

PART ONE

LESSON 1

First we shall work with chords. Chords are very important to a jazz musician. The old style of strumming chords for guitar will never do in modern playing, so we will have to work out a complete system. With this style of chords you will learn to play chord solos, make all kinds of introductions, play background for horn players, and all kinds of tricky fillins.

Below you have 26 chords which you must learn to use right away. There are more chords to learn, but these are the most important. We have to limit ourselves to the most important chords, because, as you know, there are so many meaningless chords for guitar that this has to be done.

For your first lesson you are to just study them, "you know," try to finger them, learn names of them, and so on. If you will notice, some of these chords are designed for the key of G major and some for C major. These are the two keys that we are going to work with first. From these keys we will transpose to all of the other keys.

It is very important that everything in the book be transposed to all of the other keys. You should be able to play any song in any key by the time you finish this book, and learning to transpose is the only thing that can help you to do this.

Get a music writing book, and write everything in it for retaining as you go on.

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| ① G | ② Gma7 | ③ Gma6 | ④ Ami7 | ⑤ Ami6 | ⑥ D13 \flat 5 \flat 9 | ⑦ Gma7 |
| ⑧ * Gma7 or Emi9 | ⑨ A13 \flat 9 | ⑩ D13 | ⑪ D13 \flat 9 | ⑫ Gma6 | ⑬ D11 | ⑭ D7 \flat 5 |
| ⑮ C | ⑯ Cma7 | ⑰ Cma6 | ⑱ Dmi7 | ⑲ Dmi6 | ⑳ Dmi7 | ㉑ G7 \sharp 5 \flat 9 |
| | ㉒ Cma9 | ㉓ G13 | ㉔ G7 \flat 5 | ㉕ G7 | ㉖ dim | |

*Some chords have two names, but this will be explained later.