



The 21st Century PRO METHOD

JAZZ GUITAR

Bebop and Beyond

by DOUG MUNRO

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CHAPTER ONE:

Bebop Scale

Players such as Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie refined the bebop scale. It had been used prior to these players but had not been formally worked out. **The bebop scale is basically a way to get eight notes out of a seven-note scale.** Why did players want to do that? A lot of bebop is played at fast tempos. The soloist would sometimes string long groups of eighth notes together. It's hard to navigate long scale-like lines made of seven notes. By adding one chromatic note you could have eight notes to the measure, which worked out great in 4/4 time (eight eighth notes per measure). Through analyzing solos of the great bebop players, you will discover that they did certain chromatic moves on the same scales in a fairly consistent way. These are what we call the bebop scales.

Transcription is the best way to get in a player's head. Remember, this book is just one person's take on various topics of jazz improvisation. I want to share my observations with you, but I also want to encourage you to explore every area for your self. You will probably discover some new way of looking at and understanding jazz, which you then can share with others.

I am going to discuss three different bebop scales: major, minor, and dominant 7. Remember that the bebop scales are an attempt to organize a very loose way of playing scales, so don't be surprised to find contradictions in your exploration of these scales. They are definitely not written in stone!

The Bebop Major Scale

The bebop major scale is an Ionian mode (same notes as the major scale) with an added sharp 5th. The sharp 5th is used as a chromatic passing tone. These fingerings lets the player achieve eight notes per bar. The examples will use the C major bebop scale.

Example 1 is a bebop major scale in C:

Example 1 shows the C major bebop scale in standard notation and a three-string fretboard diagram. The scale is in 4/4 time and consists of the notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a chromatic passing tone (Bb) before the final C. The fretboard diagram shows the strings T, A, and B, with fingerings indicated by numbers 0-3.

Following are some fingerings using the bebop major scale. Notice that they're mostly three or four notes per string. This is a good way (but not the only way) to learn scale fingerings. These fingerings will get you moving more horizontally across the fingerboard as opposed to vertically. I have found it makes my scale-like lines a little more legato.

Example 2 shows the bebop major scale fingerings across the fingerboard (C major):

Example 2 shows the C major bebop scale in standard notation and a three-string fretboard diagram. The scale is in 4/4 time and consists of the notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and a chromatic passing tone (Bb) before the final C. The fretboard diagram shows the strings T, A, and B, with fingerings indicated by numbers 0-7.

4

TAB

3 3 4 5 7 3 5 7 3 5 6 7 4 5 7 5 6 8 4 5 7 8

7

TAB

8 4 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 6 7 9 5 7 9 6 8 9 10 7 8 10

10

TAB

8 5 7 8 10 7 8 10 11 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 9 10 12 8 10 12

13

TAB

8 7 8 10 12 8 10 11 12 9 10 12 9 10 12 9 10 12 13 10 12 13

16

TAB

8 10 12 13 10 11 12 14 10 12 14 10 12 13 14 12 13 15 12 13 15 16

19

TAB

15 12 13 15 16 12 14 15 12 14 15 12 13 14 16 13 15 17 13 15 16 17

Bebop Major Scale Riffs



Example 3 starts with a **Charlie Parker**-style riff similar to the beginning of "**Donna Lee**." Bar 2 contains a line I've heard piano players use; I think it's a quote from a non-jazz composition. The riff ends with an ascending line using a **G#** as a passing tone. Notice I use **Ab** when I am descending and **G#** when I am ascending; it makes it easier to read the line.

$\text{♩} = 160$

Cmaj7

Musical notation for Example 3, showing a 4-measure riff in 4/4 time. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a common time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. Below the staff, the fretboard positions for the thumb (T), index (A), and middle (B) fingers are indicated by numbers 7 through 10. The riff consists of a descending line in the first measure, a descending line with a passing tone in the second measure, and an ascending line in the third measure.



Example 4 is a more modern use of the $\#5/b13$ in a scale-like line. This riff is in the style of **Michael Brecker**. Notice the line is entirely made up of eighth notes. There is a lot of change of direction in this line. The **A $\flat$** is used in passing (bar 1) and also to create a minor IV chord sound (bars 2 and 4).

$\text{♩} = 160$

Cmaj7

Musical notation for Example 4, showing a 4-measure riff in 4/4 time. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a common time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. Below the staff, the fretboard positions for the thumb (T), index (A), and middle (B) fingers are indicated by numbers 6 through 15. The riff consists of a descending line in the first measure, a descending line with a passing tone in the second measure, and an ascending line in the third measure.



Example 5 is again out of the **Charlie Parker** book. It is loosely based around a line from his composition, "**Confirmation**."

$\text{♩} = 126$

Cmaj7

Musical notation for Example 5, showing a 4-measure riff in 4/4 time. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a common time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. Below the staff, the fretboard positions for the thumb (T), index (A), and middle (B) fingers are indicated by numbers 10 through 9. The riff consists of a descending line in the first measure, a descending line with a passing tone in the second measure, and an ascending line in the third measure.

Bebop Major Scale Chords

The bebop major scale can be used as an improvising tool over the same chords, major chords, and major-key chord progressions you would use with the regular seven-note major scale. Please refer to my book *Pro Method, Jazz Guitar: Swing to Bebop* for a full explanation and demonstration of major chords and their application to jazz.

