

Walking Bass

Walking bass lines are very common in blues and jazz styles. Although the rhythm is quite simple, four quarter notes per bar, there are infinite possibilities for connecting your lines.

Here are some suggestions you should follow for all the bass lines found in the next eight chapters. Following these suggestions will maximize your bass line building skills.

1. Play all examples in every key.
2. Play all examples at various tempos (speeds).
3. Use theme and variation ideas to create your own lines.
4. Use the discography at the end of each chapter and LISTEN to the masters.

Let's start with the most common bass walks and build from there. Have fun!

Track 5.1

Two-bar patterns

A) $\text{♩} = 120$ G7

B) G7

C) G7

D) G7

Track 5.2

One-bar patterns in different keys

A) $\text{♩} = 120$ B \flat 7

B) C7

C) A7

D) E7

E) D7

F) E7

G) G7

H) A7