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).

![Chord Symbols]

**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.

![Lead Sheet]

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

![Lead Sheet 2]

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

![Chord Symbols 2]

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

![Bass Lick]

**LISTEN & 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.