Let's take a look at an interesting chord you can get using the bebop major scale.

The Major 7 ($\flat 13$) Chords

The bebop major scale uses the $\sharp 5$ or $\flat 13$ ($\flat 6$) as a passing note. If you listen to the sound, it is not really an augmented sound. Out of this scale you can build a very interesting major chord sound, the major 7 with the $\flat 13$. Another way to think of this chord is to voice a major triad, a major third above the root, for example: E/C, an E triad with C in the bass, or even a true polychord with all the notes of both the E and C triads together.

Example 6 shows some common voicings for C/E. Note that I am not doing an inversion study but instead I'm going for what I feel are the more practical fingerings for this chord. Practice these chords with and without the root (C). If you are playing with a bass player and he or she is sounding the root note, (C) that will free you up to explore hipper fingerings and usage of the upper extensions of the chord. I encourage you to explore your own fingerings and inversions.

Diagram 1: 4fr. Fingering: 4, 3, 2, 1. Bass on 6th string.

Diagram 2: 7fr. Fingering: 2, 3, 3, 3. Bass on 5th string.

Diagram 3: 3fr. Fingering: 1, 2, 3, 4. Bass on 5th string.

Diagram 4: 3fr. Fingering: 1, 2, 3, 4. Bass on 5th string.

Diagram 5: 7fr. Fingering: 4, 2, 3, 1. Bass on 4th string.

Diagram 6: 10fr. Fingering: 1, 4, 2, 3. Bass on 4th string.

Musical notation for C/E chord in 4/4 time, showing the bass line and the chord voicings on the guitar strings.

	4	9	5	5	7	12
T	4	9	5	5	7	12
A	6	9	4	4	9	13
B	7	9	6	4	10	10
	8	8	3	3		

You will notice that what we have here is the E major triad in several inversions with a C in the bass.



Major 7(b13) Chord Riffs



Example 7 uses the fingerings from Example 6 in the midrange. This is a rhythmic example that has every chord hitting off the beat except for the last bar. Remember that **music is all about tension and release**. Here syncopation is used to create tension, which is then resolved with the hits on beats 1 and 2 in the fourth bar.

$\text{♩} = 96$

E/C

Staff	Bar 1	Bar 2	Bar 3	Bar 4
T	5	9	5	5
A	4	9	4	4
B	3	9	6	0



Example 8 is some fun with dotted quarter notes. **Wes Montgomery** used **syncopated chords** often. I've taken that idea and applied it to this more modern harmonic concept.

$\text{♩} = 72$

E/C

Staff	Bar 1	Bar 2	Bar 3	Bar 4	Bar 5
T	12	12	12	7	7
A	12	9	7	4	4
B	13	9	7	5	5



Example 9 shows some E major and C major triads over a C pedal in the bass. The E major triads represent the Cmaj7(b13) sound. Notice the voice leading, I resolve by whole or half step from the E to the C triad in bar 3. Good voice leading is an important ingredient of chordal harmony.

$\text{♩} = 200$

(C pedal)

Staff	Bar 1	Bar 2	Bar 3	Bar 4	Bar 5
T	9	5	1	9	7
A	9	4	0	9	9
B	9	6	2	9	9

Major 7(b13) Arpeggios

The arpeggios for the Cmaj7(b13) are pretty cool. We essentially have an E major triad with a C in the bass. There is a major third relationship between these two chords; we will get into this topic in detail later on in the chapter on the augmented scale. For now let's just leave it at this:

The following arpeggios work over Cmaj7(b13) (E/C):

1. C augmented major 7 (C E G# B)
2. E major (E G# B)
3. E augmented (E G# C)

Note: The C augmented major 7 arpeggio would contain the notes from both the E major and E augmented triads.

Example 10 shows some fingerings for the C major 7(b13) arpeggio. Check out my *Swing to Bebop* book to get fingerings for the major and augmented triads.

The image displays three systems of musical notation for Cmaj7(b13) arpeggios in 4/4 time. Each system consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a guitar tablature staff below it. The tablature staff is labeled 'T' for Treble and 'B' for Bass. The first system shows the C augmented major 7 arpeggio (C E G# B) with fingerings: 3 0 4 2 3 2 1 4, 5 5 4 7 6 7 4 5, 5 4 1 2 3 2 4 0, 0. The second system shows the E major arpeggio (E G# B) with fingerings: 3 0 4 2 3 7 6 4, 5 9 9 7 6 7 9 9, 5 4 6 7 3 2 4 0, 0. The third system shows the E augmented arpeggio (E G# C) with fingerings: 8 7 6 7 6 9 10 9, 9 7 6 12 6 7 9 9, 10 9 6 7 6 7 6 7, 6.

13

17

Notice that I am using arpeggios that are more than two octaves long. I want to push you, dear student, to use more of the guitar neck when you play lines. Get into the habit of playing along the length of the neck as opposed to across it.

Assignment: Find some three-octave fingerings for the Cmaj7(b13) arpeggio. Practice them slowly with a metronome and gradually increase the speed.



Major 7(b13) Arpeggio Riffs



Example 11 is a combination of old and new styles. Bar 1 starts with a classic triplet figure. In bar 3 the line ends in a modern **McCoy Tyner** type of line.

