



Jazz Improvisation

One of the key aspects of jazz music is referred to as improvisation. **Improvisation** is when performers create a melody on the spot that is based on a given chord progression. Here are some patterns to play with the right hand. These are jazz “licks” that you can use in an improvised solo. Notice there are only note heads. Improvise in a jazz-style rhythm.



Now, mix up the patterns. Play them in a different order, like 2-1-3-4.

Change the rhythm.

You're improvising!

Let's add another note to the blues scale. This time, you'll have to cross over your third finger (middle) to play the Bb.



More patterns using the blues scale



If your keyboard has a pitch-bend control, try adding bends to your improvised solo.

The Jazz Jam Session

In a jazz “jam session,” the parts include:

- Melody
- Improvised solos
- Repeat of the melody
- Ending

Create a jazz jam session. You can perform it yourself, or along with others on keyboards or instruments.

Jazz Themes



Here is a classic jazz ending.



Play this as an introduction to a jazz piece.

