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George Benson

Player Studies

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George's Jazz

UNIT 3 • **LESSON 15** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

E Minor 7 Flat 5 & E Flat Major 7

For the second two chords we can theoretically link them together. To start with, learn the chord shapes as shown in the chord box area, then we will talk theory!

Why E Minor 7 Flat 5?

The Ebmaj7 fits beautifully into the key, but why does Em7b5 work? Well, if you look at the chord diagrams you can see that the top 3 notes are identical on both chords. This means that 3 of the 4 notes of Ebm7b5 fit perfectly into the key. The E (rather than Eb) note just creates tension which resolves perfectly down a semitone to Eb. This is a cool little trick that you can use a lot in jazz. Try to now apply your rhythm to all 3 chords so far.



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George's Jazz

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To play jazz at the level Mr Benson does you need to have a firm grasp of theory and chord construction. In this section Dion will be breaking down a typical Benson jazz progression to get you mastering the rhythm side of his playing as well as the lead.

Lessons:

- "George's Jazz"
- Theory
- Bb9 Chord
- Em7b5 & Ebmaj7
- Ab13 Chord

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Benson's Blues

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