

Jazz Saxophone: Lesson overview

BEGINNERS:

If you're new to the saxophone, it is very important for you to understand some fundamentals about how your instrument and your body work together; this will ensure you are always able to get the best out of your horn, and will even help prevent injuries that might occur.

In this course you will learn techniques that will allow you to speak through your instrument efficiently, and with a clear voice. We will also start investigating the subject of improvisation by using simple and effective tools.

Here's some of the course's main topics:

- Saxophone mechanics
- Diaphragmatic breathing exercises
- Postural and Fingering exercises
- Basic music notation / Sight-reading
- Major/Pentatonic scale drills
- The 12-bar Blues and the Blues scale
- Basic form analysis
- Rhythmic development and Pronunciation
- How to practice

INTERMEDIATE:

As an aspiring jazz saxophonist, you probably heard many times about the fact that this music functions as a language. Even if your mind is already filled with plenty of beautiful music ideas, you'll need to learn how to translate those on your instrument, creating an instant connection between your imagination and your instrument.

Here's some of the course's main topics:

- Overtones and Embouchure exercises
- Jazz etudes
- Swinging
- Modes and Scale-chord theory
- Chord progressions, Lines and Transposition
- Triads and Approach notes
- 7th chords and inversions
- Language, Patterns and Licks
- Transcribing
- Jazz analysis

ADVANCED:

So here you are, you practiced your standard heads, you know your scales, and you have your own collection of trusted licks to run over the changes. But maybe you're getting tired of playing always the same musical material, or at times you're not really satisfied with your harmonic choices. It's time for you to find ways to speak a more personal language through your horn!

Here's some of the course's main topics:

- Overtone scales and Altissimo
- Spread triads
- Bebop scales and their use
- Multi-chord theory
- Bass lines
- Rules of limitation
- Composing solo lines / Transcribing yourself
- Advanced transcribing / Improving the vocabulary
- Motivic and Rhythmic development
- Comping singers and other soloists