

Improvisation Vocabulary: Common Rhythms 1

Here are a handful of rhythm possibilities commonly played in jazz.

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Improvisers can build lines by combining notes from any scale or arpeggio with these rhythms.

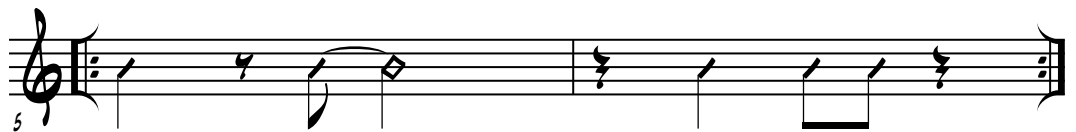
Rhythm section players can comp using these rhythms.

Begin with one measure ideas to warm up. Later, explore mixing and matching the single measure ideas to build longer lines.



Try to memorize these two-measure phrases.

Later, combine them to make longer lines.



Explore varied lengths on all of the pitches here. Shorten a half note, lengthen an eighth note. Whatever. Does the character of the music change significantly with such adjustments?



Which two bar motif is expanded upon here?



Some students have very natural rhythmic vocabulary and find rhythmic directions like these cumbersome. Still others struggle with the *where and when* question while improvising. Like most pages in this book, evaluate the usefulness as it applies to *you*. There are no requirements.