♩ = 126

Cmaj7(b13)

Musical notation for Example 11, showing a 4-measure line in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The first measure contains a triplet of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4). The second measure contains a series of eighth notes (B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4). The third measure contains a series of eighth notes (E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3). The fourth measure contains a series of eighth notes (F3, E3, D3, C3, B2, A2). The bass line is written on a bass clef staff. The first measure contains the notes (F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4). The second measure contains the notes (E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5). The third measure contains the notes (D5, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4). The fourth measure contains the notes (E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3). The notation includes fingerings (1-4) and a triplet marking.



Example 12 shows a device used in many styles of music. It is basically a call-and-response type of line. The **call** and **response** are separated by range. In the third bar they flip flop.

♩ = 160

Cmaj7(b13)

Musical notation for Example 12, showing a 4-measure line in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The first measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The second measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The third measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The fourth measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The bass line is written on a bass clef staff. The first measure contains the notes (F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4). The second measure contains the notes (E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5). The third measure contains the notes (D5, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4). The fourth measure contains the notes (E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3). The notation includes fingerings (1-4) and a triplet marking.



Example 13 is out of the **Michael Brecker** book. It is a line that launches from a repeated figure and has a **sequence** that starts on beat 3 in bar 2 and continues throughout the rest of the line.

♩ = 160

Cmaj7(b13)

Musical notation for Example 13, showing a 4-measure line in 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The first measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The second measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The third measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The fourth measure contains a series of eighth notes (F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4). The bass line is written on a bass clef staff. The first measure contains the notes (F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4). The second measure contains the notes (E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5). The third measure contains the notes (D5, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4). The fourth measure contains the notes (E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3). The notation includes fingerings (1-4) and a triplet marking.

The Bebop Minor Scale

If you start on the 2nd degree of the bebop major scale you get a **Dorian bebop minor scale**.

For example: 1 2 $\flat 3$ 4 $\sharp 4$ 5 6 $\flat 7$

If you start on C: C D $E\flat$ F $F\sharp$ G $A\flat$

Notice that the $\sharp 4$ (or $\flat 5$) gives this scale a sound similar to the **blues scale** (1 $\flat 3$ 4 $\flat 5$ 5 $\flat 7$). The blues scale's six notes instead of five (in the regular minor pentatonic scale: 1 $\flat 3$ 4 5 $\flat 7$) make the use of triplets (groups of three notes) easier.

A different mode can be built on each step of the major bebop scale. A discussion of that topic is beyond the scope of this book. I will leave it to you to explore these possibilities on or own. For our purposes I am going to stick with the Dorian bebop scale; its combination of the 6th and $\flat 5$ works well in the jazz context.

Example 14 shows the Dorian bebop minor scale in C.

Example 14 shows the Dorian bebop minor scale in C. The notation includes a staff with the scale in 4/4 time and a corresponding tablature for the bass string (B) and treble string (T).

Example 15 shows the bebop minor scale fingerings across the fingerboard (C Dorian minor).

Example 15 shows the bebop minor scale fingerings across the fingerboard (C Dorian minor). The notation includes a staff with the scale in 4/4 time and a corresponding tablature for the bass string (B) and treble string (T) across three systems.

10

TAB

8 5 6 8 5 6 8 9 5 7 8 5 7 8 6 7 8 10 6 8 10 11

13

TAB

8 6 8 10 6 8 9 10 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 8 10 11 8 10 11 13

16

TAB

8 10 11 8 9 10 12 8 10 12 8 10 11 12 10 11 13 10 11 13 14

19

TAB

10 10 11 13 9 10 12 13 10 12 13 10 11 12 14 11 13 15 11 13 14 15

22

TAB

15 11 13 14 15 12 13 15 12 13 15 11 12 14 15 13 15 16 13 14 15 17

Bebop Minor Scale Riffs



Example 16 quotes from "It Ain't Necessarily So" in bars 1 and 2; then there is a classical riff in bar 3 that gets bluesified in bar 4.

$J = 86$
Cm7

Musical notation for Example 16, showing a 4-measure phrase in 4/4 time, Cm7. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a classical riff, and the last two measures contain a bluesified riff. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a classical riff, and the last two measures contain a bluesified riff. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a classical riff, and the last two measures contain a bluesified riff.



Example 17 shows some **rhythmic variation** at a brisk tempo. Notice how the line in bar 2 works out so well with the extra note (Gb). Don't forget, I use Gb when descending and F# when ascending in a line. It's easier to read.

$J = 160$

Cm7

Musical notation for Example 17, showing a 4-measure phrase in 4/4 time, Cm7. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a rhythmic variation, and the last two measures contain a rhythmic variation. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a rhythmic variation, and the last two measures contain a rhythmic variation. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a rhythmic variation, and the last two measures contain a rhythmic variation.



Example 18 is a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale to make your line fit in a single bar. Notice I'm **pedaling** off the five (G).

$J = 240$

Cm7

Musical notation for Example 18, showing a 4-measure phrase in 4/4 time, Cm7. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale, and the last two measures contain a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale, and the last two measures contain a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb), and a 4-measure phrase. The first two measures contain a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale, and the last two measures contain a classic up-tempo use of the bebop minor scale.

Bebop Minor Scale Chords

The bebop minor scale could be, and usually is, used to improvise over typical Dorian minor chords and chord progressions. To review your minor chord voicings, check out my book *Swing to Bebop*.

