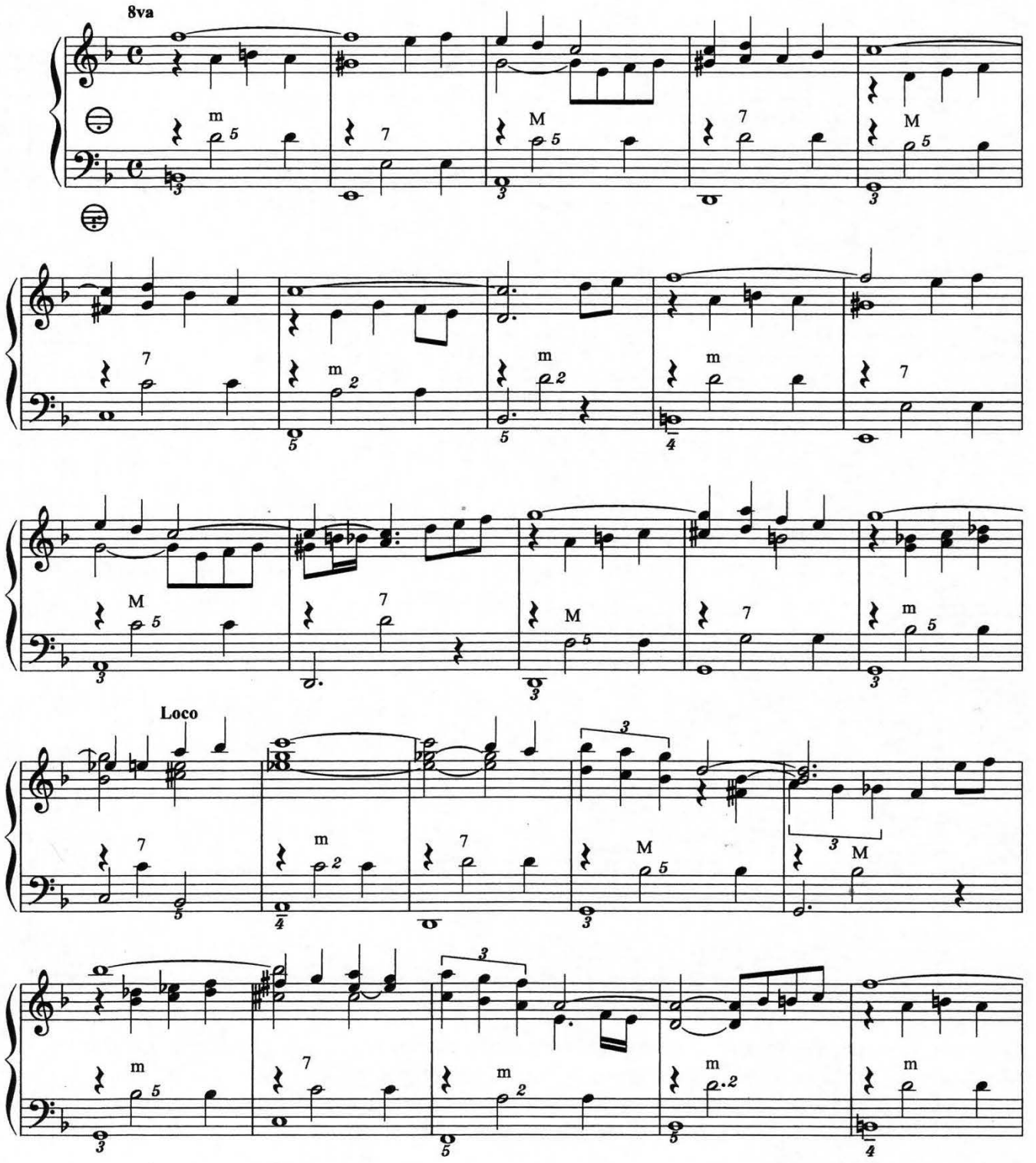


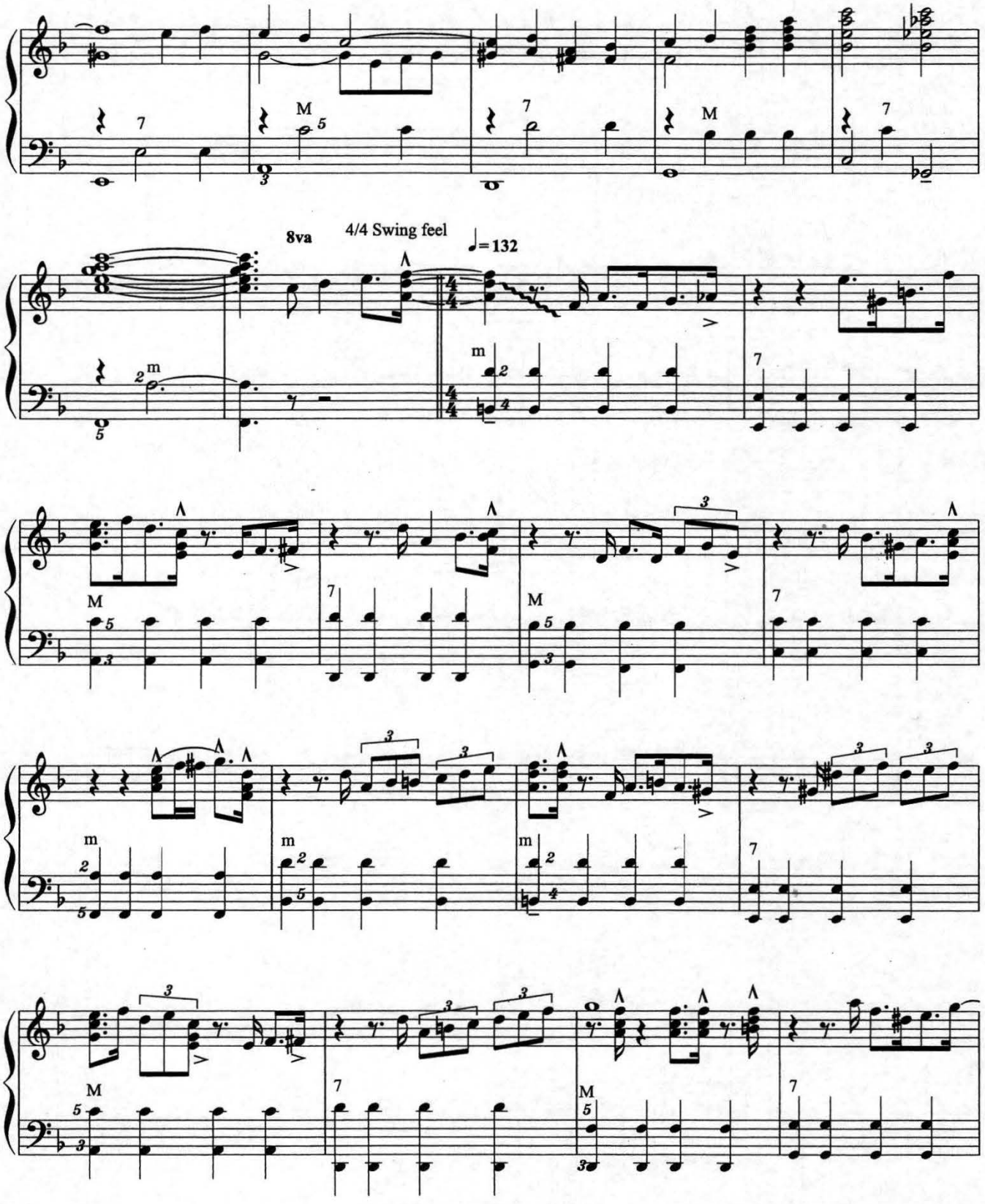
We previously used this song as an example of chord substitutions for the original chords. Frank Marocco has added a bass line and changed some of the "Substituted Chords" with his own. He did this to keep a continuous line going and to show how the left hand should flow. We recommend that you initially play a single note melody in order to hear the bass line. Using this as a format you should then develop your own style of playing.

