

Order of Tunes for Sequential Teaching and Learning

Following is a list of 25 tunes arranged from easy (but still GREAT must-knows) to more difficult. This is an excellent place to start as every subsequent tune on the list utilizes something (e.g., chords) from the previous tune(s). Beginning with easier tunes on which to improvise, they are sequenced in a logical order of chord/scale theory knowledge and improvisation skill acquisition. The list also includes **must-know** staples like blues in Bb and F, minor blues, and rhythm changes.

Learning the tunes in the following order will provide constant reinforcement of skills/knowledge attained on the previous tune(s) while acquiring new skills/knowledge on each subsequent tune. Most of the tunes on the list can be found in Jamey Aebersold Play-Along Volumes 54 (*Maiden Voyage*) and 70 (*Killer Joe*).

Title	Aebersold Play-Along Volume *
1. <i>Watermelon Man</i> (only 3 chords)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
2. <i>Song For My Father</i> (only 4 chords)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
3. <i>Cantaloupe Island</i> (only 3 chords)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
4. <i>So What</i> (only 2 chords)	54 (Maiden Voyage) and 50 (Magic of Miles Davis)
5. <i>Impressions</i> (only 2 chords)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
6. <i>Maiden Voyage</i> (only 4 chords)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
7. <i>Afternoon in Paris</i> (II V I's descending in whole steps)	70 (Killer Joe)
8. <i>Satin Doll</i> (II V's in 5 keys)	54 (Maiden Voyage) and 12 (Duke Ellington)
9. <i>Blue Bossa</i> (II V I's in both major & minor)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
10. <i>Summertime</i> (II V I's in both major & minor)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
11. <i>Autumn Leaves</i> (II V I's in both major & minor)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
12. <i>Tenor Madness</i> (Bb blues)	8 (Sonny Rollins) and 1 (How to Play Jazz)
13. <i>Now's the Time</i> (F blues)	54 (Maiden Voyage), 1 (How to Play Jazz), and 6 (All Bird)
14. <i>Mr. PC</i> (minor blues)	70 (Killer Joe)
15. <i>Footprints</i> (minor blues with a twist)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
16. <i>Take the A Train</i> (has a dom7 b5 chord/WT scale)	12 (Duke Ellington) and 65 (Four and More)
17. <i>Lady Bird</i> (II V I's, a bVII7 to I, and Lady Bird turnaround)	70 (Killer Joe)
18. <i>St. Thomas</i> (Latin groove)	8 (Sonny Rollins)
19. <i>Sugar</i> (II V I's in minor & dom7#4 chord)	70 (Killer Joe)
20. <i>Girl from Ipanema</i> (II7 to IIm7 & tritone sub)	70 (Killer Joe)
21. <i>Sweet Georgia Brown</i> (dominant 7 cyclic movement)	70 (Killer Joe)
22. <i>Doxy</i> (has a diminished chord & dom 7 cyclic movement)	54 (Maiden Voyage)
23. <i>Caravan</i> (diminished scale workout & dom 7 cycle movement)	59 (Invitation)
24. <i>I Got Rhythm</i> (rhythm changes)	51 (Night and Day) and 47 (Rhythm Changes)
25. <i>Oleo</i> (rhythm changes)	8 (Sonny Rollins) and 47 (Rhythm Changes)

* To download play-along recordings (99 cents each):

1. go to <http://jazzbooks.com>
2. Click on "Aebersold Play-Along Digital Downloads" (it's blue, on the left)
3. Input the song title into the search engine (i.e., where it says "Search Within"), then press the green GO button
4. Click on the tune title, then click on *Add to Basket*, and check out

Definitive Recordings

Watermelon Man

Herbie Hancock from the album, "Takin' Off" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbHJHPTikQA>
Freddie Hubbard (tp), Dexter Gordon (ts), Herbie Hancock (p), Butch Warren, (b), Billy Higgins (d)

Song for My Father

Horace Silver from the album, "Song for My Father" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWeXOm49kE0>
Carmell Jones (tp), Joe Henderson (ts), Horace Silver (p), Teddy Smith (b), Roger Humphries (d)

Cantaloupe Island

Herbie Hancock from the album, "Empyrean Isles" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8B1oIXGX0Io>
Freddie Hubbard (tp), Herbie Hancock (p), Ron Carter (b), Tony Williams (d)

So What

Miles Davis from the album, "Kind of Blue" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ylXk1LBvIqU>
Miles Davis (tp), Cannonball Adderley (as), John Coltrane (ts), Bill Evans (p), Paul Chambers (b), Jimmy Cobb (d)

Impressions

John Coltrane from the album, "Impressions" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-mZ54FJ6h-k>
John Coltrane (ts), McCoy Tyner (p), Jimmy Garrison (b), Elvin Jones (d)

Maiden Voyage

Herbie Hancock from the album, "Maiden Voyage" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwmRQ0PBtXU>
Freddie Hubbard (tpt), George Coleman (ts), Herbie Hancock (p), Ron Carter (b), Tony Williams (d)

Afternoon in Paris

Sonny Stitt from the album, "Sonny Stitt/JJ Johnson/Bud Powell" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IoA99EXXms>
Sonny Stitt (as), JJ Johnson (tb), John Lewis (p), Nelson Boyd (b), Max Roach (d)

Satin Doll

- Duke Ellington from the album, "Duke Ellington and his Famous Orchestra" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruewfx57GQA>
Duke Ellington Orchestra; Duke Ellington (p), Wendall Marshall (b), Butch Ballard (d)
- Wes Montgomery from the album, "The West Montgomery Trio - A Dynamic New Sound" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwEfX1v3soc>
Wes Montgomery (g), Melvin Rhyne (org), Paul Parker (d)