But for something very different, let's see what kinds of chords we can derive from the unique selection of notes available within the bebop minor scale.

For example, some of the chords that could be derived from the bebop minor scale are:

- C minor (7,11,13)
- C minor 7(b5)
- E $\flat$ minor
- A, C, E $\flat$, or F $\sharp$ diminished triads

For some interesting sounds, try placing the diminished triads over the Cm7 chord tones.

Example 19 shows some possible fingerings for the various diminished triads placed over the notes of a Cm7 chord.

Example 19 shows musical notation for various diminished triads placed over the notes of a Cm7 chord. The notation includes fingerings for each triad: 4fr, 7fr, 11fr, 2fr, 6fr, 8fr, and 13fr. Below the staff is a table of fret numbers for the Triad (T), Ab (A), and Bb (B) positions.

	1	4	7	11	2	6	8	11
T	1	4	7	11	2	6	8	11
A	2	5	8	11	4	7	10	13
B	4	7	10	13	5	8	11	14
	3	6	10	13			10	13

Assignment: Voice some chords with the root on the sixth string. It's easy. Just take each chord tone of a Cm7 chord (C, E $\flat$, G, B $\flat$) and then put one of the four diminished triads (A, C, E $\flat$, F $\sharp$) above it. Of course, do this in all keys!



Bebop Minor Scale Chord Riffs



Example 20 is a simple **Wes Montgomery** rhythmic figure. Wes used diminished chords often to harmonize any non-diatonic notes.

$J = 96$

Cm

Musical notation for Example 20, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as $J = 96$ and the key is Cm. The notation includes a series of chords and melodic lines with accents. Below the staff is a tablature for guitar, showing fret numbers for strings T, A, and B.

T	8	5	5	8	5	5	2	2	5
A	10	7	7	10	7	7	4	4	7
B	11	8	10	11	8	10	8	5	8



Example 21 is an up-tempo figure that pedals the bottom note. I suggest that you use your pick for the bottom note and your middle and ring fingers for the double stops.

$J = 120$

Cm

Musical notation for Example 21, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as $J = 120$ and the key is Cm. The notation includes a series of chords and melodic lines with accents. Below the staff is a tablature for guitar, showing fret numbers for strings T, A, and B.

T	1	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	7
A	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4
B	4	4	4	4	10	10	10	10	10

Musical notation for Example 21, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as $J = 120$ and the key is Cm. The notation includes a series of chords and melodic lines with accents. Below the staff is a tablature for guitar, showing fret numbers for strings T, A, and B.

T	1	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	7
A	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4
B	4	4	4	4	10	10	10	10	10



Example 22 breaks the chords up into **double stops** (two notes at once). I approach each chord tone from a half step below.

$J = 112$

Cm

Musical notation for Example 22, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as $J = 112$ and the key is Cm. The notation includes a series of chords and melodic lines with accents. Below the staff is a tablature for guitar, showing fret numbers for strings T, A, and B.

T	7	8	6	7	6	7	6	7	6
A	10	9	10	7	8	7	8	7	8
B	9	10	9	10	9	10	9	10	9

Bebop Minor Arpeggios

The arpeggios that you can create with the bebop minor scale are very interesting. Here are some that come to mind: Cm7, Cdim7, Cm13, Cm7(#11), Cm9.

Let's look at this arpeggio: Cm13 (in this case containing the 7, 9, #11, and 13).

I like to view this arpeggio as a Cm7 with a chromatic approach note to every chord tone except the root. You get C, D, Eb, F#, G, A, Bb. Pretty cool, no?

Example 23 shows some fingerings for this Cm13 arpeggio.

The image displays two musical examples of the Cm13 arpeggio in 4/4 time. Each example consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a guitar TAB staff below it. The first example shows a sequence of notes: C4, D4, Eb4, F#4, G4, A4, Bb4. The second example shows a sequence of notes: C4, D4, Eb4, F#4, G4, A4, Bb4. The TAB staff for each example shows the corresponding fret numbers for each note.

Example 1 TAB: T (), A (), B (3 2 3 5 6 3 5 6 4 5 2 3 5 3 4 2 3 5 6)

Example 2 TAB: T (), A (), B (8 10 11 9 10 7 8 10 7 8 10 11 8 10 11)

Notice anything weird about this arpeggio? It's all the notes in the bebop minor scale except the natural fourth (F). This arpeggio is really a seven-note scale! It could be thought of as a Dorian #11 scale.



Bebop Minor Arpeggio Riffs



Example 24 plays on the F# and G relationship in a **ballad** type of setting. It's pretty and dark sounding.

$\text{♩} = 60$

Cm

Musical notation for Example 24, a ballad-type bebop minor arpeggio riff in C minor. The tempo is 60 beats per minute. The notation includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The riff consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes marked with accents. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram showing the fingering for the riff, with strings labeled T (top), A, and B (bottom). The fingering sequence is: 5, 5, 4, 3, 2, 3, 5, 7, 3, 2, 4, 3, 3, 2.



Example 25 is an angular riff. It has a **diminished** sound to it because it moves up and down in minor thirds.