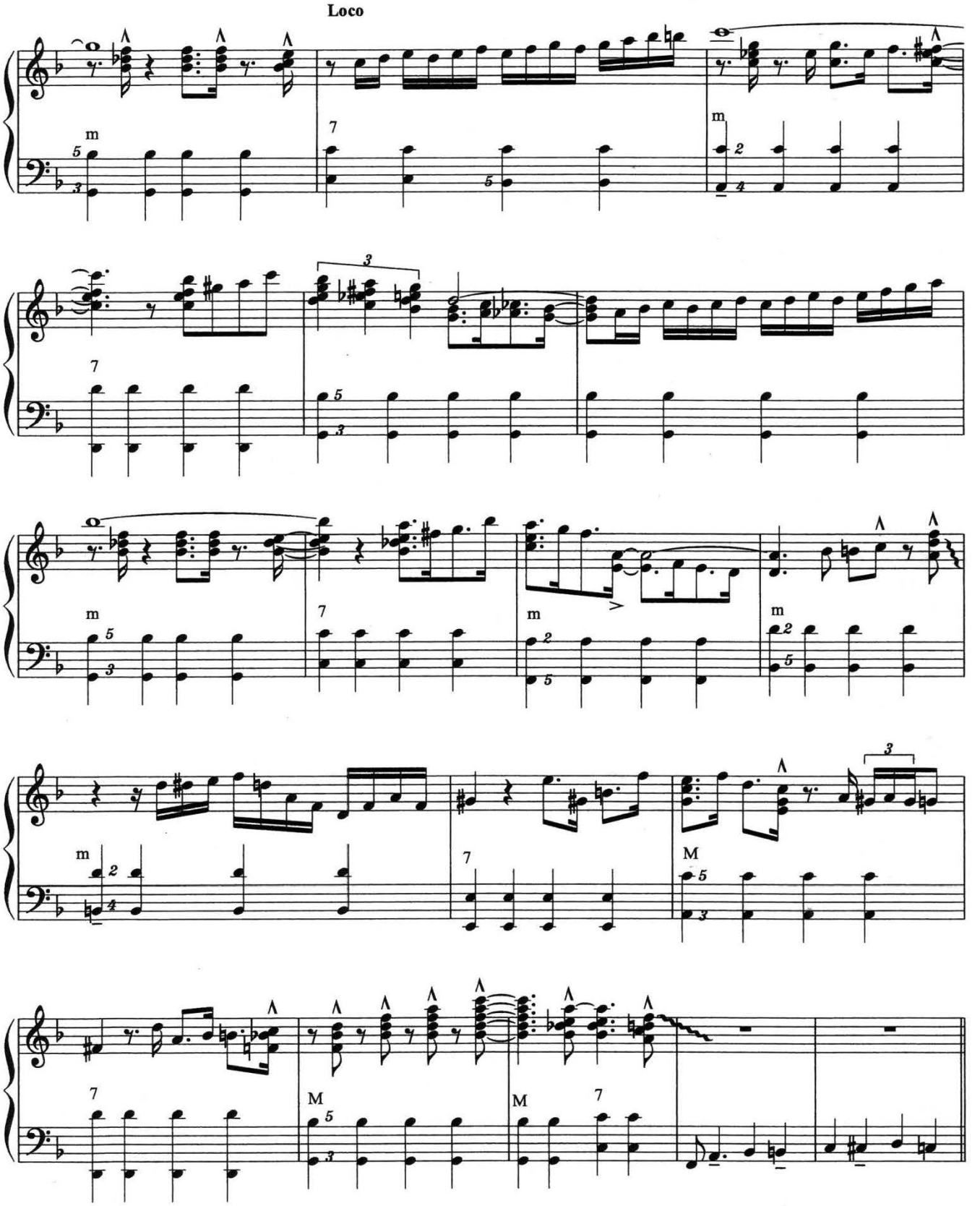
Yours Is My Heart Alone

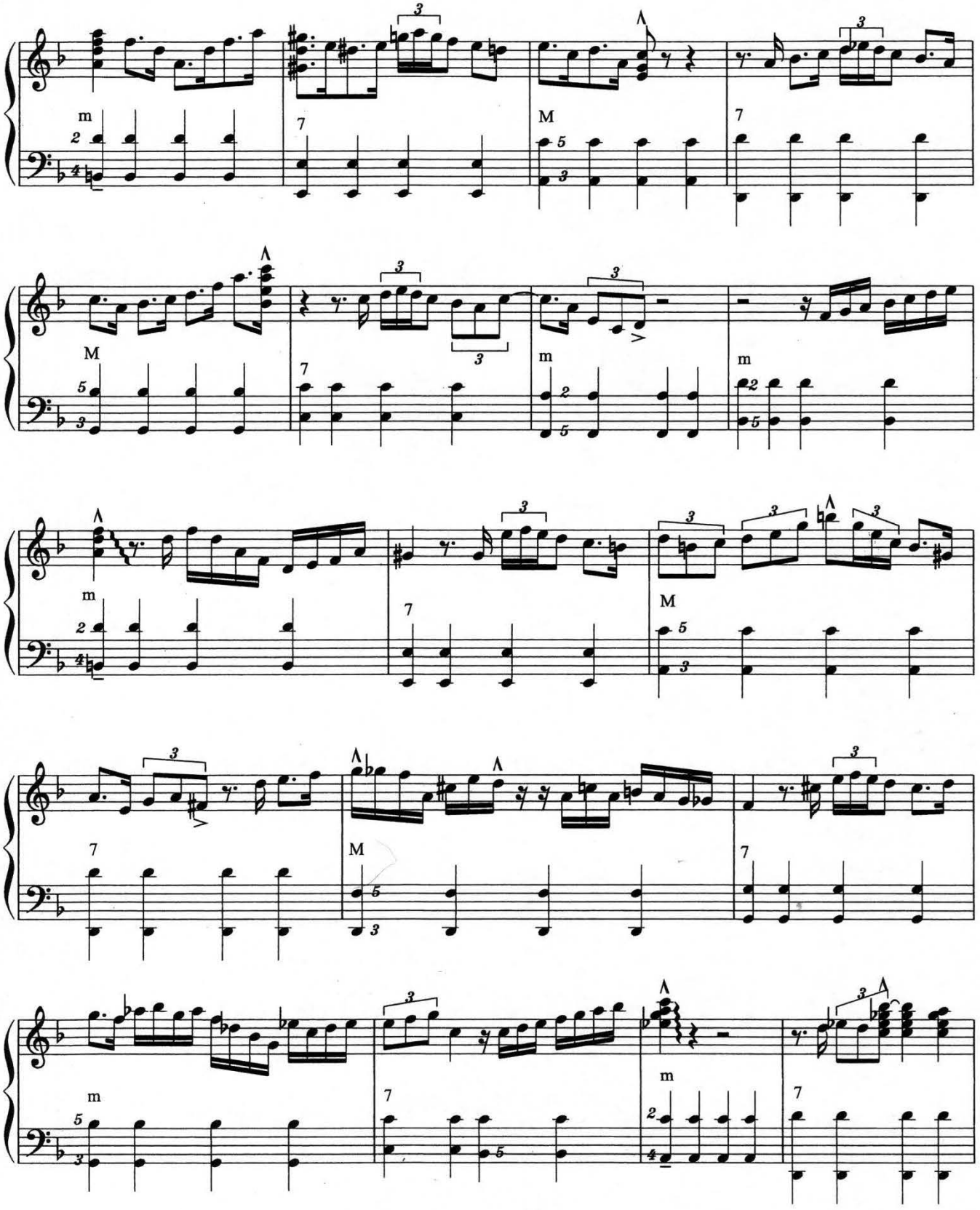
Franz Lehar
arr. by Frank Marocco

(Molto Legato - Espressivo)




8va
4/4 Swing feel
♩= 132


Loco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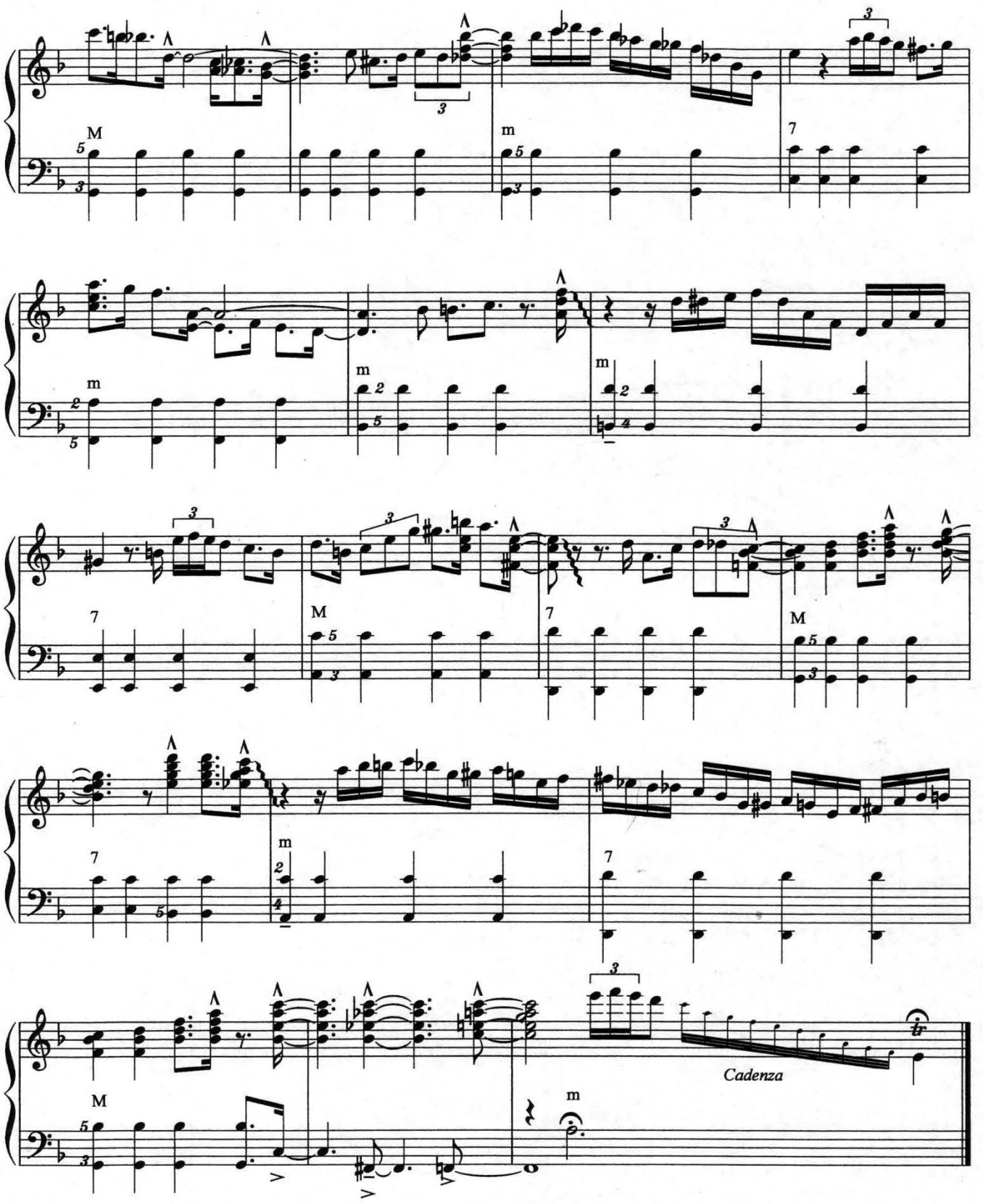
M
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7
Cadenza

Instructional Notes for "Yours is My Heart Alone"

The first half or slow section of this arrangement uses L.H. bass and chord combinations for much of the harmony, so that the R.H. needs only 1 or 2 notes to sound full and balanced in most cases. I used a moving inside line on the R. H. to show what can be done contrapuntally with a single note in the interior of the harmony.

This arrangement is not difficult to play except for the Maj7th combinations on the L.H. If this spread is too difficult, your can substitute basic major chords instead (For example in bar 7, play an F Major chord and in bar 8, a B flat major chord; this applies wherever a 5-2 stretch occurs. The major chord is the same as the bass note in these instances.

Notice how the bass line follows the natural sequence of the cycle of 5ths and how the II VII V progression works nicely throughout. With a more creative bass line and altered chords you hear how much richer and more interesting the music becomes.

Play the first part of the piece like a tone poem, using legato phrasing, rubato, concentrating on smooth bellows control and expression. In the swing section keep a steady 4/4 beat on the L.H. much like a rhythm guitar.

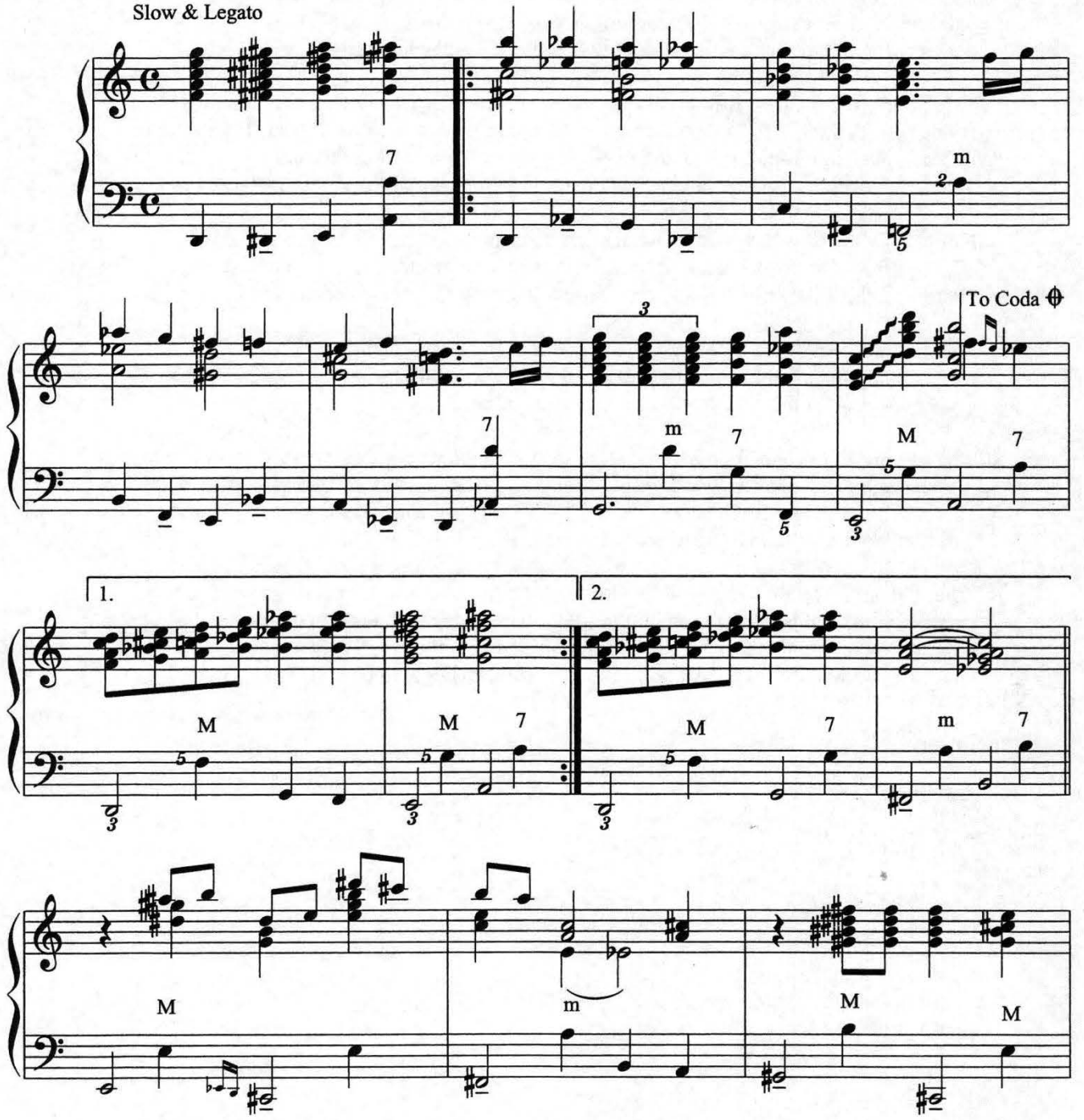
The sustained bass and chords in the slow section demonstrate an orchestral approach to the accordion. This is also good for ear training. Listen to the total harmony from the bass note, L.H. chord, R.H. chord and melody. I suggest using the bassoon reed on the R.H. and the bass-piano or tenor reeds for the L.H.

