

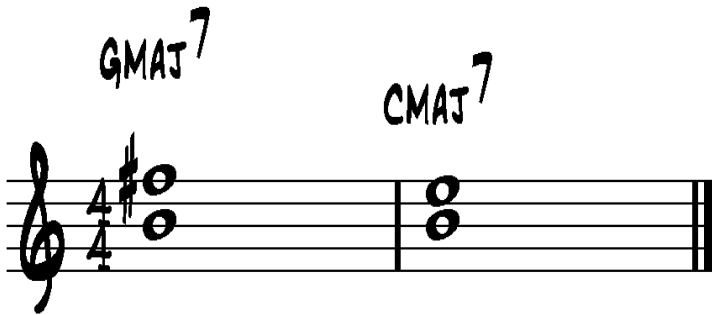
# USING GUIDE TONES IN YOUR SOLO

BY BILL DRUCK V.01

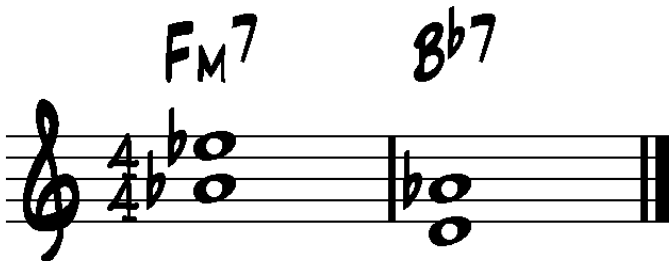
A very important tool (one of many) in improvising is the use of guide tones. Guide tones are the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of the chord. This pertains to major 7<sup>th</sup>, minor 7<sup>th</sup> or dominant 7<sup>th</sup>. If you happen to stumble across a sixth chord (such as a “C6”) the guide tones are the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The use of the guide tones can add “color” to your solos. Also, using guide tones, you can define the harmony and the quality of the chord progression especially when there is no keyboard but only guitar and bass. Often in this circumstance the guide tones are placed near the beginning of the measure or when the chord changes to a new chord.

Here are some examples:

Major 7<sup>th</sup> guide tones



Minor 7<sup>th</sup> to Dominant 7<sup>th</sup> guide tones



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Guide tones in use

