

This first lesson on improv8ing uses the common chord progression of I IV ii V

2 Hints on Improvis8ion

C C C C F F F F

Dm Dm Dm Dm G G G G7

HINT 1: When starting out, try playing one chord for two bars with a steady beat. This gives you a platform for improvising on 8 bars.

HINT 2: There is no compulsion to use the quality of the chords provided. You may choose any chord definition / type you are familiar with.

HINT 3: While listening to the chords, try to create a melody/ theme using notes from the chord. The lines in the chart above suggest connecting notes between each beat and each bar (measure). Remember THERE ARE NO WRONG NOTES. You can use every note in a scale against every chord of the scale / key you are playing in.

HINT 4: You may use whatever note duration you like on any beat. e.g. Whole notes, Half notes, Quarter notes, Eighth or Sixteenth notes.

HINT 5: You can use this 8 bar progressions as a guide and set it to any Rhythm / Genre you prefer.

HINT 6: Music phrases are usually written and can be played in groups of 2, 4 or 8 bars.

A 2 bar phrase is usually referred to as a “lick”

A 4 bar phrase is usually referred to as a “riff”

An 8 bar phrase is usually called a “cadence”.

When starting out, try aiming for the Dominant Triad or Tertachord (V or V7) of the key at the 8<sup>th</sup> bar / measure.

HINT 7: Keep your eyes on this space for more Hints on Improvis8ion, especially Cadences.