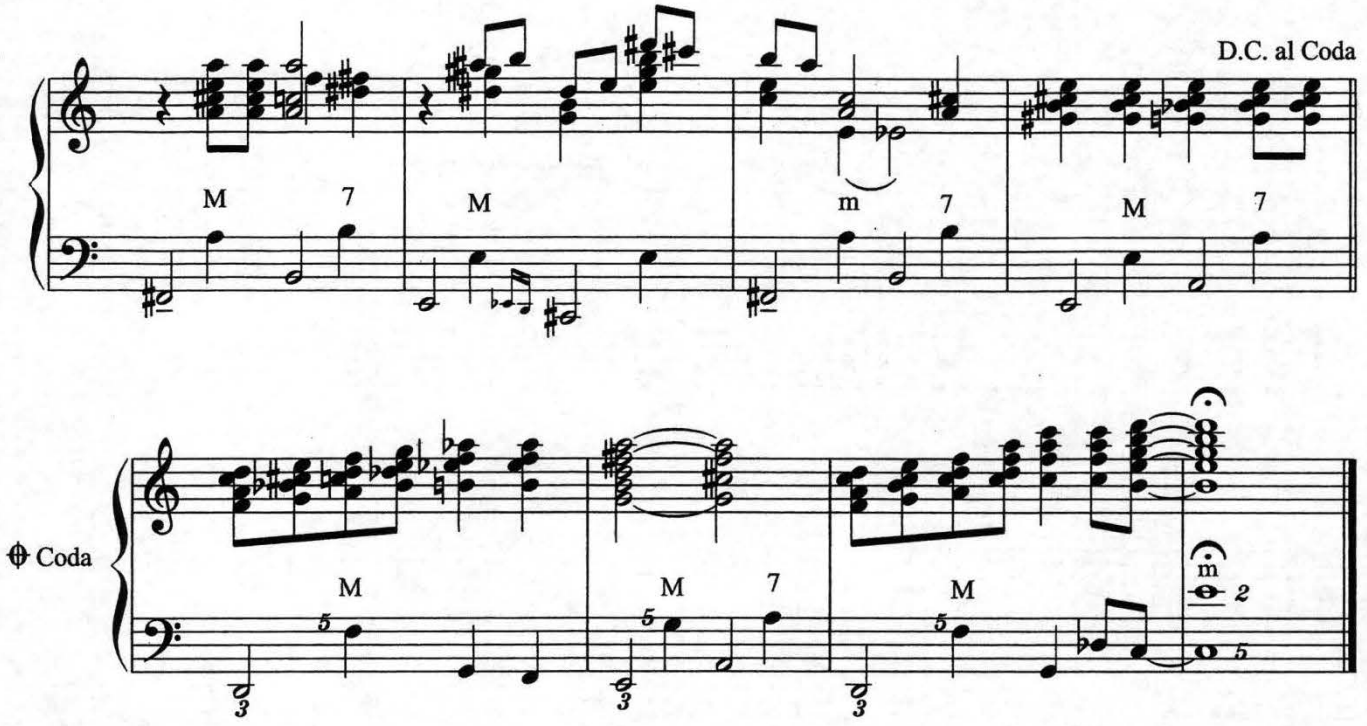
After becoming totally comfortable with the L.H. (memorized?) you can proceed to try creating your own improvisation on the R.H. by outlining the chords, connecting the notes preferably in linear-like (scale) fashion. Listen to the chord progressions, take chances; you will discover, that with practice, you can begin to play jazz.

Frank Marocco

Prelude to a Kiss

Duke Ellington
arr. by Frank Marocco





Notes

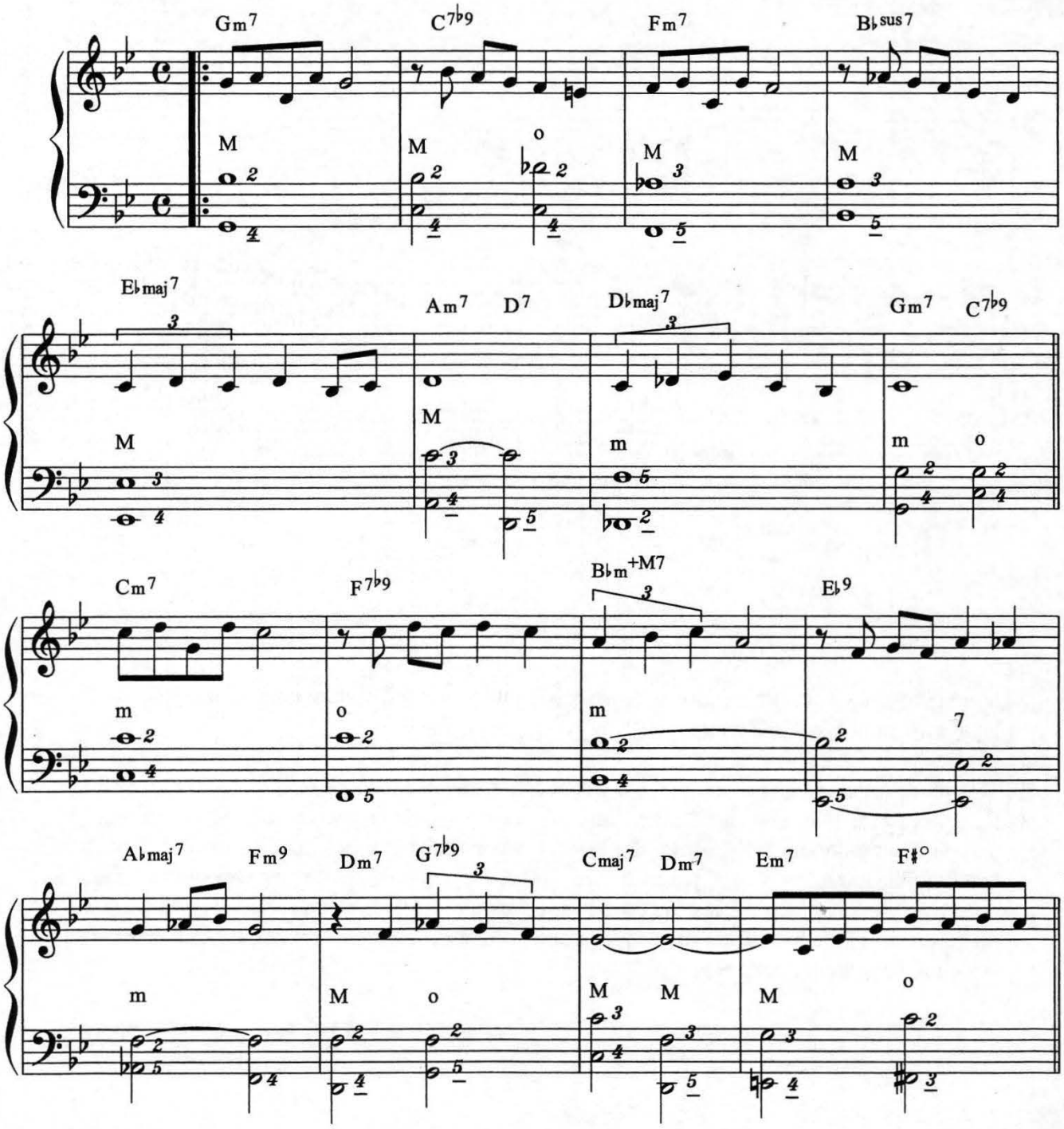
If some of the 5 note chords cannot be reached, either omit the bottom note or play it an octave higher, if it fits inside the chord.

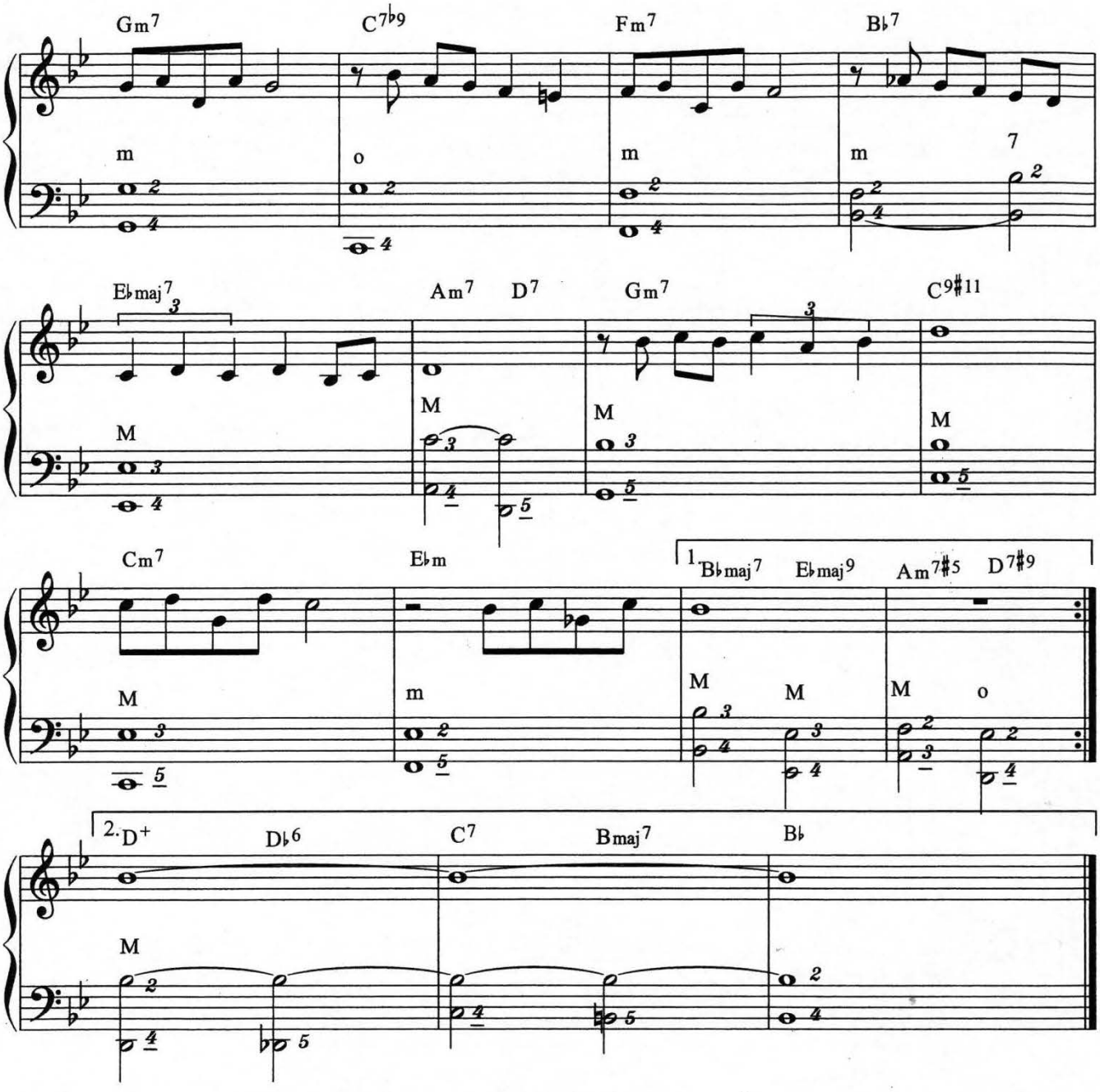
This piece reflects some of the harmonic concepts which we have covered previously. Notice the altered bass lines and chord extensions. This song should be played very legato, paying particular attention to the phrasing. Be careful to draw the bellows smoothly and evenly without breaking the phrases. Broken phrases have always been among the biggest weaknesses of most accordionists and much effort and concentration should be given to this issue. Never change the direction of the bellows in or out while notes are being held; this results in "Broken Phrases". Hence the expression "Squeeze Box".

