

Playing order: ● × □
 ○ = opt.

Variations on I - vi - ii - V

Ted Greene, 1974-10-20

Part I

Key of D

Try adding melodic decoration and/or animation to all patterns to increase your enjoyment of them.

Common tone melody (soprano) type:

D Bm Em7 A7sus

D B7#9 Em9 A11

DΔ9 Bm7/11 Em7 A7sus

or open 6th string

DΔ7 Bm7 Em9 A13

DΔ7 Bm7 Em9 A7/6

DΔ9-D6 F#m7-B7 Bm7-Em9 Em9-A7/6

2 3 4 4

"I - vi - ii - V Variations" Part I, page 2 - Ted Greene

D ^{Δ9}	B _m 7	E _m 7/11	A7(6)		D ⁶	B7 _{b9b5}	E _m 11	E _{b9b5} or A7+
5 3 3 3	2 3 3 3	2 3 3 3	5 3 3 3		5 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	6 3 3 3

D	A6	B _m 7	F# _m	G ^{Δ7}	F# _m 7	E _m 9	A7/6
7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	3 3 3 3	2 3 3 3	2 3 3 3	5 3 3 3

D6	B _m 7	E _m 7	A9		D6	B7+	E9	A13
5 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	5 3 3 3		5 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	5 3 3 3

D9	B13 _{b9}	E7#9+	A13#9		D9	B7 _{b9+}	E9+	A7#9+
10 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	5 3 3 3		10 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	5 3 3 3

D ^{Δ7}	B _m 9	E _m 7/6	A7/6		D6	B _m 7	E _m 7	A11
5 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	5 3 3 3		10 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	12 3 3 3

Key of G:

G ^{Δ9}	E _m 7/11	A _m 7	D7 _{b9}		G ^{Δ7}	E _m 7	A _m 9	D13
3 3 3 3	2 3 3 3	5 3 3 3	5 3 3 3		3 3 3 3	7 3 3 3	5 3 3 3	10 3 3 3

Ascending melody types:

Diagram showing four guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 G Δ 7: 3, 7
 E9: 7
 A 13 : 5
 D7/6: 5

Diagram showing four guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 G Δ 7: 3, 7
 E7 $b9+$: 7
 Am7/11: 5
 D7 $b9+$: 8
 Bm7/11: 7

"A B A B" melody type

Diagram showing four guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 G Δ 7: 10, 7
 E7 $b9$: 7
 Am7/11: 5
 D13 $b9$: 5

Key of D:

Diagram showing four guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 D: 5, 2
 Bm7: 2
 Em7: 2
 A7: 5

Try resolving all V's to I's (some are given already, though).

Diagram showing four guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 D6: 5
 Bm9: 7
 Em7: 7
 A7: 5

Diagram showing four guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 D Δ 7: 5
 Bm7: 2
 Em7: 7
 A7/6: 5

Diagram showing five guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 D: 2
 Bm7/11: 7
 Em9: 7
 A7: 5
 D Δ 7: 5

Diagram showing five guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 D Δ 9: 5
 Bm7: 7
 Em7: 7
 A7/6: 5

Diagram showing five guitar chords in standard notation with fingerings:
 D Δ 7: 5
 Bm7+: 7
 Em7/11: 7
 A 13 : 5
 D Δ 13: 10

Playing order: ● × □
 ○ = opt.

Variations on I - vi - ii - V

Ted Greene, 1974-10-21

Part II

As on [Part 1], add melody decoration and/or rhythmic animation. Also try resolving V's to I's where not already done.

Key of D

Ascending melody “2-to-1” types

D B_m9 E_m7 A7

5 7 7 5 ● ● X

D6 B_m7 E_m9 A7/6

5 ○ ● X 7 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 5 ● ● X

D^Δ7 B_m7/11 E_m7/11 A¹³

5 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 7 ○ X 5 ● ● X

While I-vi-ii-V is an effective pattern to be familiar with, it becomes boring unless combined with other tools. The following is a “coming attraction” using other patterns for more interest – compare with the first pattern at the top of the page.

D B_m9 E_m7 A7/6 Am7 D7 G^Δ7 C9 F#_m7

5 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 7 ○ X 5 ● ● X 5 ● ● X 3 ● ● X 8 ● ● X 9 ● ● X

B_m7/11 E⁹ A9-A7^{b9}

7 ● ● X 2 ● ● X 5 ● ● X

D use tonic pedal device

Here are some other types of I-vi-ii-V's. Only one example of each type will be given because, by now, you should be in the swing of things and be able to make up similar examples (if you have seriously studied what has come on these two pages so far).

