JAZZ IS...

- AMERICAN MUSIC that originated at the beginning of the 20th century
- A BLEND of many influences:
 - · African melodies, rhythms, and instruments
 - European melodies, harmonies, and instruments
 - Early American musical styles such as Blues, Work Songs, Spirituals and Hymns, Ragtime, and Marches
 - More Recent Styles such as Rock, Afro-Cuban, and other Latin styles
- HIGHLY RHYTHMIC MUSIC, having historical connections with movement and dance
- ullet MOSTLY IMPROVISED jazz musicians don't rely completely on written parts

THE JAZZ ENSEMBLE

CAN VARY IN SIZE

From Small Combos – usually three to nine pieces with individual instruments To Large Ensembles – made up of "sections" (brass, reeds, rhythm, and strings)

EVERY PART IS IMPORTANT

Unlike Concert Bands and Orchestras which may have many players on a part, Jazz Ensembles usually have one player on each part.

• HAS A RICH TRADITION

The original "jazz" bands were marching bands that played for social events.

Throughout the 20th century the instrumentation of jazz bands grew:

Jelly Roll Morton's Band in 1926 had 7 pieces

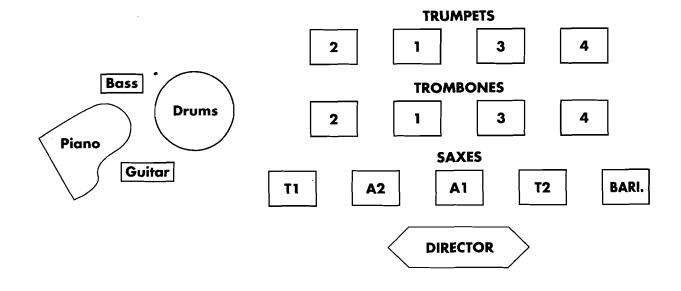
Duke Ellington's Band in 1942 had 17 pieces

Stan Kenton's Neophonic Orchestra in 1955 had 23 players

The standard instrumentation of the jazz band today is:

4 trumpets, 4 trombones, 5 saxes, piano, guitar, bass, and drums

Traditional Set-up



IMPROVISATION

- IMPROVISATION IS COMPOSING AND PERFORMING MUSIC AT THE SAME TIME
 - Jazz is usually improvised within the structure of a song or song-form
 - Music was improvised by the Greeks as early as 400 BC
 - Musicians of all cultures improvise to some degree

IS JAZZ IMPROVISATION DIFFICULT?

- Like learning a new language, it takes a little time but soon gets easier
- The key: to start and not be afraid to make mistakes (a natural part of learning)
- Everyone can learn to improvise with practice and help from a teacher

• HOW DO I START?

- By listening to great jazz artists
- By imitating the sounds you hear (and writing them down)
- By developing good technique so you can play the sounds you hear in your head
- By jumping in and giving it a try!

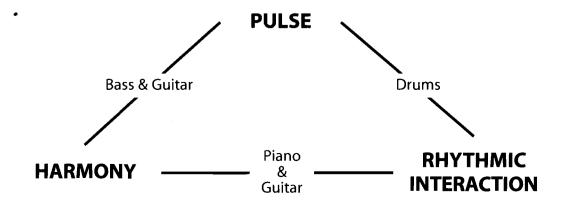
THE RHYTHM SECTION

All Jazz musicians need to understand the unique roles of the RHYTHM SECTION. Normally made up of piano, bass, guitar, and drums, it provides three of the basic elements of jazz performance:

- PULSE steady time keeping
- HARMONY playing the chords, providing harmonic accompaniment for melodies and improvisations
- RHYTHMIC INTERACTION playing the rhythmic accompaniment for melodies and improvisations

Like a good conversation, jazz relies on interaction and communication.

All three elements are needed for jazz: Pulse, Harmony, and Rhythmic Interaction. But no one player in the rhythm section does all three jobs — they are divided among the players. If you map out the relationships, it would look like a triangle:



HE BASICS OF JAZZ STYLE

Attacks and Releases

In traditional music (Concert Band and Orchestra) you use a "Tah" articulation to begin a note and taper the note at the end.



In jazz it is common to use a "Doo" attack (soft and legato) to begin a note. It is also common to end the note with the tongue. This "tonguestop" gives the music a rhythmic feeling.

ATTACKS AND RELEASES



Accepting "2 and 4"

For most traditional music the important beats in 4/4 time are 1 and 3. In jazz, however, the emphasis is usually on beats 2 and 4. Emphasizing "2 and 4" gives the music a jazz feeling.