$\text{♩} = 210$

Cm

Musical notation for Example 25, an angular bebop minor arpeggio riff in C minor. The tempo is 210 beats per minute. The notation includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The riff consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes marked with accents. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram showing the fingering for the riff, with strings labeled T (top), A, and B (bottom). The fingering sequence is: 10, 7, 8, 7, 4, 4, 1, 2, 7, 4, 5, 10, 7, 8, 13, 10, 10, 7, 8, 13, 10, 10.



Example 26 shows a **Django Reinhardt** style riff. It's got that classical/gypsy minor vibe.

$\text{♩} = 102$

Cm

Musical notation for Example 26, a Django Reinhardt style bebop minor arpeggio riff in C minor. The tempo is 102 beats per minute. The notation includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The riff consists of a series of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes marked with accents. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram showing the fingering for the riff, with strings labeled T (top), A, and B (bottom). The fingering sequence is: 11, 11, 11, 8, 8, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 8, 7, 8, 8, 8, 7, 8, 8, 10, 8, 8, 10, 8, 8.

The Bebop Dominant 7 Scale

The bebop dominant 7 scale is a Mixolydian mode with a major 7 added. Just to get away from "C'ville," let's check out the F dominant 7 bebop scale.

F Mixolydian: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - b7 or F - G - A - Bb - C - D - Eb

F bebop dom. 7: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - b7 - 7 or F - G - A - Bb - C - D - Eb - E - F

Many beboppers, including **Charlie Parker**, used this scale often. He would play major 7 arpeggios on dominant 7 chords and use the major 7th as a tension note that could either resolve up to the root or down to the b7th—very hip. Check out the *Charlie Parker Omnibook*; it's full of examples of what we are discussing in this chapter.

Example 27: Bebop Dominant 7 Scale in F

There are many examples of this scale being used over its related minor II chord.

Example: C bebop dominant 7 scale can be used on a Gm7 chord. The notes would be:

G - A - Bb - B - C - D - E - F or 1 - 2 - b3 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - b7

This would give you a minor 3rd and a major 3rd on a minor 7 chord. Personally I prefer the sonorities of the minor bebop scale presented earlier in this chapter. But try both; you decide which you like better.

Here are some fingerings for the bebop dominant 7 scale. Notice again that they are mostly three and four notes per string.

Example 28: Bebop Dominant 7 Scale Fingerings (F Dominant 7)

7

TAB

8 5 6 8 5 6 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 8 9 6 8 10 6 8 10

10

TAB

8 6 8 10 6 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 8 9 10 8 10 11 8 10 11 12

13

TAB

8 8 10 11 12 8 10 12 8 10 12 8 9 10 12 10 11 13 10 11 12 13

16

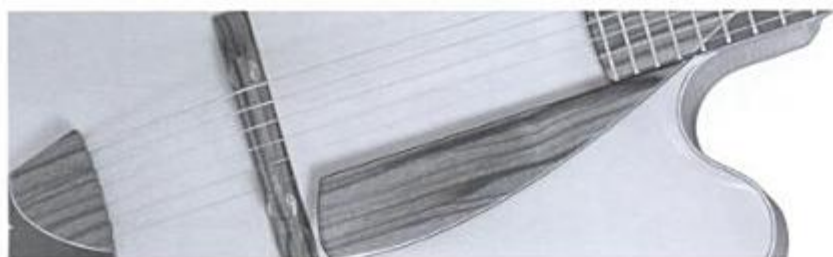
TAB

13 10 11 12 13 10 12 13 10 12 13 14 10 12 14 11 13 15 11 12 13 15

19

TAB

13 11 12 13 15 12 13 15 12 13 14 15 12 14 15 13 15 16 17 13 15 17



Bebop Dominant 7 Scale Riffs



Example 29 starts with an A minor triad over F7. In this case, the A minor triad is really being thought of as an F major 7 arpeggio without the root (F). This is a **Charlie Parker** type of line with a lot of eighth notes and a nice triplet figure in bar four.

♩ = 120

F7

TAB



Example 30 is a classic bebop line used by so many players that I don't know who to credit. It's all eighth notes—classic bebop!

♩ = 160

F7

TAB



Example 31 is a **repeating figure** that uses the three half steps found between the sixth (D) to the root (F)—D, Eb, E and F—to create a nice sequence in bars 1 and 2. In the third bar, I build a **C7 arpeggio** with the use of the Eb.

♩ = 120

F7

TAB

Bebop Dominant 7 Scale Chords

And yes, once again, the chords for the bebop dominant 7 scale are the same chords you would use for any dominant 7 scale. To review your dominant chord voicings (and there are plenty!), check out my book *Swing to Bebop*.

Instead, let's take a look at some triple stops. Even though we are going to be dealing with three notes, I am not calling them chords because I think of them as parts of chords or part of a larger chordal picture.

Triple stops are three notes played at the same time.

Check this out:

Lets build our triple stops in this way:

- Start on any note in F Mixolydian.
 - Then add the next note higher.
 - Then add your final note three notes higher than the second one.
- For example: F, G, D

Here are some fingerings for triple stops built in the above fashion. Guitarist and friend **Steve Khan** showed me this stacking of notes.

Example 32

Example 32 displays two musical staves illustrating triple stops for the F Mixolydian mode. The top staff is for the 4th string, and the bottom staff is for the 3rd string. Each staff shows a sequence of seven triple stops, each with a corresponding chord diagram above it. The notes are stacked in thirds, starting from the root of the mode (F) and moving up the scale.

