

How to Practice

BY JAZZADVICE.COM

Acquiring language, Developing language, and Working on tunes

*This is a supplement to the Jazzadvice presentation "What Should I Practice."

Make sure to review the full presentation. Then, use this diagram to guide your daily practice. Maybe even print it and put it on your wall. Enjoy!

Start here...

Get more language



Hear a phrase you like

OR

Find a line over a specific chord or common chord progression.

THEN...

TRANSCRIBE IT BY EAR TO MEMORY WITH YOUR INSTRUMENT

1. Listen to it over and over and over an over and...over again
2. Put it into Transcribe Software to slow it down
3. Try to sing the phrase and understand what's happening
4. Once you can sing it, play it on your instrument
5. Get it up to speed on your instrument with the recording
6. Play it without the recording
7. Figure out what chord(s) the phrase is over by ear
8. Play the phrase in all 12 keys
9. If you're working on a whole solo, then move to the next phrase. Then connect the phrases until you've gone through the whole solo. and can play it by memory.

TAKE THE LANGUAGE

Get more language to develop

Get more
language to apply
to tunes

Or start here...

Or start here...

Develop language

Take a piece of language you learned

OR
Create a new line or concept
STRAIGHT FROM YOUR IMAGINATION!

Practice a tune

Find at least 3 recordings you love of the tune

Find a solo you like

OR

YOU LEARN AND
DEVELOP IT!

AND APPLY IT
TO TUNES!

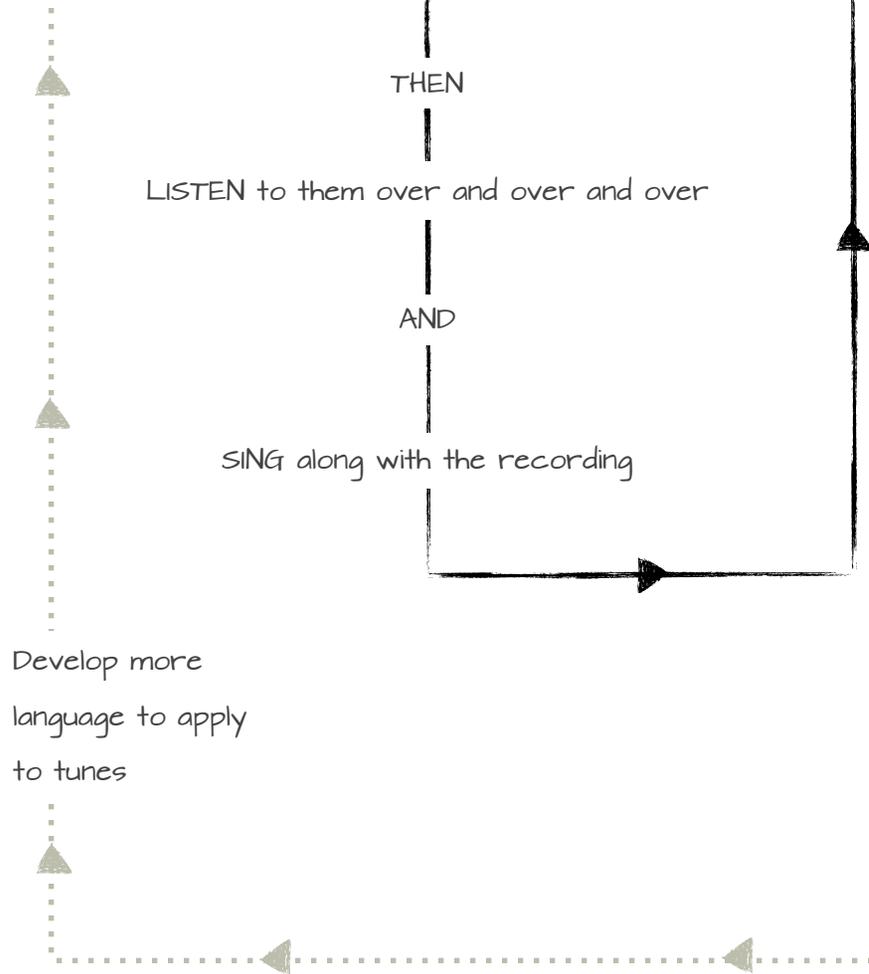
APPLY your
language to
tunes!

THEN...

1. Learn the melody straight from the recording
2. Learn the chords straight from the recording

DEVELOP IT BY...

- Varying and modifying it.
- Extracting parts of it and building on them
- Combining the line with other lines
- Creating new lines from the original
- Understanding the concept behind the line and then improvising with the concept in mind
- Creating new concepts similar to the concept behind the original line
- Get creative and MAKE IT YOUR OWN!



(The Ear Training Method can help you hear better)

3. Play the chords at the piano. Understand the harmony.

(Grab The Jazz Piano Book to help with this step)

4. Visualize the chords. Refer to the Visualization eBook for help.

5. Play basic chord tone exercises in a melodic way

6. Apply language and concepts to parts of the tune

7. Isolate difficult sections and find/study language for them

8. Improvise. Improvise some more. And then improvise even more...

9. To strengthen your understanding of a tune and improve at it, repeat steps 1-8 indefinitely for a lifetime. Find new recordings and try new approaches to the melody, chords, and soloing concept.

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