Remember, the accordion, when played correctly, is a legitimate classical or jazz instrument.

Never Let Me Go

with ideas by Ralph Stricker

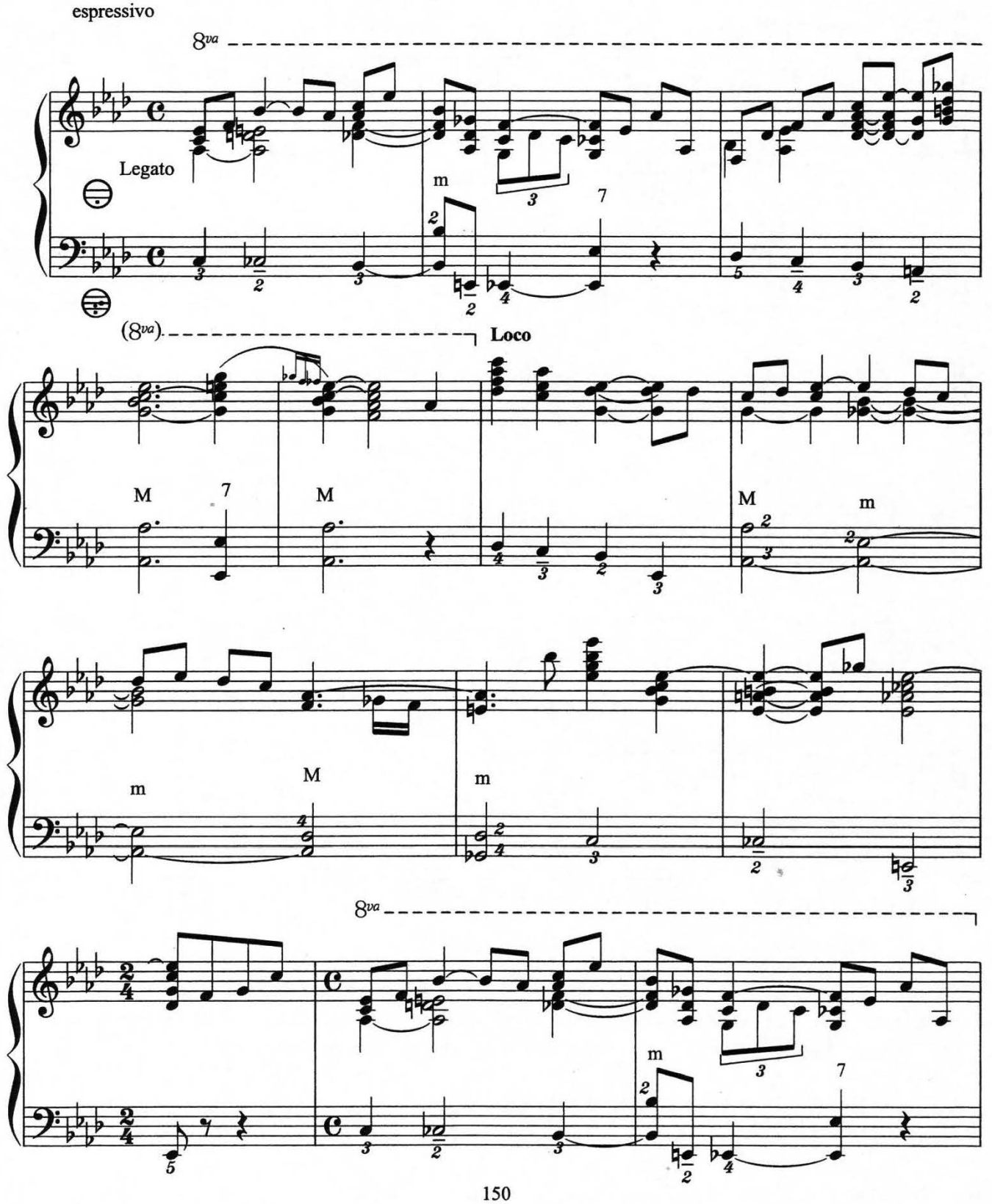


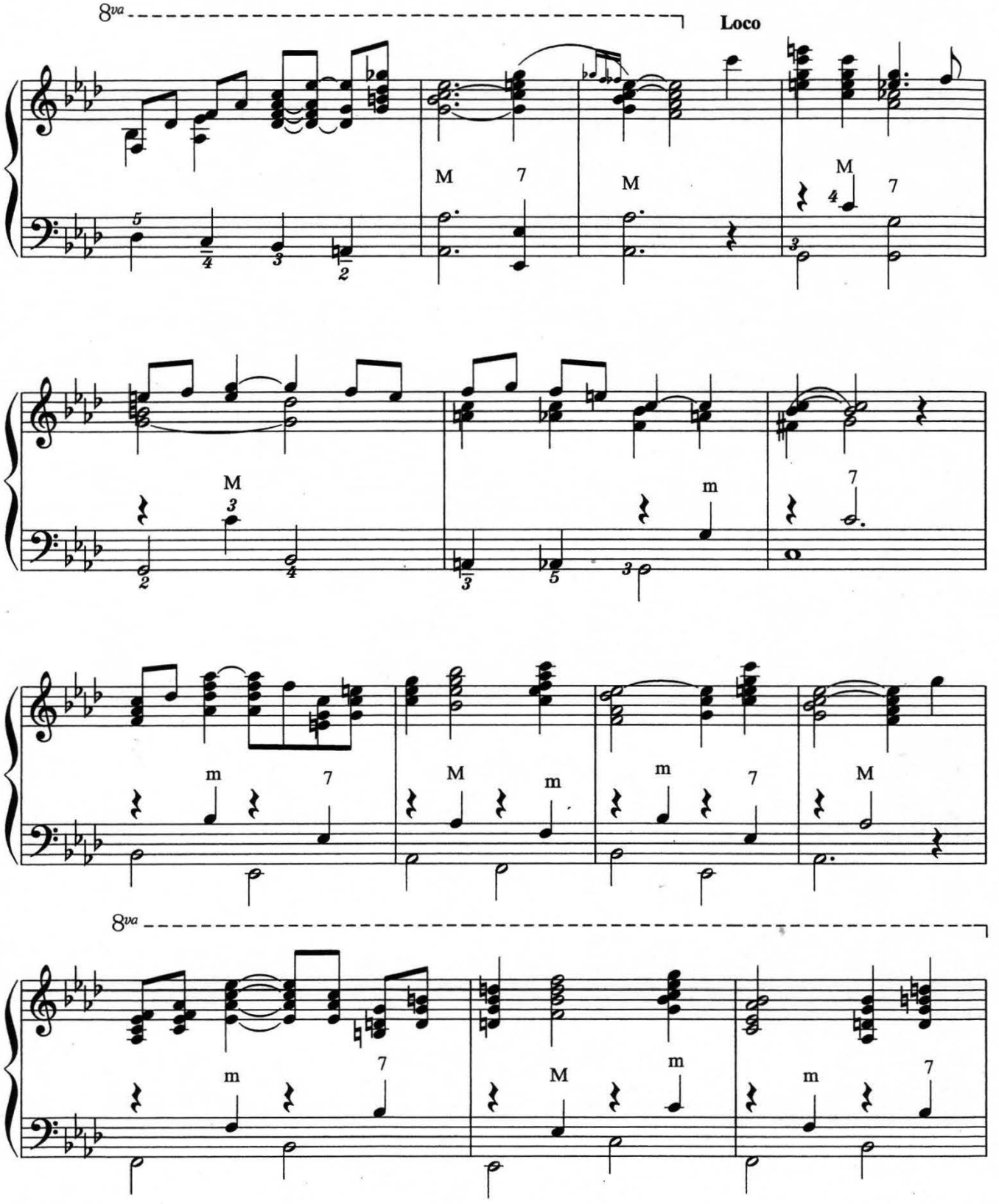


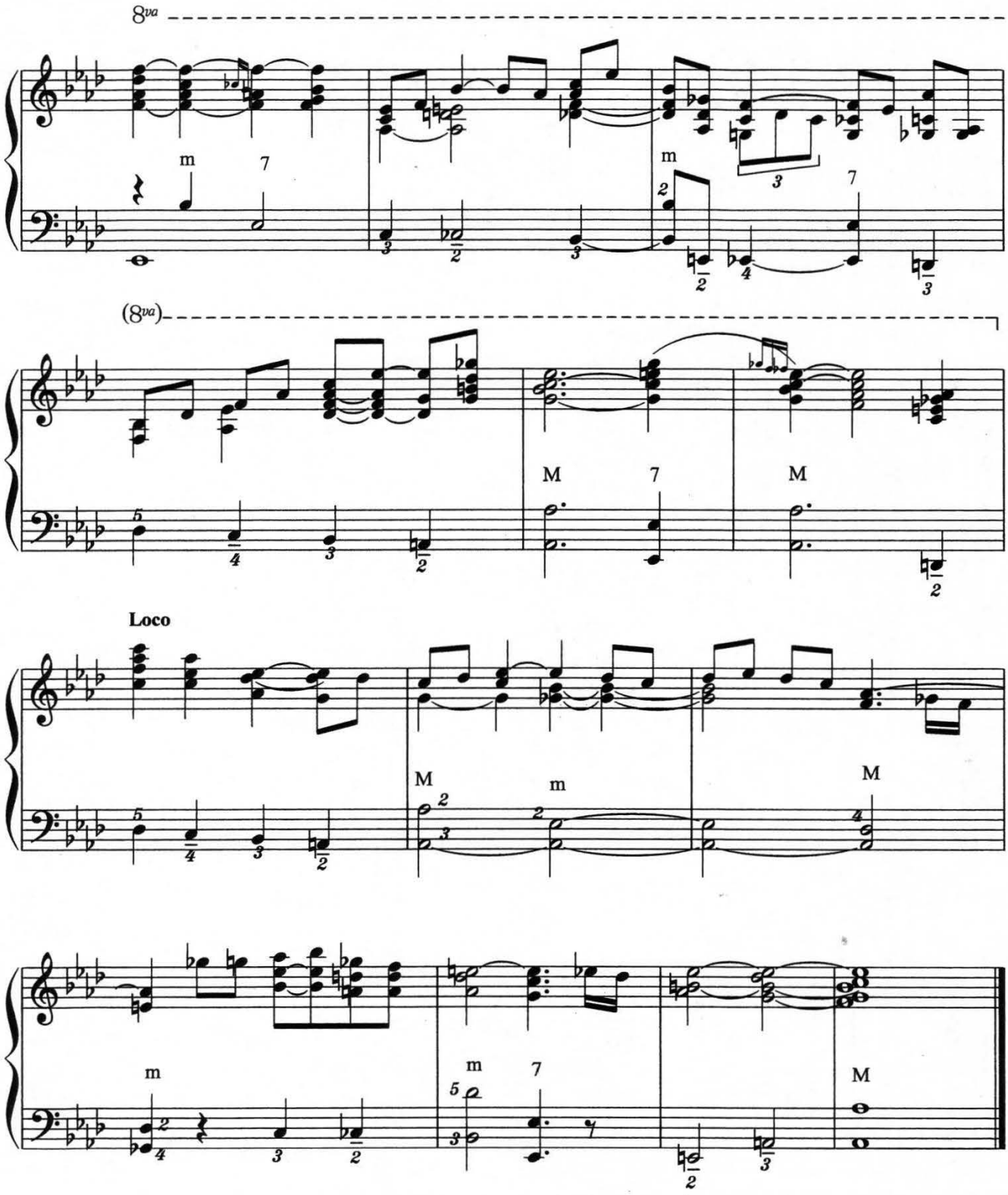
This song is a perfect example of playing bass and chords in close proximity. There are many more permutations that can be used; the readers can use the combinations of their choice.