Blue Bossa

Joe Henderson from the album, "Page One" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U7eOs51ERww>
Kennedy Dorham (tpt), Joe Henderson (ts), McCoy Tyner (p), Butch Warren (b), Pete La Roca (d)

Summertime

Miles Davis from the album, "Porgy and Bess" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FAYe2N4yRI>
Gil Evans Orchestra – Gil Evans (arr), Miles Davis (tpt), Paul Chambers (b), Philly Joe Jones (d)

Autumn Leaves

Cannonball Adderley (with Miles Davis) from the album, "Somethin' Else" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pfxosTobxII>
Miles Davis (tpt), Cannonball Adderley (as), Hank Jones (p), Sam Jones (b), Art Blakey (d)

Tenor Madness

Sonny Rollins' from the album, "Tenor Madness" with John Coltrane – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3MkUvZUTFUc>
Sonny Rollins (ts), John Coltrane (ts), Red Garland (p), Paul Chambers (b), Philly Joe Jones (d)

Now's the Time

Charlie Parker from the album, "The Savoy Recordings Master Takes" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1n4yr4SmA4>
Miles Davis (tpt), Charlie Parker (as), Dizzy Gillespie (p), Curly Russell (b), Max Roach (d)

Mr. PC

John Coltrane from the album, "Giant Steps" – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jv5j_Lx2R4g
John Coltrane (ts), Tommy Flanagan (p), Paul Chambers (b), Art Taylor (d)

Footprints

- Wayne Shorter from the album, "Adam's Apple" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XvJFW0DHbU>
Wayne Shorter (ts), Herbie Hancock (p), Reggie Workman (b), Joe Chambers (d)
- Miles Davis from the album, "Miles Smiles" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XoLY-Bm0QL8>
Miles Davis (tpt), Wayne Shorter (ts), Herbie Hancock (p), Ron Carter (b), Tony Williams (d)

Take the A Train

Duke Ellington from the album, "Never No Lament - the Blanton Webster Band" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r2G1fKYFgVU>
Ray Nance (tpt), Fred Guy (gtr), Duke Ellington (p), Jimmy Blanton (b), Sonny Greer (d)

Lady Bird

Tadd Dameron Sextet from the album, "The Complete Blue Note and Capitol Recordings of Tadd Dameron and Fats Navarro" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=chJgX7Kzx1A>
Fats Navarro (tpt), Wardell Gray (ts), Tadd Dameron (p), Curley Russell (b), Kenny Clarke (d)

St. Thomas

Sonny Rollins from the album, "Saxophone Colossus" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4DySQyteRI>
Sonny Rollins (ts), Tommy Flanagan (p), Doug Watkins (b), Max Roach (d)

Sugar

Stanley Turrentine from the album, "Sugar" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLaIrVB1av4>
Freddie Hubbard (tpt), Stanley Turrentine (ts), George Benson (gtr), Lonnie Liston Smith (p), Ron Carter (b), Billy Kaye (d)

Girl from Ipanema

Stan Getz from the album, "Getz/Gilberto" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c5QfXjsoNe4>
João Gilberto (gtr, v), Astrud Gilberto (v), Stan Getz (ts), Antônio Carlos Jobim (p), Tommy Williams (b), Milton Banana (d)

Sweet Georgia Brown

- Brother Bones and his Shadows' from the album, "Globetrottin' with Bones" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QaNhdA5pjBA>
Freeman Davis (tb), Herb Kern (novachord)
- Django Reinhardt and Coleman Hawkins from the album "All Star Sessions" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GTzy7hfaPFE>
Coleman Hawkins (ts), Benny Carter (tpt), Andre Ekyan (as), Alix Combelle (cl), Stephane Grappelli (p), Django Reinhardt (gtr) Eugene d'Hellemmes (b), Tommy Benford (d)

Doxy

Miles Davis from the album, "Bag's Groove" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XpueyrkcMyQ>
Miles Davis (tpt), Sonny Rollins (ts), Horace Silver (p), Percy Heath (b), Kenny Clarke (d)

Caravan

- Duke Ellington from the album, "Caravan" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jMfOGxGPSiQ>
Juan Tizol (tb), Cootie Williams (tpt), Duke Ellington (p), Billy Taylor (b), Sonny Greer (d)
- Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers from the album, "Caravan" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDbgLJt50ss>
Freddie Hubbard (tpt), Wayne Shorter (ts), Curtis Fuller (tb), Cedar Walton (p), Reggie Workman (b), Art Blakey (d)

I Got Rhythm

- John Pizzarelli – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZ5KYc_s4bE
John Pizzarelli (gtr), Martin Pizzarelli (b)
- Count Basie from the album, "America's #1 Bane - The Columbia Years" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L25KrgluGjo>
Harry "Sweets" Edison (tpt), Lester Young (ts), Vic Dickenson (tb), Freddie Green (gtr), Count Basie (p), Walter Page (b), Jo Jones (d)
- Benny Goodman from the album, "Carnegie Hall Jazz Concert (1938)" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tE4ACIZSIFI>
Benny Goodman (clarinet), Lionel Hampton (vibes), Teddy Wilson (p), Gene Krupa (d)
- Django Reinhardt from the album "Swing from Paris" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RWrBSLDdosA>
Stephane Grappelli, (vln), Django Reinhardt (gtr), Joseph Reinhardt (rhy gtr), Pierre Joseph Ferret (rhy gtr), Louis Vola (b)

Oleo

Miles Davis from the album, "Bag's Groove" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9IY29EZb1pl>
Miles Davis (tpt), Sonny Rollins (ts), Horace Silver (p), Percy Heath (b), Kenny Clarke (d)