

**Take Note Online Jazz Workshops – Series 2**

**Episode 8: Improvising with Extensions**

**Extensions:**

C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C	Db	D	D#	F#	Ab
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	b9	9	#9	#11	b13

Extensions are a good way to get that ‘jazz sound’; this is because it creates tension and release in a solo. You will see extensions all over bebop charts and solos where this language was expertly developed by musicians like Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and Bud Powell. Extensions are a good way to get through chord changes in an interesting way – they can be used as ‘passing notes’ between strong harmonic notes (e.g. The root note or 3rd).

Don’t worry too much about trying to understand all of these extra sounds just yet! If in doubt, use your knowledge of the triad or 7<sup>th</sup> chord for improvising if you see a chord with an extension you are unfamiliar with.

If you’d like to delve further into extensions, feel free to get in touch via our Q&A section with any questions you may have.