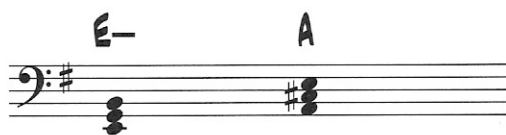


The chord symbols above the melody tell everyone which chords they should play. The first part of “Sweet” is based on two chords: E minor (E-) and A major (A).



PERFORMANCE TIP

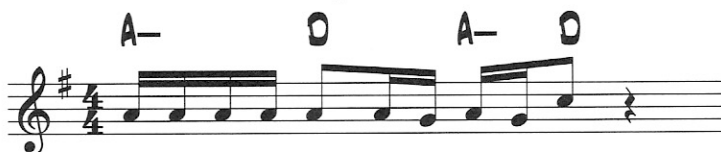
Chord symbols don't specify any rhythms. They don't even tell you exactly what notes to play. They just tell you that the band will play an E minor chord with that melody. You can play any notes, as long as your part fits in, or *hooks up*, with what the rest of the band is playing.

Different bass players will create different parts to the same tune. This is one of the coolest things about lead-sheet notation: it leaves room for individual interpretation.

Bass lines usually start with the bottom chord note, or the *root*, especially on the first beat of each measure. In the first lick of “Sweet,” the notes E and A are the most important. They are the root notes of the chords E minor and A major. The note G is in the E minor chord, and it connects the two chords.



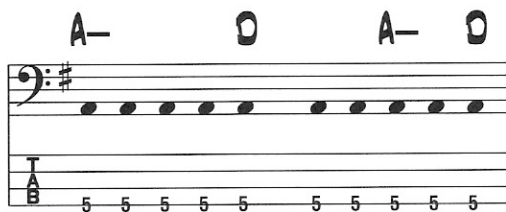
Here is what the lead sheet looks like for the second part of “Sweet.”



As you can see, there are two more chords here: A minor (A-) and D major (D).



The second bass lick uses the note A, which is in both these chords. It has the same rhythm as the melody.



LISTEN 3 PLAY

Play “Sweet” along with the recording and listen for the chord changes. Notice how the bass notes sound with the chords played by the other instruments.