ACCENTING 2 AND 4



Playing Doo and Bah (Full Value Notes)

In jazz, notes marked with a dash (tenuto) or an accent are played full value with a soft legato articulation. The scat (vocal) syllables "Doo" and "Bah" will help you hear the sound of these articulations. Remember in jazz it is important to play full value notes with a legato articulation.





Note: The "Bah" articulation is used only when vocalizing the scat syllables." Bah" helps demonstrate the appropriate amount of accent. When articulating on your instrument use the syllable "Dah."

DOO AND BAH



Playing Dit and Dot (Short or Detached Notes)

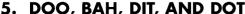
In jazz, notes marked with a staccato or a roof top accent are about half of full value. The scat syllables "Dit" and "Dot" will help you hear the sound of these articulations.





DIT AND DOT







Swing 8th Notes Sound Different Than They Look

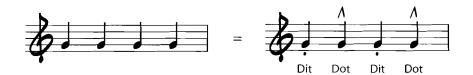
In swing, the 2nd 8th note of each beat is actually played like the last third of a triplet, and slightly accented. 8th notes in swing style are usually played legato.

5. SWING 8TH NOTES Sing the scat syllables of each exercise before you play it.



Quarter Notes

Quarter notes in swing style are usually played detached (staccato) with accents on beats 2 and 4.



7. QUARTERS AND 8THS



8. MORE QUARTERS AND 8THS



Important Tip: Notes at the ends of phrases are usually played short and accented.



Quarter Notes

Quarter notes in swing style jazz are usually played staccato.



Swing 8th Notes

8th notes in swing style jazz are usually played legato.



Doo Bah Doo Bah

Doo Bah Doo Bah Dit

Syncopation in Jazz

When beats are played early (anticipated) or played late (delayed), the music becomes syncopated. Syncopation makes the music sound "jazzy."





"Jazzin' Up" the Melody with Syncopation

Syncopation is the first step to improvising in a jazz style. Early jazz musicians syncopated all types of music, including marching band tunes, hymns, and blues songs. They called it raggin' the melody.

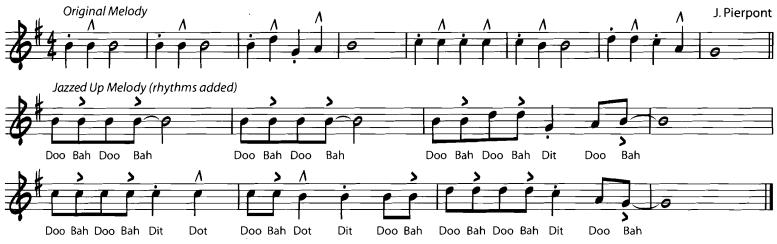
25. "JAZZIN' UP" A-TISKET A-TASKET



"Jazzin' Up" the Melody by Adding Rhythms

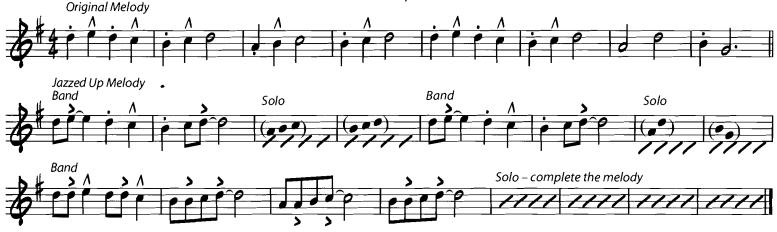
Adding rhythms to a melody is another easy way to improvise in a jazz style. Start by filling out long notes with repeated 8th and quarter notes. Remember to swing the 8th notes (play legato and give the upbeats an accent).

26. "JAZZIN' UP" JINGLE BELLS



MAKE UP YOUR OWN (IMPROVISE)

27. LONDON BRIDGE Complete the melody in your own "jazzed up" way. Use only the notes shown in parentheses. Slashes on the staff indicate when to improvise.



Helpful Hint: Using The Melody Is Never Wrong

When starting to improvise, keep the melody in your mind. It is a helpful guide for beginning improvisers.





Style Review - Swing

- Use a soft "doo" attack rather than a "tah" attack
- Play quarter notes detached (staccato) unless otherwise marked
- Play notes followed by a rest staccato and accented -
- Play 8th notes connected (legato) unless otherwise marked
- Play 8th notes with a triplet subdivision
- Accent 8th notes on the upbeats (the "and" of the beat)
- Accent quarter notes on beats "2" and "4"
- Use the scat syllables "doo", "bah", "dit", and "dot" to suggest the sound of each jazz articulation