

HOW TO SOLO OVER AUTUMN LEAVES WITH CHORD TONES

1. Learn the 4 notes of each chord by heart:

Am⁷



D⁷



G^{maj7}



F[♯]m⁷(b5)



B⁷



E^{m7}



2. Learn each chord throughout the range of your instrument:

Am⁷



D⁷



G^{maj7}



F[♯]m⁷(b5)



4. Learn the harmony of the whole song by heart. Start again with the root only, then add the third and so forth (lead sheet on the next page). I recommend using a play-along from that step onwards.

5. If you can do step 3 without thinking nor peaking at the lead sheet, you're ready to improvise! Start by improvising with the root of each chord, then add the second note and so forth. You can also mix it up and use f.e. the root and the fifth as 2 notes to improvise with.

6. After you mastered step 5, you can now play a solo using the chord tones of each chord throughout the range of your instrument (see step 2).

Some tips for improvising:

- leave space to maintain control when practicing
- try to vary the length of your phrases and the length of the space in-between (1 bar, 2 bars, 1/2 bar, etc.) to keep it interesting
- Do you want to improve fast? Then practice without a play-along, so you can stop and correct yourself when you play something you didn't intend to play

AUTUMN LEAVES

JOSEPH KOSMA

A

Am⁷ D⁷ G^{maj7} ∕∕

5 F#m^{7(b5)} B⁷ Em⁷ ∕∕

B

9 F#m^{7(b5)} B⁷ Em⁷ ∕∕

13 Am⁷ D⁷ G^{maj7} ∕∕

C

17 F#m^{7(b5)} B⁷ Em⁷ ∕∕

21 F#m^{7(b5)} B⁷ Em⁷ ∕∕