Love is for the Very Young

David Raksin
arr. by Frank Marocco

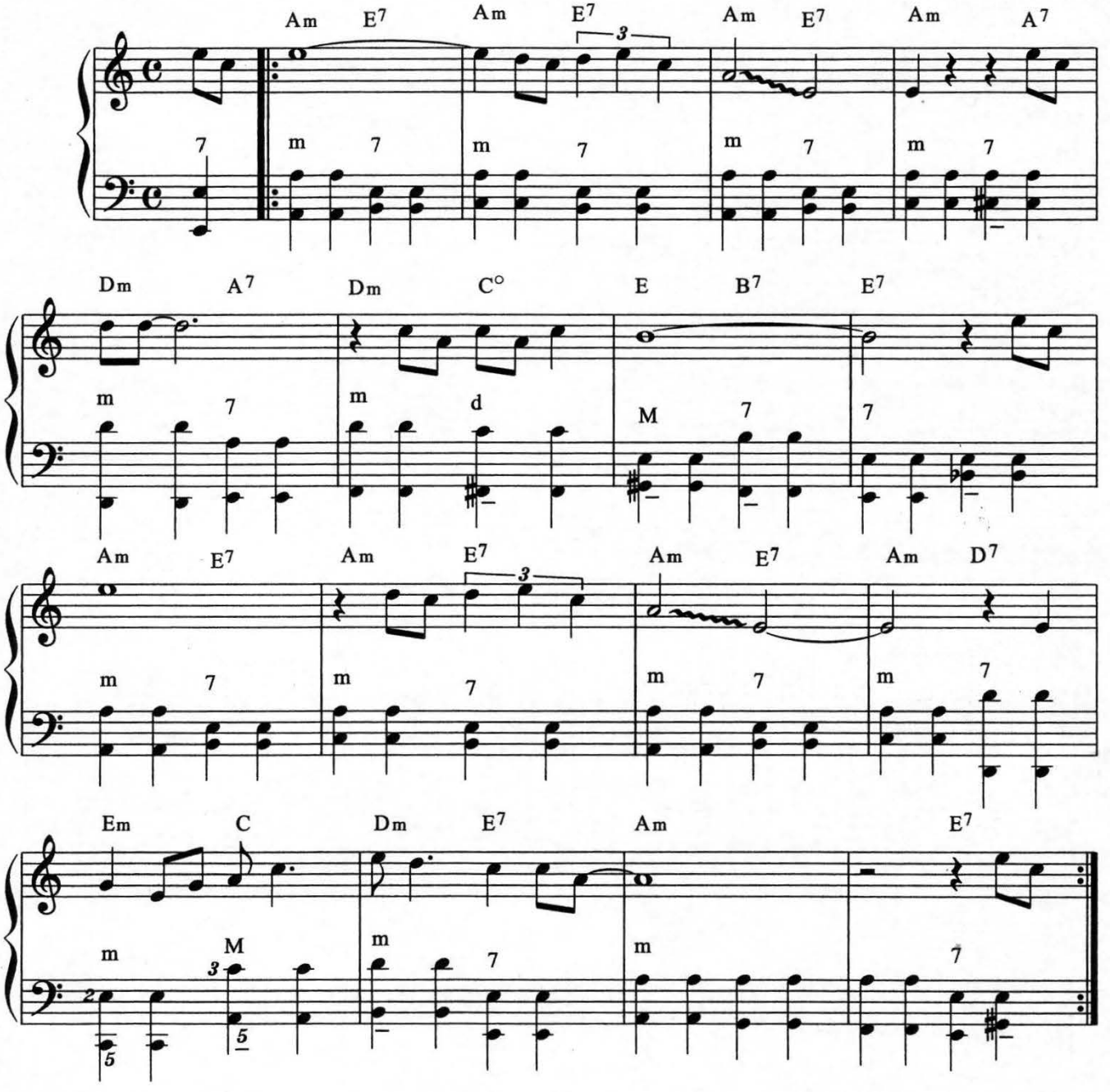



8va
Loco
M
7
M
M
7
M
3
m
7
m
M
m
m
7
M
8va
m
7
M
m
m
7


8va
m 7
m
(8va)
M 7
M
Loco
M
m
M
m
m 7
M

Summertime

arr. by Frank Marocco

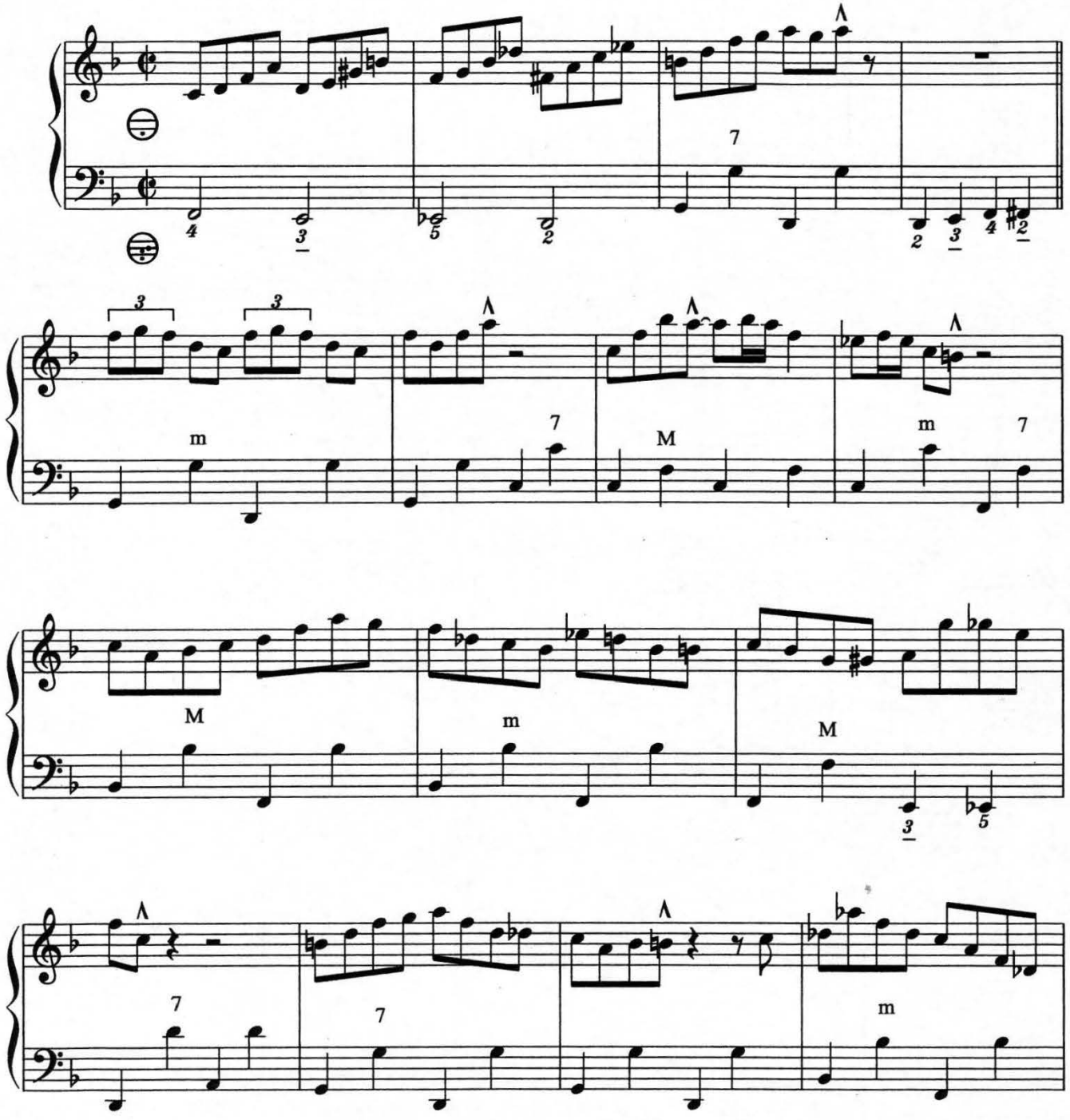


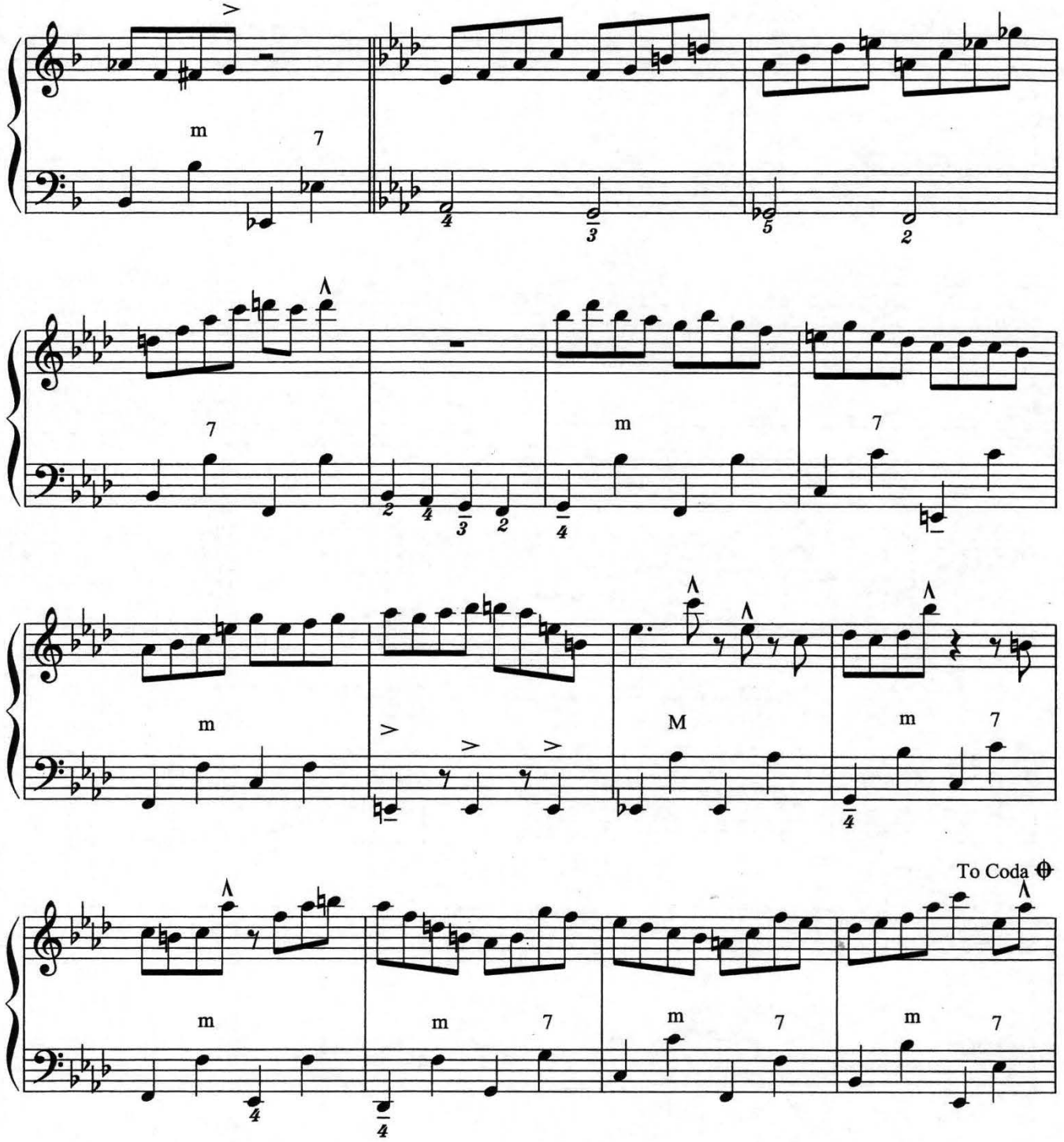
This is a perfect song to use as an example for playing in tempo. The bass and chords keep the rhythm and allow you to improvise on the right hand. You can use the C major and the A harmonic minor scales as guides.

