

How To Construct a Blues Turnaround

1. Start with a I-V-I progression. (I-V-I = C7-G7-C7)

Step 1: I-V-I progression (C7-G7-C7). The notation shows a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The bass line is indicated by a 'T' (Treble) and 'B' (Bass) label. The chords are C7, G7, and C7. The bass line for C7 is 3, and for G7 is 3. The treble line for C7 is 8, and for G7 is 6. The notation includes repeat signs and a double bar line at the end.

2. Back fill the I-V-I progression with secondary dominants. (D7 = V of G7, A7 = V of D7)

Step 2: Back fill the I-V-I progression with secondary dominants. The notation shows a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The chords are C7, A7, D7, G7, and C7. The bass line for C7 is 3, for A7 is 5, for D7 is 5, for G7 is 3, and for C7 is 3. The treble line for C7 is 8, for A7 is 6, for D7 is 6, for G7 is 6, and for C7 is 8. The notation includes repeat signs and a double bar line at the end.

3. Create a walking bassline by approaching the root of each chord by a half step from above or below.

Step 3: Create a walking bassline by approaching the root of each chord by a half step from above or below. The notation shows a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The chords are C7, A7, D7, G7, and C7. The bass line for C7 is 3, for A7 is 4, for D7 is 5, for G7 is 6, and for C7 is 3. The treble line for C7 is 8, for A7 is 6, for D7 is 6, for G7 is 6, and for C7 is 8. The notation includes repeat signs and a double bar line at the end.

4. Add some upper notes to fill out the chord (3rds and 7ths work best) and create a comping effect.

Step 4: Add some upper notes to fill out the chord (3rds and 7ths work best) and create a comping effect. The notation shows a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The chords are C7, A7, D7, G7, and C7. The bass line for C7 is 3, for A7 is 6, for D7 is 5, for G7 is 4, and for C7 is 3. The treble line for C7 is 8, for A7 is 6, for D7 is 6, for G7 is 6, and for C7 is 8. The notation includes repeat signs and a double bar line at the end.