

Intervals

It is very important to be able to play all intervals on your instrument, starting from m3's to M7's at least. These intervals are found in all types of music, and playing them will help you hear them better as well as help with the development of your technique. Intervals are the building blocks for melodic and thematic development in jazz improvisation.

example 1 - minor thirds (up in half steps)

(etc., up full range of horn then down)



5 example 2 - minor thirds (up in half steps starting with upper note)

(etc., up full range of horn then down)



9 example 3 - minor thirds (up one down the next)

(etc., up full range of horn then down)



13 example 4 - minor thirds (down one up the next)

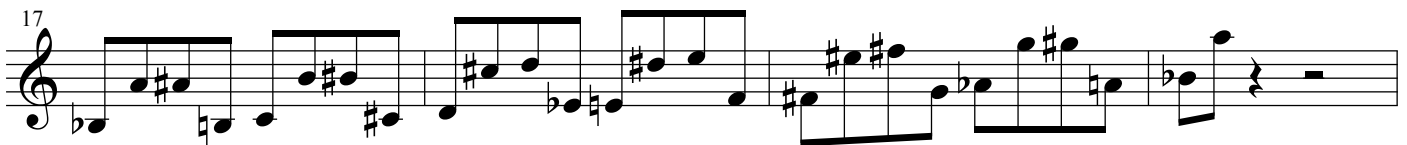
(etc., up full range of horn then down)



Do all four examples with all intervals: m3, M3, P4, TT, P5, m6, M6, m7, M7 plus m9, M9, etc..

example 5 - major sevenths (up in half steps)

(etc., up full range of horn then down)



Remember, you can always mess with the rhythm. Phrase the 2's in 3's or start on different beats.

21 example 6 - rhythmic displacement of minor 3rds by one 8th note



Musical notation for Example 6, showing a sequence of notes with a rhythmic displacement of minor 3rds by one 8th note. The notation is in treble clef and 7/8 time. It consists of 14 measures. The first measure starts with a quarter rest followed by an eighth note. The next two measures contain eighth notes. The following four measures are groups of eighth notes: a pair of eighth notes, a pair of eighth notes, a pair of eighth notes, and a pair of eighth notes. The final two measures are a pair of eighth notes followed by a quarter rest.

25 example 7 - phrasing the 2 note grouping in 3's



Musical notation for Example 7, showing a sequence of notes with phrasing of 2 note groupings in 3's. The notation is in treble clef and 7/8 time. It consists of 14 measures. The first measure starts with a quarter rest followed by an eighth note. The next two measures contain eighth notes. The following four measures are groups of eighth notes: a pair of eighth notes, a pair of eighth notes, a pair of eighth notes, and a pair of eighth notes. The final two measures are a pair of eighth notes followed by a quarter rest.

29 example 8 - phrasing the 2 note grouping in 3's with displacement by one 8th note



Musical notation for Example 8, showing a sequence of notes with phrasing of 2 note groupings in 3's with displacement by one 8th note. The notation is in treble clef and 7/8 time. It consists of 14 measures. The first measure starts with a quarter rest followed by an eighth note. The next two measures contain eighth notes. The following four measures are groups of eighth notes: a pair of eighth notes, a pair of eighth notes, a pair of eighth notes, and a pair of eighth notes. The final two measures are a pair of eighth notes followed by a quarter rest.

You can see how you could go on and on with endless variations. Come up with your own and have fun with it. One good practice idea is to work on one interval per week. That way you really get inside of it. When you add the next interval remember to go back and review the one you did before.