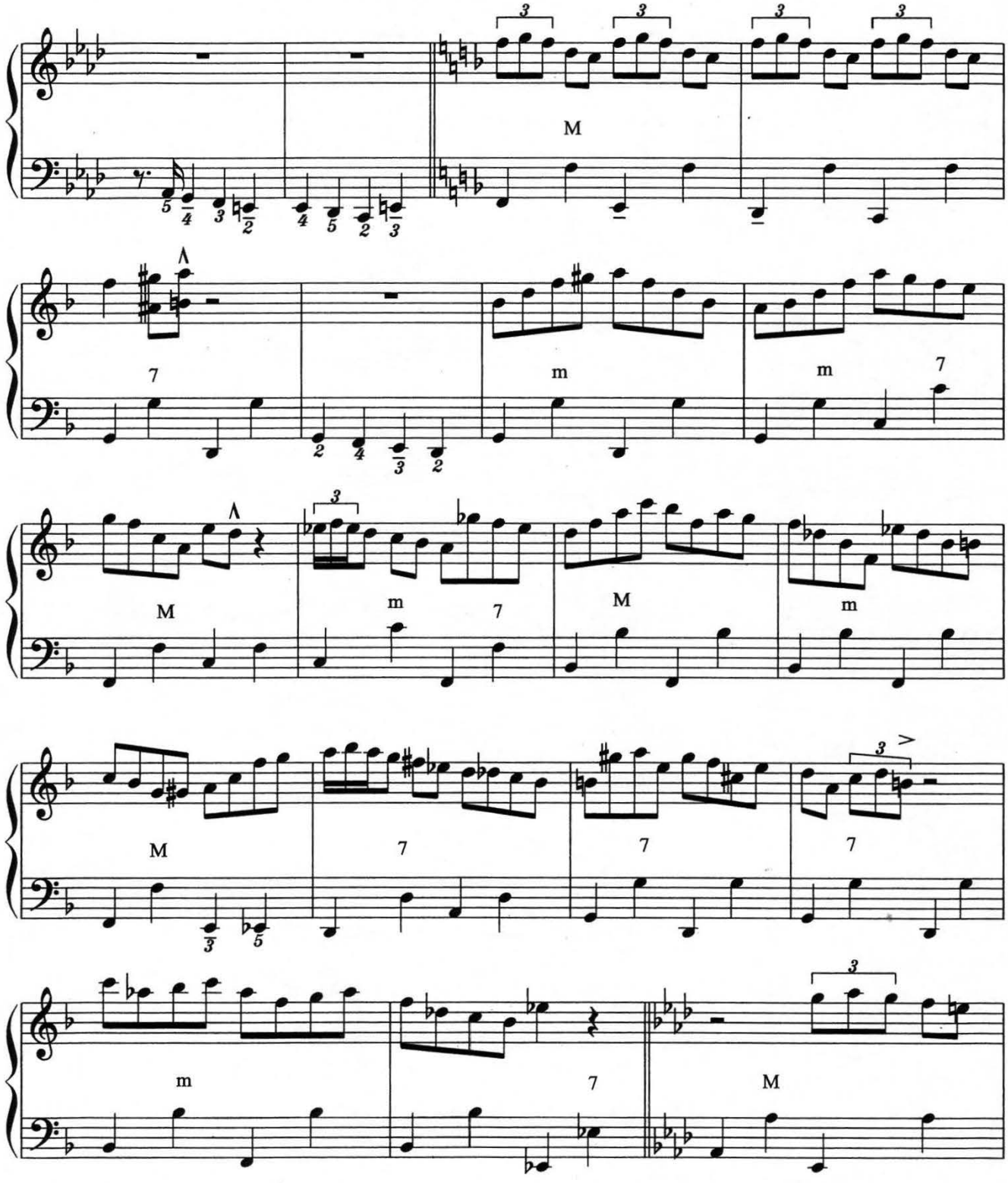
Home Again

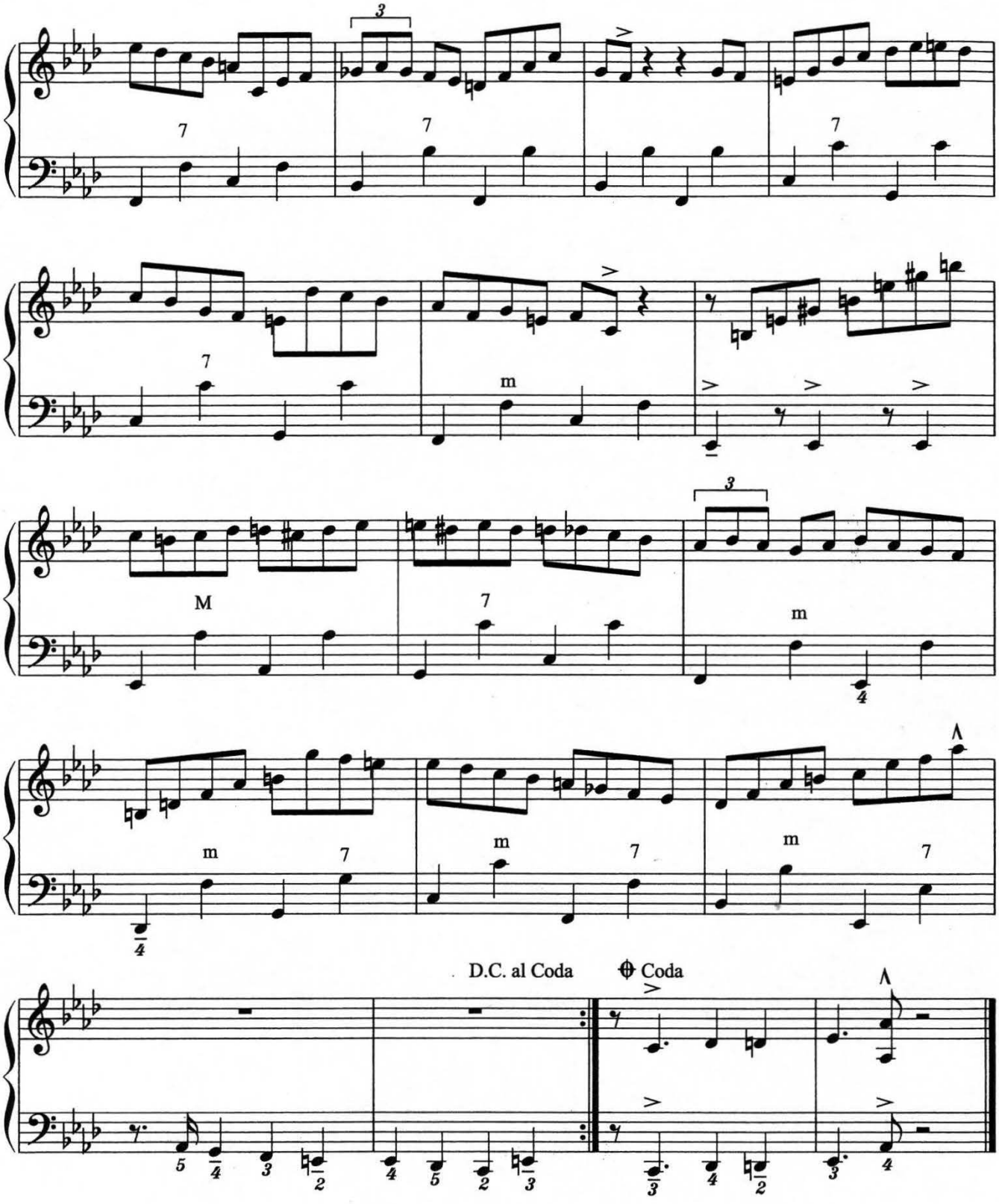
Allegro

by Frank Marocco



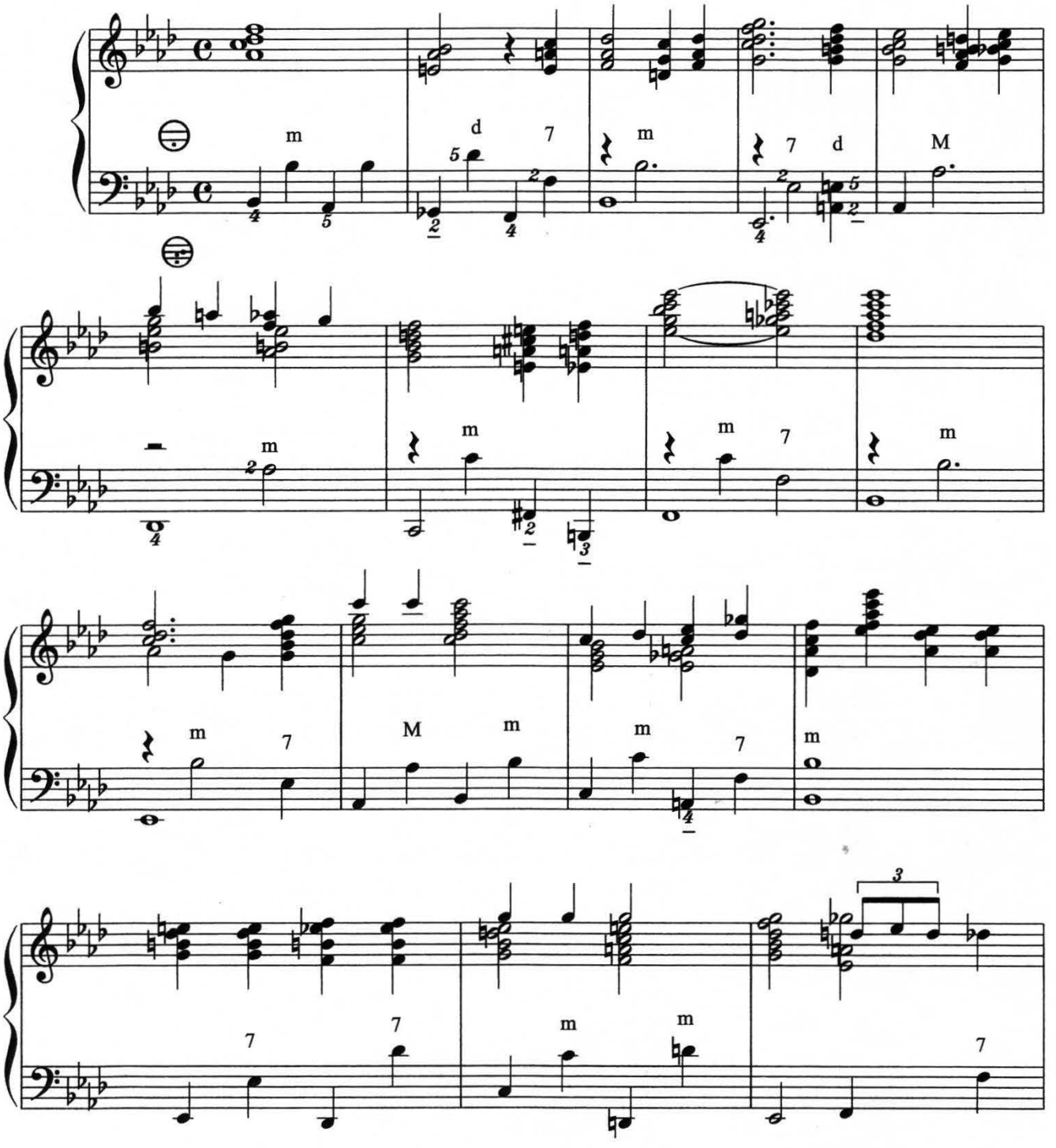

m
7
7
m
7
m
M
m
7
To Coda
m
m
7
m
7
m
7

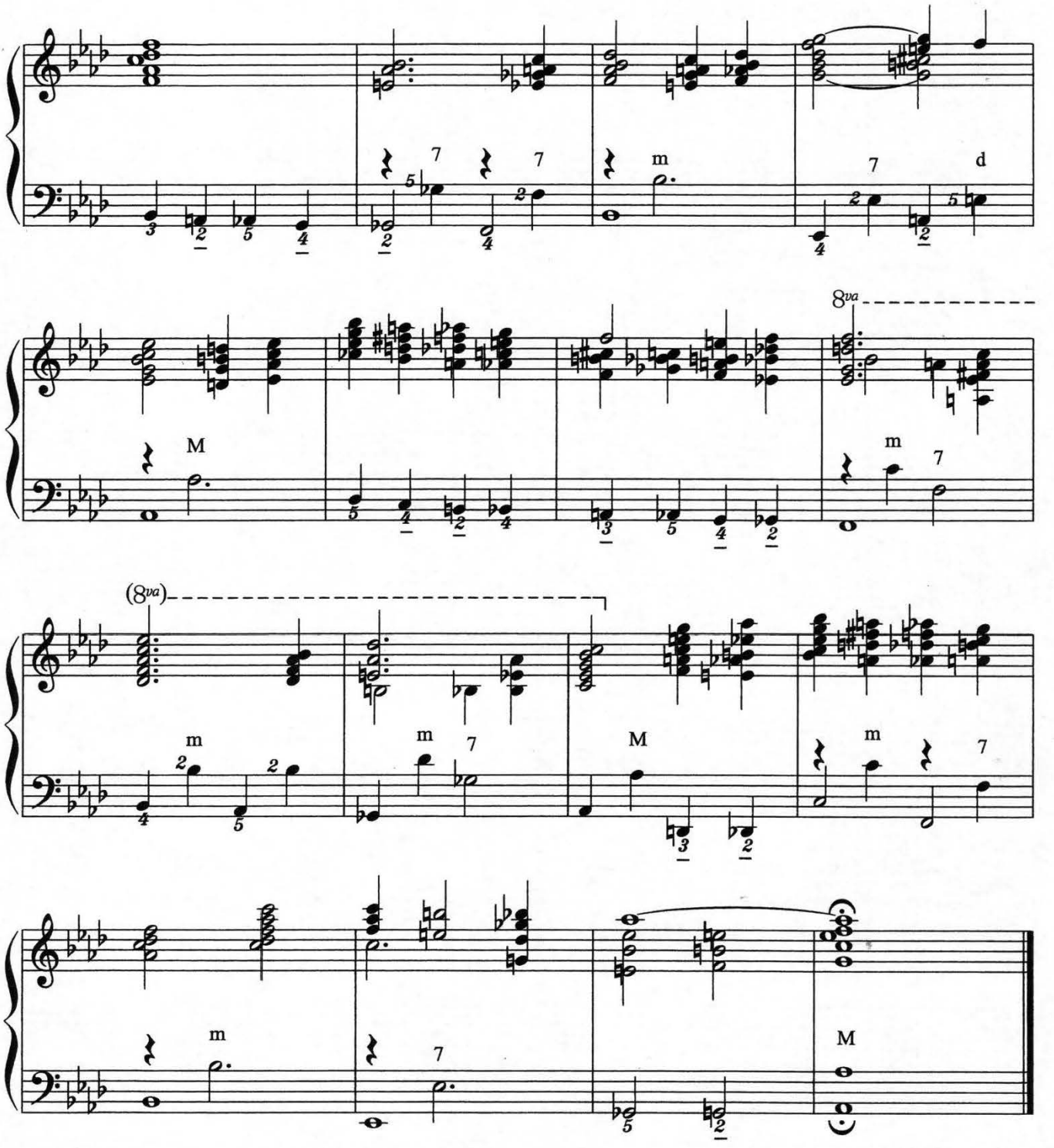

M
7
m
m
7
M
m
7
M
m
7
7
7
m
7
M


D.C. al Coda
Coda

Easy To Love

by Cole Porter
arr by Eddie Monteiro



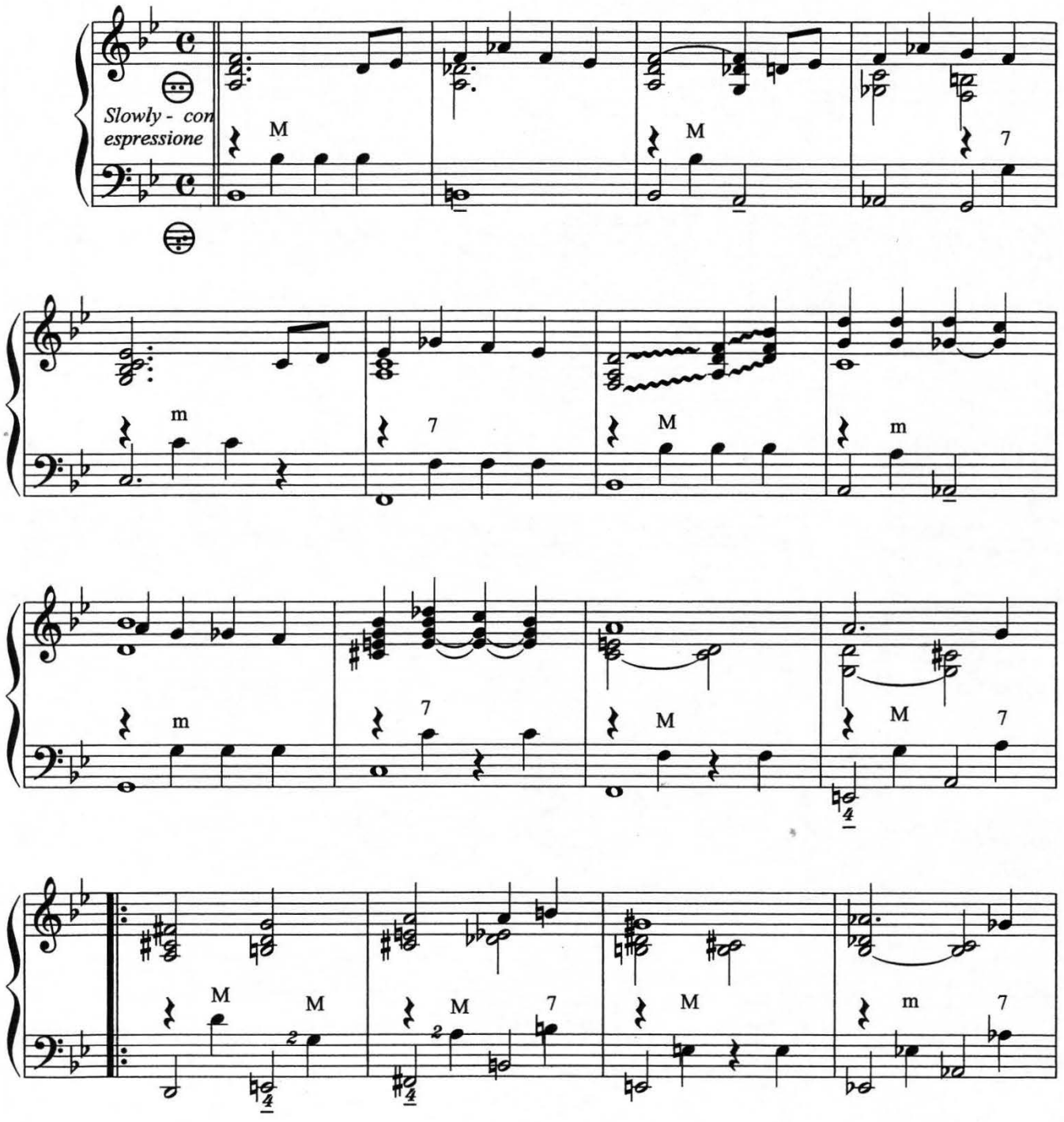

