

Chord-Tone Drill

1. play chord tones in eights notes, starting from the lowest possible root note of each chord in this position in this case 5th position, do this for all positions

Musical notation for the first drill: a single staff in G major showing eighth-note runs for Am7, D7, and Gma7 chords.

2. the same, but when the chord changes go to the next possible chord tone of the new chord in playing direction you get different transition points from one chord to the other every time

Musical notation for the second drill: three staves in G major showing eighth-note runs for Am7, D7, and Gma7 chords with staggered transition points. The third staff ends with a rest and the word "etc." below it.

THAT'S MUCH HARDER THAN YOU MAY THINK, CHOOSE A SLOW TEMPO
IF IT'S STILL TOO HARD TURN CHOOSE AN EVEN SLOWER TEMPO

3. play one chord tone on the one of each bar, try to create a line which makes sense (avoid wide intervals)
AFTER PLAYING THE NOTE THINK AHEAD OF THE NEXT CHORD

Musical notation for the third drill: four staves in G major showing single chord tones for Am7, D7, and Gma7 chords across four bars. The fourth staff ends with a rest and the word "etc." above it.

THINKING AHEAD AND CONTINUOUS CONCENTRATION
ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS IN THIS EXERCISE

4. fill this line up with some connecting notes (only chord tones), stick to the line, a long chord tone on the first beat of every bar

DON'T PLAY MORE THAN YOU ARE ABLE TO 'THINK', IF THE LINE GETS LOST - PLAY LESS

Am⁷ D⁷ Gma⁷

etc.

Do this with any kind of chord progression, standard, etc.
 If the whole progression is too hard start with a section of the tune.
 It's also a good way to learn a new tune.

Do the same with:
 scales
 extended arpeggios (9/11/13)
 patterns
 etc.