4th string triple stops:

- Chord diagrams: F7, G7, A7, Bb7, C7, D7, Eb7.
- Notes (T, A, B): (1, 3, 5), (3, 5, 7), (4, 7, 9), (5, 7, 9), (6, 8, 10), (7, 9, 11), (8, 10, 12).

3rd string triple stops:

- Chord diagrams: F7, G7, A7, Bb7, C7, D7, Eb7.
- Notes (T, A, B): (1, 3, 5), (3, 5, 7), (4, 7, 9), (5, 7, 9), (6, 8, 10), (7, 9, 11), (8, 10, 12).

Doing these voicings on the lower strings tends to sound muddy because of the close interval on the bottom. That is why I only listed them with voicings starting on the fourth and third strings.

Bebop Dominant 7 Scale Chord Riffs



Example 33 is a medium tempo chord riff that demonstrates the dark, floating quality of these triple stops.

$\text{♩} = 120$

F7

Musical notation for Example 33, a medium tempo chord riff in 4/4 time. The notation shows a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes and quarter notes, with triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes. The bass line is a simple eighth-note pattern. Below the staff is a fretboard diagram for the guitar, showing the positions of the strings (T, A, B) and the fret numbers (1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 12) for the F7 chord.



Example 34 is a take-off on the bridge chords of McCoy Tyner's "Passion Dance." Mr. Tyner is a world-class practitioner of cool chord voicings.

$\text{♩} = 220$

F7

Musical notation for Example 34, a take-off on the bridge chords of McCoy Tyner's "Passion Dance." The notation shows a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes and quarter notes, with triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes. The bass line is a simple eighth-note pattern. Below the staff is a fretboard diagram for the guitar, showing the positions of the strings (T, A, B) and the fret numbers (3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12) for the F7 chord.



Example 35 is a Mike Stern type of line. Notice how there is a cycle (descending 5ths) feel created by going from the fourth to the third strings for the chords.

$\text{♩} = 110$

F7

Musical notation for Example 35, a Mike Stern type of line. The notation shows a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes and quarter notes, with triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes. The bass line is a simple eighth-note pattern. Below the staff is a fretboard diagram for the guitar, showing the positions of the strings (T, A, B) and the fret numbers (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20) for the F7 chord.

Bebop Dominant 7 Arpeggios

I want to show you something interesting about the bebop dominant 7 scale. But again, please check my book *Swing to Bebop* to see some traditional dominant 7 arpeggios.

If you take the notes in the F bebop dominant 7 scale, you can get an F7 and a C7 arpeggio:

F bebop dominant 7: F – G – A – B $\flat$ – C – D – E $\flat$ – E

F7 arpeggio: F – A – C – E $\flat$

C7 arpeggio: C – E – G – B $\flat$

Example 36 shows some fingerings that combine both the F7 and C7 arpeggios.

Example 36 displays three measures of a bebop dominant 7 scale in F major, with fingerings for the F7 and C7 arpeggios. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B $\flat$), and a 4/4 time signature. The scale is written as a single line of music, with the notes F, G, A, B $\flat$, C, D, E $\flat$, and E. The fingerings are indicated by numbers 1 through 18, with the letters T, A, and B marking the start of the F7 and C7 arpeggios respectively.

Measure 1: F (1), G (2), A (3), B $\flat$ (4), C (5), D (6), E $\flat$ (7), E (8).
Measure 2: F (9), G (10), A (11), B $\flat$ (12), C (13), D (14), E $\flat$ (15), E (16).
Measure 3: F (17), G (18), A (19), B $\flat$ (20), C (21), D (22), E $\flat$ (23), E (24).

Assignment: Come up with some more combination arpeggios for F7 and C7. Then, do this in all keys—with a metronome!

Bebop Dominant 7 Arpeggio Riffs



Example 37 plays on the half-steps between the natural and flat 7. Here is a fine example of the major 7 note (E $\sharp$) being used as a **tension note** (non-diatonic) over a dominant 7 chord.

$J = 156$
F7

T
A
B



Example 38 is another long eighth-note riff. In bebop there are a lot of long lines like this. This riff is a **sequence** alternating between C7 and F7 arpeggios.

$J = 160$
F7

T
A
B



Example 39 explores the **diminished triad** that exists in every dominant 7 arpeggio. The 3rd, 5th, and 7th of any dominant 7 chord spells a diminished triad.

$J = 180$
F7

T
A
B

"Rhythm Changes"

"Rhythm Changes" is to bebop as the 12-bar song form is to blues. There are many bebop songs based on the chord changes to George Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm." "Rhythm Changes" has to be mastered. Let's take a look at the structure.

First, here are just a few of the many bebop heads written over "Rhythm Changes":

- "Moose the Mooche" – Charlie Parker
- "Anthropology" – Charlie Parker
- "Red Cross" – Charlie Parker
- "Steeple Chase" – Charlie Parker
- "Oleo" – Sonny Rollins
- "Rhythm-A-Ning" – Thelonious Monk
- "Cotton Tail" – Duke Ellington

Don't forget to check out the original "I Got Rhythm"!

Listening and transcribing great recordings is where it's at, so get to it.