D^Δ7 B_m7 E_m(7) A7/6

5 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 5 ● ● X

D B_m7 E_m7 A7/6

5 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 7 ● ● X 5 ● ● X

Now try making up melodies on I-vi-ii-V's that don't follow any one, specific type of pattern (most melodies of songs are like this - not one pattern only).

Chromatic or semi-chromatic melody types:

D	B _m 7	E+	A7
5	7	7	5

D6	B7b9	open	E7/6	A11
5	7	5	5	5

DΔ7	B7#9	open	E7/6	A7+	DΔ7
5	2	7	5	5	5

D6	B9	E7	A7/6
5	7	7	5

DΔ9	B7b5	E9	A7
5	7	7	5

DΔ7	B7+	E7	A7/6
5	7	7	5

DΔ7	B7+	E _m 7/11	A13b9
5	7	7	5

D6	B7b9+	E13	EbΔ9 no3	D%
5	7	7	6	10

DΔ7	B7/6	E7#9+	A7/6
5	7	7	5

DΔ13 no3	B7b9b5	E13 sus	EbΔ9	D% #11
5	7	7	11	10

"I - vi - ii - V Variations" Part II, page 3 - Ted Greene

Key of G

B_m7	B_bm⁷	A_m9	Ab⁹		B_m7	B_bm⁹	A⁹	Ab^{9b5}
7 6 5 4	6 5 4	5 4	4		7 6 5	6 5	5	4 3 2 1 Ab#11

B_m7	B_bm^{7/11}	A_m7	Ab⁹ or Ab¹³		B_m7	B_bm^{7/6}	A_m7	Ab^{7#9}
7 6 5 4	6 5 4 3	5 4	4 3 2 1		7 6 5 4	6 5 4	5 4	4 3 2 1

B_m7+	B_bm⁷	A_m7	D^{7/6} or Ab⁹		B_m7	B_bm⁷	A_m9	D⁷
7 6 5 4	6 5 4 3	5 4	4 3 2 1		7 6 5 4	6 5 4	5 4	5 4 3 2 1

B_m7	B_bm⁹	A_m7/11	D^{7b9}		GΔ⁹	E^{7b9b5}	A_m9	D^{7b9}	B_m7
7 6 5 4	6 5 4 3	5 4 3 2 1	10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1		3 2 1	7 6 5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Variations on I - vi - ii - V

KEY OF D

Try adding melodic decoration &/or animation to all patterns
to increase your enjoyment of them.

COMMON TONE MELODY (SOPRANO) TYPE:

D Bm Em7 A7sus D6 Bm7 G/E7 E9 A11 D B7#9 E9 A11

D Bm7 G/E7 A7sus D9 Bm7/11 E7 A7sus D7#9 B7 E7b9 A7+ D7 Bm7 Em9 A7/6

D7 Bm7 G/E9 A13 D7 G/E9 E9 A7/6 D7 Bm7 Em9 A7/6

D9 Bm9/E11 A7/6 D9-D6 F#m7-B7 Bm7-E9 Em9-A7/6 D7 Bm7 Em7/11 A7/6

D9 Bm7 Em7/11 A7(6) D6/9 B7b9/5 Em11 Em9/5 or A7+ D A6 Bm7 F#m

G7 F#m7 G/E9 A11/6 D6 Bm7 G/E9 A9 D6 G7 E9 A13

D9 B13b9 E7#9 A13#9 D9 B7b9+ E9+ A7#9+ D7 Bm9 Em7/6 A7/6

D6 Bm7 Em7 A11 D6 Em7/11 Am7 D7b9 G7 Em7 Am9 D13

G7 E9 A13 D11/6

TRY RESOLVING ALL V's to I's (SOME ARE GIVEN ALREADY, THOUGH)
ASCENDING MELODY TYPES:

D6 Bm9 Em7 A7 D7 Bm7 Em7 A7/6

Bm7/11 Em9 A7 D7 D9 Bm7 Em7 A11/6 D7 Bm7+ Em7/11 A13/6 D13

G7 E7#9 Am7/11 D7b9+ Bm7/11 G7 E7#9 Am7/11 D7b9

"ABAB" MELODY TYPE

I-vi-ii-V - Page 2

ASCENDING MELODY "2 to 1" TYPES

as on page 1, add melody decoration
and/or rhythmic animation. also try
resolving V's to I's where not
already done.

While I-vi-ii-V is an effective pattern to be familiar with, it becomes boring unless combined with other tools; the following is a "coming attraction" using other patterns for more interest - compare with the 1st pattern at the top of the page.

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CHROMATIC OR SEMI-CHROMATIC MELODY TYPES: