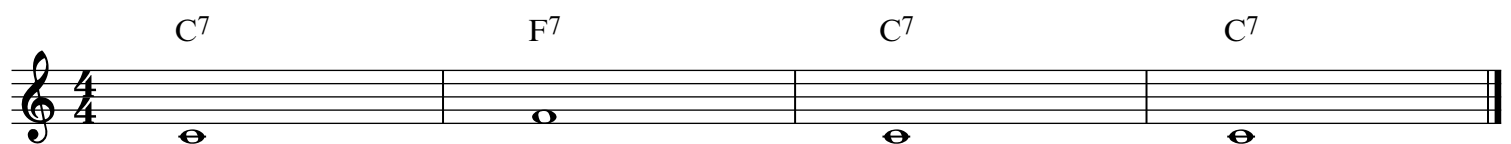


Learning chord progressions

In order to improvise confidently over any chord progression, it is important first to become familiar with the notes in each chord and the sequence of the chords within the music. By following the steps below, you will learn techniques that you can apply when mastering the chords and chord progressions of any tune.

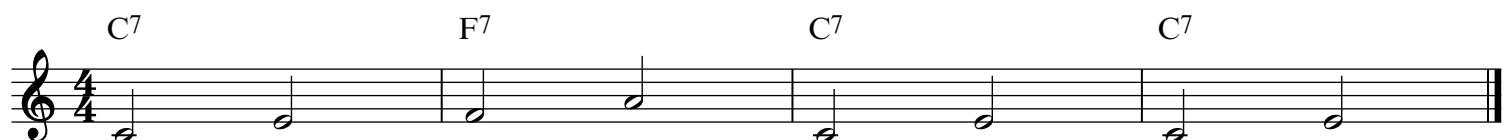
To get started, play the **1st note** of each chord in semibreves. We will demonstrate this by using the first four bars of a blues in C.



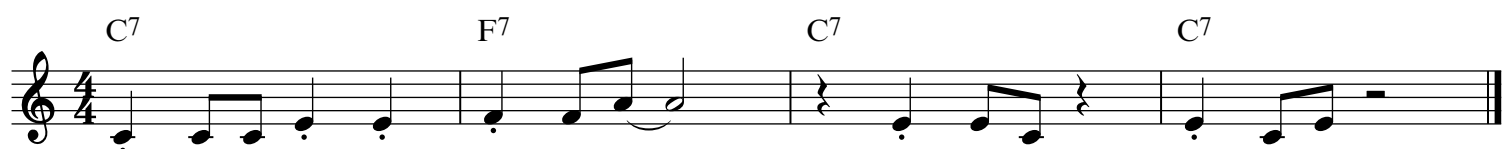
Next, try making up a **solo**, using just the 1st note of each chord but experimenting with a variety of **rhythms**. For example:



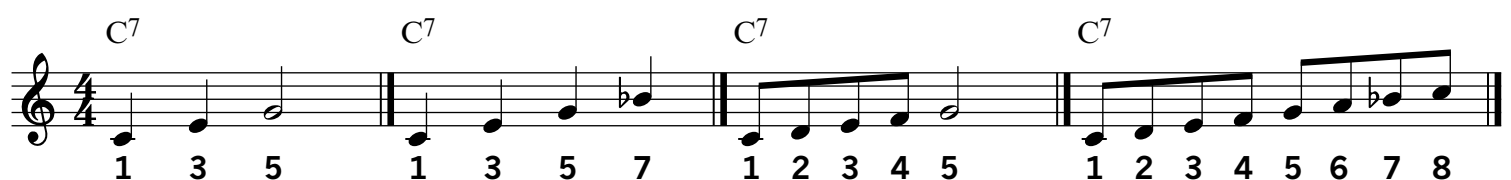
Now, play the **1st and 3rd notes** of each chord in minims.



Next, make up a solo based on these notes, using rhythmic variations. For example:



Continue to learn the notes of each chord, and create your solos based on each group of notes. Some other combinations of notes to try are listed below.



Playing along with the CD

The CD provides the backing to every tune in *Creative Clarinet Improvising*. Each track includes space for you to solo.

Try the following approach:

- 🎧 **Tune up** using the tuning note located on track **17**. The tuning note is **B**.
- 🎧 **Warm up** by playing the **chord warm up** and the **solo scales** located on the left-hand page next to each piece.
- 🎧 Start by learning to play the **melody**, without the CD.
- 🎧 Next, learn to play the **solo ideas** or **melody variation** for the piece, without the CD.
- 🎧 Now, with the CD, play the melody the first time and on the second time *take a solo*. Use the chord warm up, solo scales, and solo ideas or melody variation for inspiration, and as a guide for choosing your notes when you are improvising. The numbers written next to the solo instruction—for example **Solo x4 0:41**—tell you how many times the solo section is repeated and where the solo section begins on the CD.
- 🎧 Return to the melody on the final time through to conclude the tune.
- 🎧 Remember to listen closely to the count-in at the beginning of each tune.
- 🎧 Have a great time!

Modal jazz

Creative
Clarinet
Improvising

Modal jazz first became popular in the late 1950s with the release of the album *Kind of Blue* by the legendary trumpet player Miles Davis. Characteristics of this style include:

- 🎵 simple melodies
- 🎵 few chord changes
- 🎵 space

Modal behaviour

Chord warm up



Solo scales



Solo ideas



1 Modal behaviour

Swing ♩ = 120

Kellie Santin

3

mf

D7 C7 D7 C7

D7 C7 D7 C7

D7 Eb7 D7 C7

p cresc.

D7 C7 D7 C7 **Fine**

mf

The main score consists of five staves of music in 4/4 time, key of D major. The first staff begins with a whole rest followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The subsequent staves contain various rhythmic patterns including eighth and sixteenth notes, often with accents (^) and slurs. Chord changes are indicated above the staff: D7, C7, D7, C7, D7, Eb7, D7, C7. The piece concludes with a double bar line and the word 'Fine'.

Solo x4 0:41

D7 C7 D7 C7

D7 Eb7 D7 C7

D7 C7 D7 C7 **D.S. al Fine**

The solo section consists of three staves of music. The first staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The music features eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Chord changes are indicated: D7, C7, D7, C7, D7, Eb7, D7, C7. The section ends with a double bar line and the instruction 'D.S. al Fine'.

Play 4th time only