The Structure of "Rhythm Changes"

"Rhythm Changes" is a 32-bar song form in an AABA sequence, each section being eight bars in length. If you check out various heads written over "Rhythm Changes," you will see that there are many subtle variations to the chords. I am going to use a set of rhythm changes that has a lot of chord movement. We will examine "Rhythm Changes" in the key of B $\flat$. It is not the only key that "Rhythm Changes" is written in, but it is the most common.

Example 40 shows the first **A** section of a rather harmonically rich bebop version of "Rhythm Changes." The most basic way to break down the sound of the first A section is to say that the first four bars sound in B $\flat$ major. Bar 5 sounds in E $\flat$ major, bar 6 sounds in E $\flat$ minor, and bars 7 and 8 cycle back to the tonic key (III-VI-II-V). Notice the $\flat$ V substitution chords in bars 3 and 4 (D $\flat$ 9 for G7, and B9 for F7).

Chord Progression and Fingerings:

Bar	Chord	T	A	B
1	B $\flat$	3	3	1
2	Gm7	3	3	3
3	Cm7	4	3	3
4	C $\sharp$ dim7	5	3	4
5	Dm7	6	5	5
6	D $\flat$ 9	4	4	3
7	Cm7	4	3	3
8	B9	2	2	2
9	Fm9	8	8	8
10	B $\flat$ 13	7	7	6
11	E $\flat$ m9	6	6	6
12	A $\flat$ 13	4	5	4
13	Dm9	5	5	5
14	G13	5	4	5
15	Cm9	3	3	3
16	F13	3	2	1

Example 41 is the **second A section**. The major difference between the first and second A sections is the resolution to the tonic (B $\flat$) at the end of this section. The diminished chords in bars 1 and 2 can be thought of as **passing chords**, or V chords of the Cm7 and Dm7. I use $\flat$ V sub chords in bars 5, 6, and 7 (E9 subs for B $\flat$ 7, D9 subs for A $\flat$ 7, and B9 subs for F7).

System 1:

- Bar 1: B $\flat$ maj7 (6fr)
- Bar 2: Bdim7 (6fr)
- Bar 3: Cm7 (8fr)
- Bar 4: C $\sharp$ dim7 (8fr)
- Bar 5: Dm11 (8fr)
- Bar 6: G7($\flat$ 5)/D $\flat$ (8fr)
- Bar 7: Cm11 (6fr)
- Bar 8: F7($\flat$ 5)/C $\flat$ (6fr)

System 2:

- Bar 9: Fm9 (6fr)
- Bar 10: E9 (6fr)
- Bar 11: E $\flat$ m9 (4fr)
- Bar 12: D9 (4fr)
- Bar 13: Cm9 (3fr)
- Bar 14: B9 (2fr)
- Bar 15: B $\flat$ maj7 (3fr)

Example 42 shows the **B section**. It is a series of dominant 7 chords moving in a descending cycle of 5ths starting on the III chord (D). I used a descending melodic line on the top of the harmony throughout the first six bars of this section.

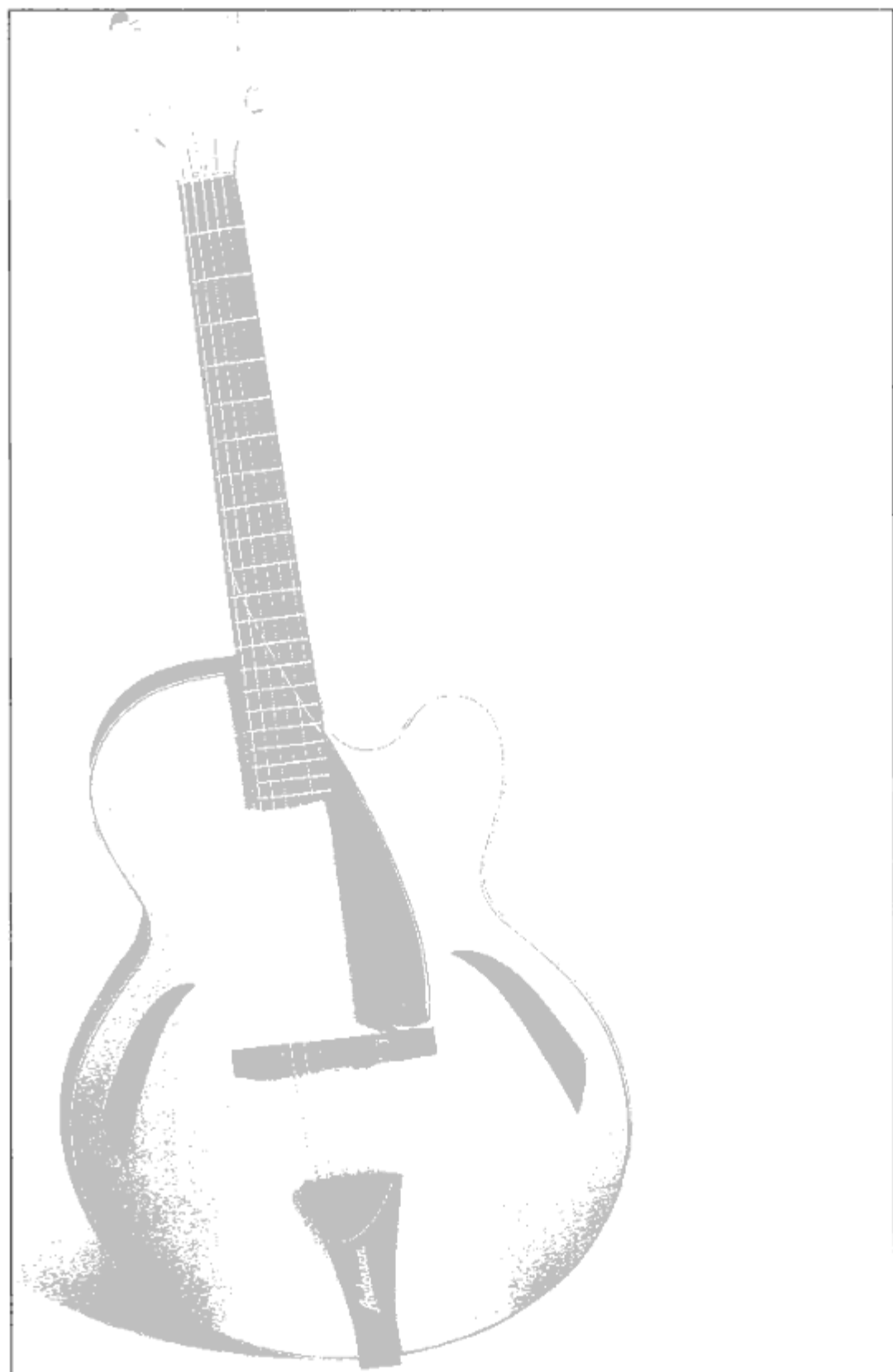
System 3:

