

BASIC JAZZ THEORY

VOLUME I



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and *Sound the Trumpet: How to Blow Your Own Horn*

BASIC JAZZ THEORY, VOL 1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 0: THE CHAPTER EVERYONE SKIPS	1
Introduction	1
Why Should You Listen to Me?	2
Skills You'll Need To Make This Book Work	3
Basic Jazz Theory: The Big Picture	4
Icons In The Book:	4
What's Inside: The Details.	5
Chapter 0: The Chapter Everyone Skips	5
Chapter 1: The Tune's the Thing.	5
Chapter 2: Major Scales.	5
Chapter 3: Going Modal	5
Chapter 4: Interval Training	5
Chapter 5: Cutting the Chords	6
Chapter 6: Extension Chords	6
Chapter 7: Pentatonic Scales and the Blues Scale.	6
Chapter 8: Listen Listen Listen.	6
Codicil	6
 CHAPTER 1: THE TUNE'S THE THING	 7
Why Should You Learn Tunes First?	7
How to Learn Tunes: By Rote or by Note?	8
Learn Tunes by Ear	8
Learn Tunes with Written Music.	8
Tune List.	9
Memorizing Tunes.	10
A Tune to Learn	10
Bass Clef Version:.	11
1 Scale you can use when improvising: D harmonic minor	11
Ear Training	12
Chapter Review	12
Practical use	12

CHAPTER 2: MAJOR SCALES13

The Major Scale 13
The C Major Scale 14
 Whole and Half Steps for the Major Scale 14
 Octave 14
Scales with Accidentals 14
 F Major Scale 14
 G Major Scale 15
 Major Scales with Many Accidentals 15
Ear Training 16
Improvisation 16
Moving On 16
Chapter Review 17
Practical Use 17

CHAPTER 3: GOING MODAL19

What is a Mode? 19
The Modes 19
 Ionian 20
 Dorian 20
 Phrygian 20
 Lydian 21
 Mixolydian 21
 Aeolian 21
 Locrian 21
Finding Modes in Other Keys 22
Modes Using Other Scales 22
Ear Training & Improvisation 22
Moving On 23
Chapter Review 23
Practical Use 24

CHAPTER 4: INTERVAL TRAINING	25
Intervals by the Number	25
A Simple Way to Find an Interval	26
Interval Quality	26
Perfect Intervals	26
Major Intervals	27
Altering Perfect Intervals.	27
Altering Major Intervals	28
Finding an Interval.	28
Intervals Greater than an Octave	29
Finding Intervals in Keys Other than C	29
Ear Training	29
Improvise Now	29
Moving On.	29
Chapter Review	30
CHAPTER 5: CUTTING THE CHORD	33
The Basic Triad	34
Triads in a Major Key.	34
Major Triads	35
Minor Triads.	35
Diminished Triads	35
Augmented Triads	35
Ear Training	36
Improvise Now	36
Moving On.	36
Chapter Review	37
Practical Use	38
CHAPTER 6: EXTENSION CHORDS	39
General Chord Extension Info.	39
Seventh Chords	40
Ninth Chords	41
Other Chords	42
Eleventh and Thirteenth Chords	42
The Half Diminished Chord	42
Ear Training	42
Improvise Now.	43
Moving On.	43
Chapter Review	43
Practical Use	44

CHAPTER 7: PENTATONIC AND BLUES SCALES	45
The Centrality of the Blues	45
General Pentatonic Scale Info	45
The Major Pentatonic Scale	46
The Minor Pentatonic Scale	46
General Blues Scale Info	47
Standard Blues Scale	47
Use Your Blues	48
Ear Training	49
Moving On.	49
Improvise Now.	49
Chapter Review	50
Practical Use	50

CHAPTER 8: LISTEN AND LEARN	51
Why Listen?	51
Where to Listen Online	52
Some Listening Tips	52
Listening Suggestions	53

CODICIL: BOOK EXTRAS	57
Book Index	
Scale Practice	61
General Info About These Scales	61
A Word on Memorization	62
Scale Pattern Suggestions	62
Pentatonics	62
A Note on Enharmonics	68
Piano Keyboard	69
Cycle of Fourths/Fifths (Major)	69
Guitar Fretboard	70
Cycle of Fourths/Fifths (natural minor)	70

DO YOU WANT TO PLAY JAZZ?

Jazz is best learned by listening and imitation, *not* theory. Still, the theory behind the music *will* help you understand both why jazz sounds the way it does, and how to play jazz in a way that sounds great. Theory will also help you communicate with other musicians.

Jazz musicians share a musical language of tunes, chord progressions, licks, and stories. If you “speak jazz,” you can walk into a jam session anywhere and communicate through music even if you don’t speak the native language.

Basic Jazz Theory, vol. 1 will get you started on the basics of jazz theory and will help you build the skills you need to be an excellent jazz player.

What’s Inside:

Tunes: melodies are the basis of a jazz player’s vocabulary. Learn about jazz standards and how to play them.

Scales: major scales, modes, pentatonics and the blues scales are covered in detail.

Intervals: intervals help you understand chords and notation more clearly. Learn the specifics inside.

Chords: the basic building blocks of jazz harmony. All you need to know about basic chords is here.

Extensions: jazz players add extra notes to chords to give them more flavor. Learn what they are and how to do it for yourself.

Listening: this is one of the most crucial aspects of learning to play jazz. Find some of the best recordings and players to listen to inside this book.

Ear Training: playing jazz means you have to listen and understand what you hear. This takes work. Every chapter has ear training exercises.

Improvising: jazz without improvising would be like a birthday cake without frosting or candles. Find suggestions to improve your improv.

Whether you’re a comeback player, a beginner, or are just curious, *Basic Jazz Theory, volume 1* will help you understand what makes jazz jazzy.

Chapters are short, well-paced and enjoyable, sometimes funny and always friendly.

Every chapter includes:

- review questions to test your knowledge.
- ear training exercises to get concepts in your ears.
- practical use exercises so you use what you’re learning.

Jonathan Harnum has been playing music for over 30 years, has taught music for over 20 years, has advanced degrees in music education and is the author of *Basic Music Theory*, *Sound the Trumpet*, and *All About Trumpet*.

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