7
7
m
7
d
8va
M
m
7
(8va)
m
m
7
M
m
7
m
7
M

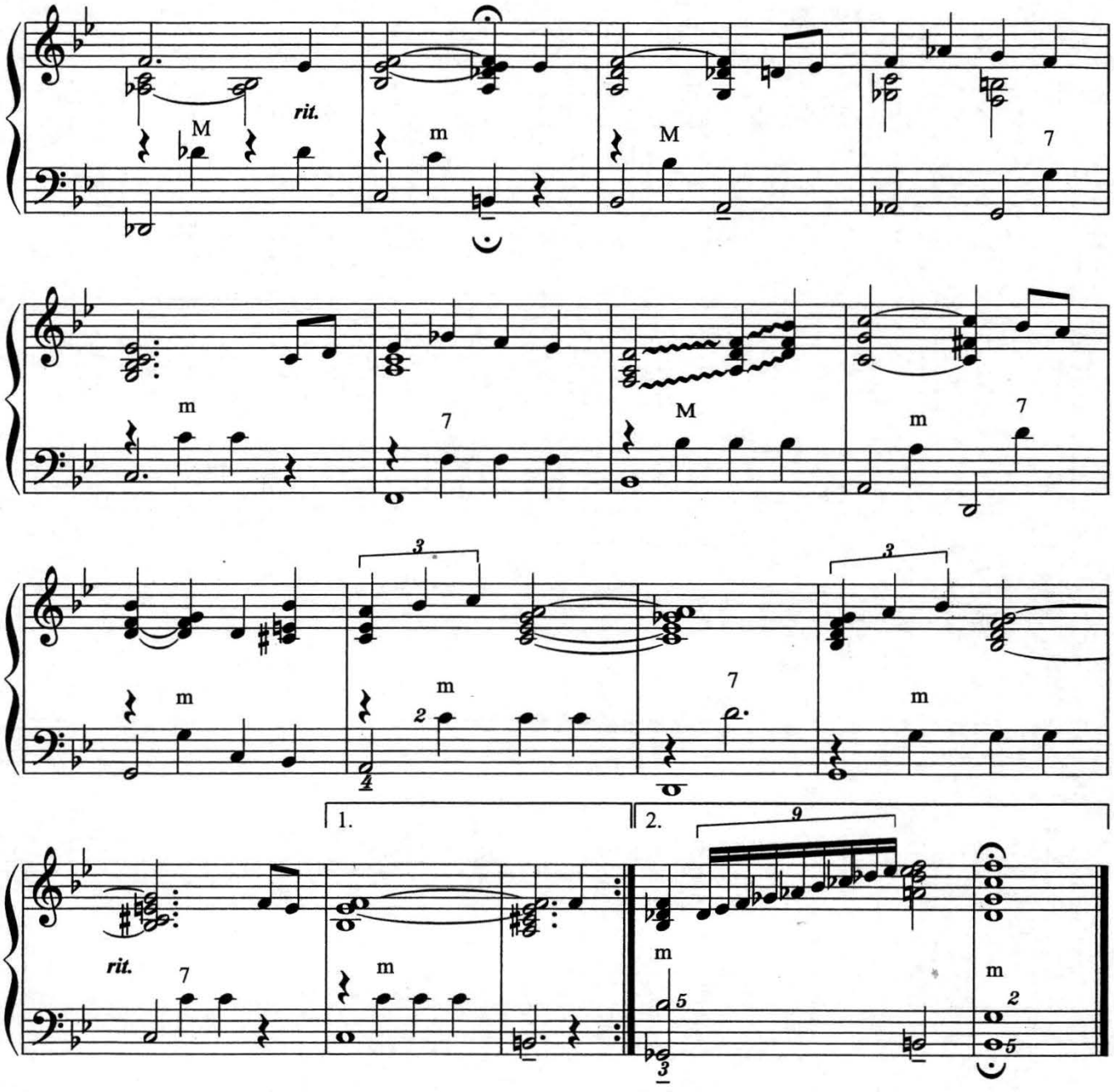
Kathie

dedicated to my daughter Kathie

by Ralph Stricker
arr. by Frank Marocco

Sempre Legato





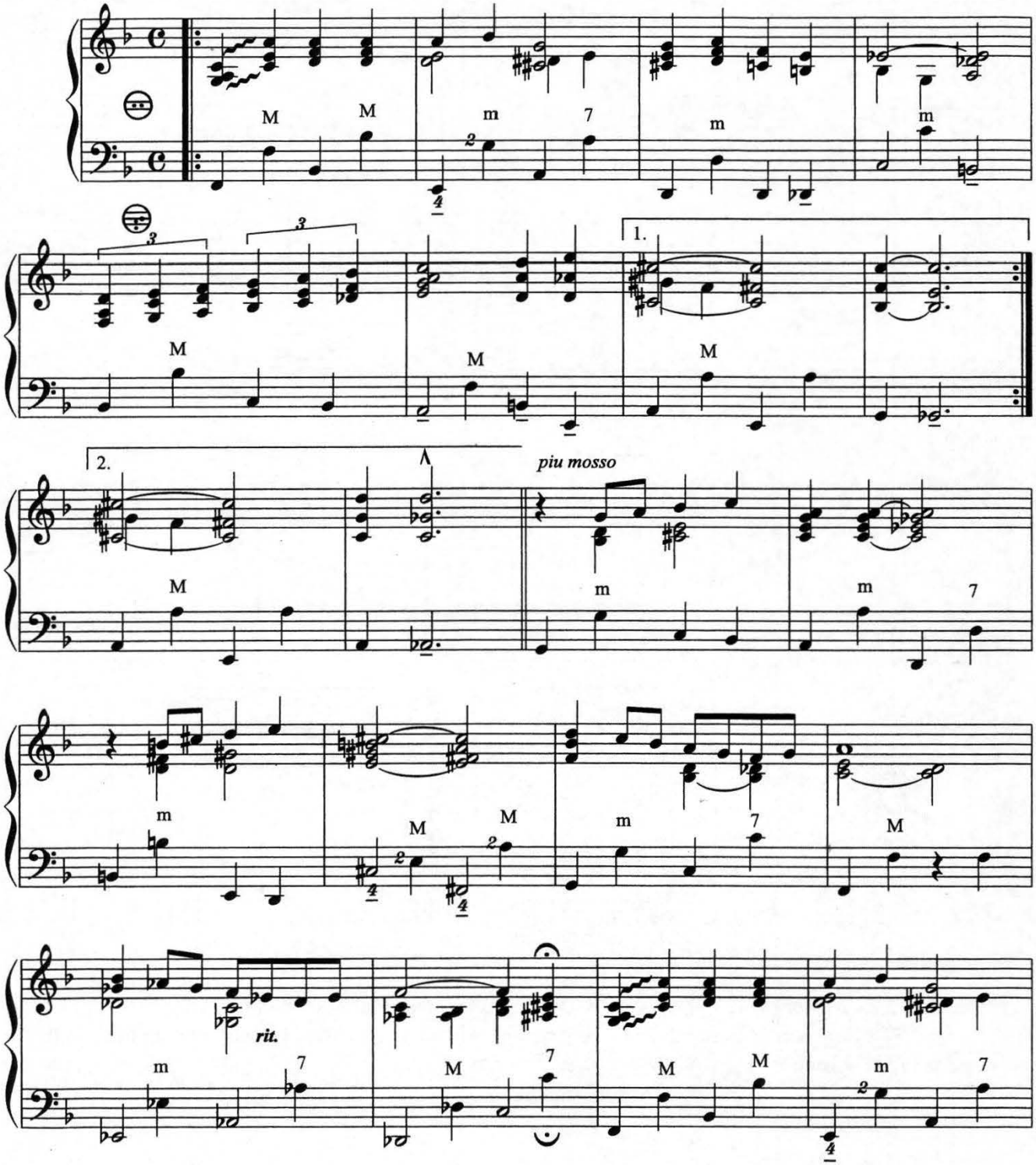
I wrote this song for my daughter Kathie. There was no way that I could express my love for her in words. She has been my strength and my sunshine when I'm depressed. Besides being my daughter, she is my best friend.