- Bar 16: D13 (10fr)
- Bar 17: D13($\flat$ 9) (10fr)
- Bar 18: D7 (10fr)
- Bar 19: D7 (5fr)
- Bar 20: G7 (5fr)
- Bar 21: G13 (3fr)
- Bar 22: G13($\flat$ 9) (3fr)
- Bar 23: G7 (3fr)

Example 43 is the **final A section**. This section has the strongest cadence feel. The last four bars "push" to the V7 chord (F7). Notice I use two **slash chords** in the last two bars. One is rather tame (E $\flat$ /F) and one is rather tense (G $\flat$ /F). I saved the tensest harmonic moment for the last chord. This will really propel the next chorus with its resolution (release).

It is very important to get the harmonic sound of "Rhythm Changes" in your ear. By this I mean you need to hear what each section sounds like and what the harmonic intent of each section is.

The two summary solos that follow demonstrate two drastically different chord approaches to "Rhythm Changes" using the bebop scales we've looked at and their related chords and arpeggios.



Summary Solo #1



Example 44 is a solo over a fairly standard "Rhythm Changes." I tried to use mostly long bebop lines that emphasized the bebop scales.

Notes:

1. I start the Chorus with a melody quote.
2. I then go into a sequence-like line that emphasizes the B $\flat$ major bebop scale.
3. In bars 5 and 6 I use the bebop minor scale.
4. I cheat a little in bar 8 using the B $\natural$ as a lower neighbor tone on the F7 chord.
5. Bars 9 through 12 are those cool triple stops we went over earlier (Ex. 32) in action.
6. Bars 13 through 16 show an extreme example of exploiting the half steps in the chord related bebop scales.
7. The B section starts with the classic line (Ex. 30) we looked at earlier, but it has a more ornate ending.
8. I end the B section with that tense G $\flat$ 7/F chord. I'm pretty much just doing an arpeggio over it.
9. The last A section features some cool chord stuff keeping a B $\flat$ on top of each chord.
10. The solo ends with my playing that same F $\sharp$ 7 line but with the standard chords underneath it.

Solo #1

$\text{♩} = 132$

A B $\flat$ Gm7 Cm7 C $\sharp$ dim7 Dm11 F/G Cm7($\flat$ 5) F7

T 6 8 6 6 5 8 6 10 8 6 7 11 10 7 0 13 11 10 13 11 10 12 11 10 13 10

A

B

5 Fm7 B $\flat$ 7 E $\flat$ m7 A $\flat$ 13 Dm7 G7 Cm7 F7

T 8 9 7 8 6 7 6 5 6 4 6 5 6 5 8 7 6 5 4 6 8 4 7 5 4 5

A

B

A B $\flat$ $\flat$ 6 Gm7 Cm7 C $\sharp$ dim7 Dm7 G7 Cm11 F7

T 6 10 8 10 8 10 8 13 12

A 5 9 7 9 7 10 8 10

B 8 12 10 12 10 12 10

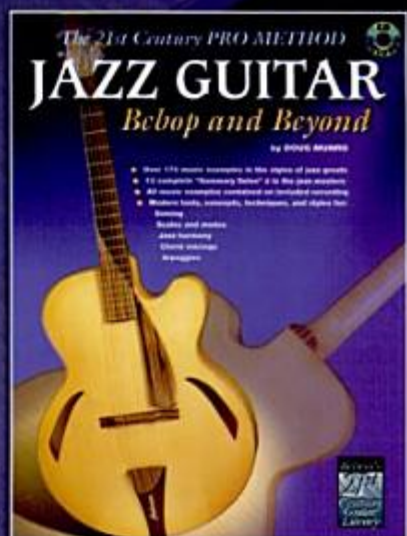


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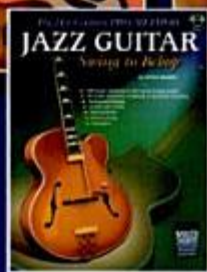
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