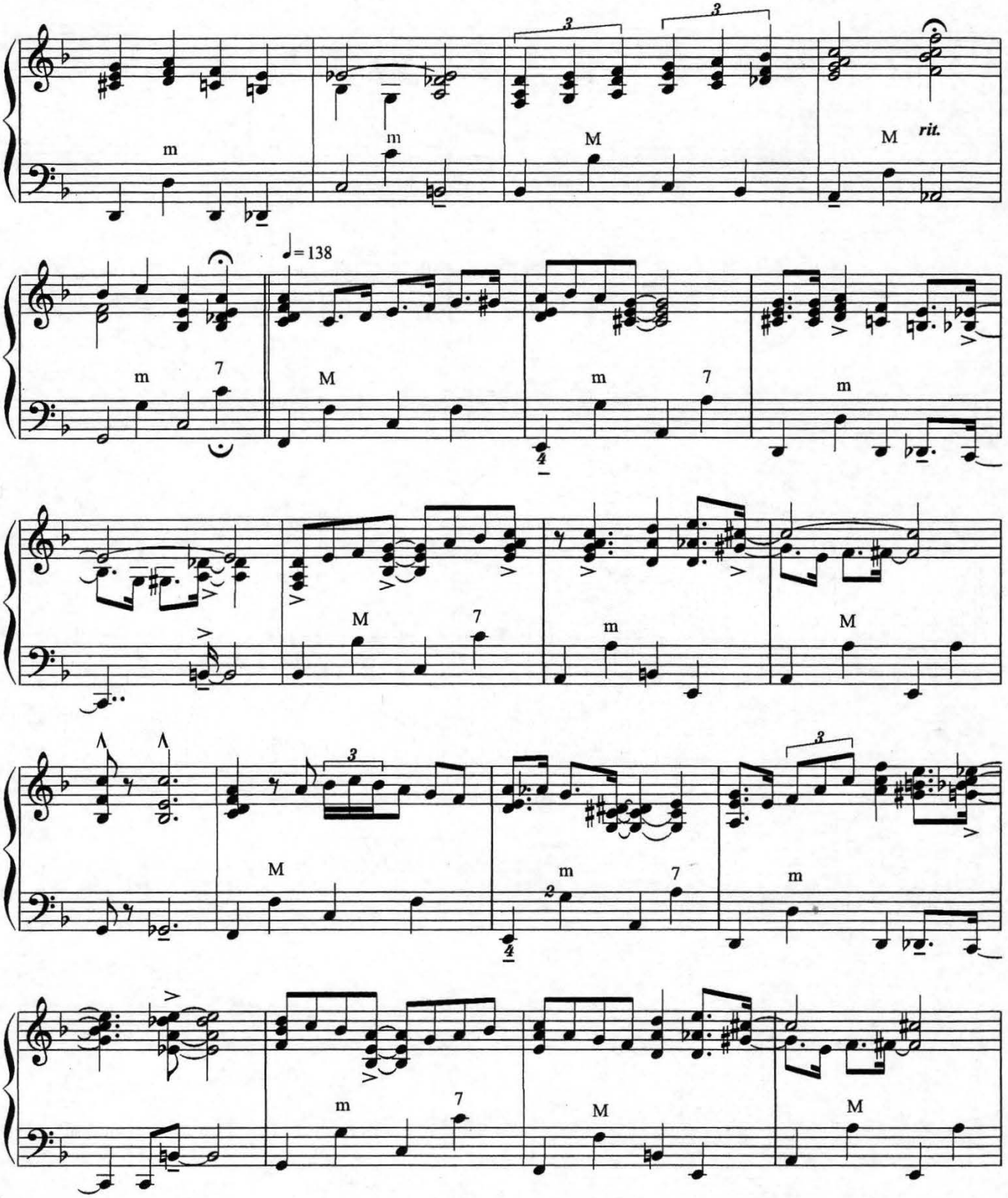
Ralph Stricker

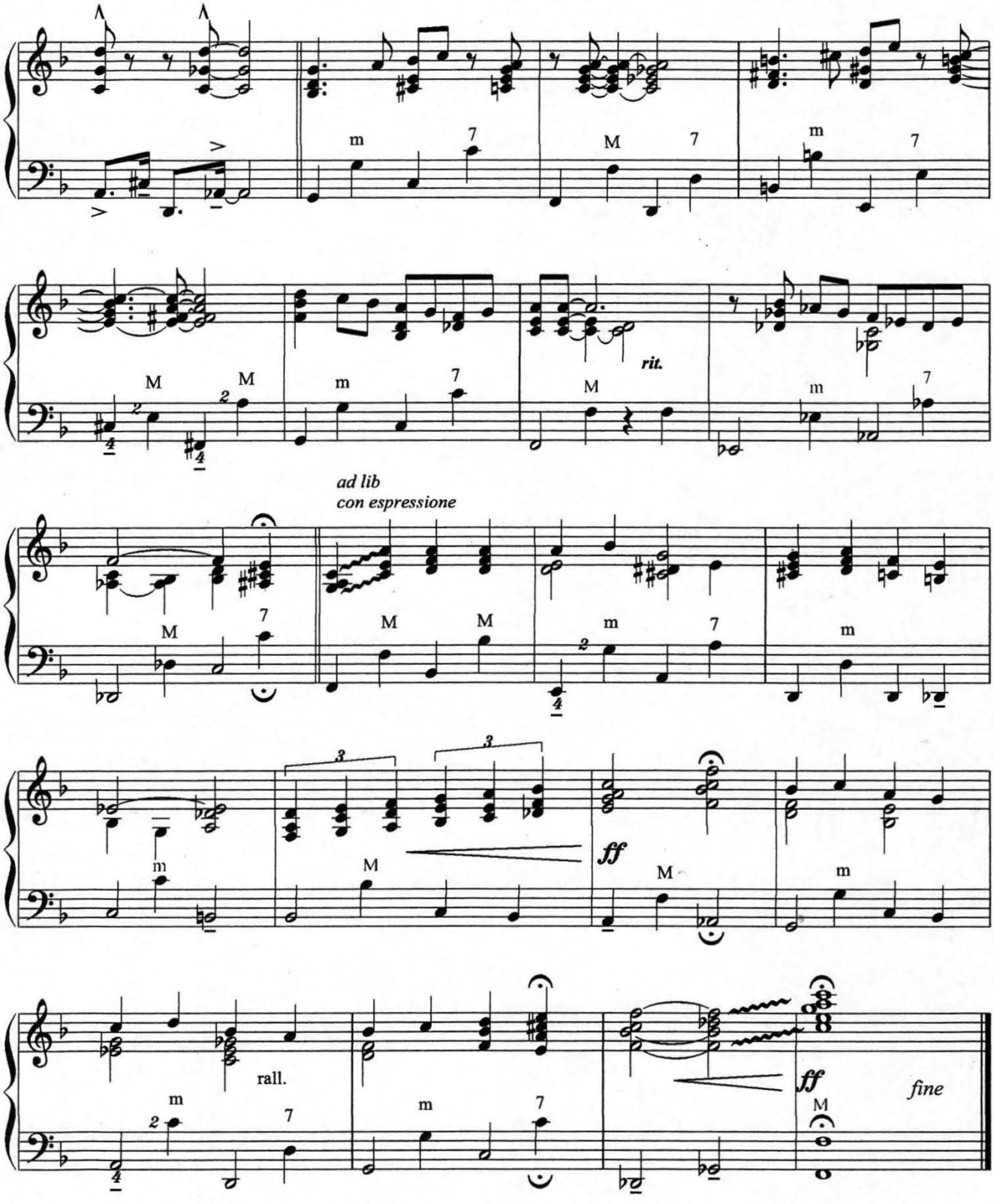
Remembering Michael

ad lib tempo
Sempre legato

by Ralph Stricker
arr by Frank Marocco




m
m
M
M
rit.
♩= 138
m
7
M
m
7
m
M
7
m
M
M
m
7
m
m
7
M
M


m 7
M 7
m 7
M M
m 7
rit.
M
m 7
ad lib
con espressione
M 7
M M
m 7
m
m
M
ff
M
m
rall.
m 7
m 7
ff
M
fine