

Variations on chord changes

Major ii-V-I



Minor ii-V-I

Shortcut, think harmonic minor all the way through. (b3 & b6)



For the half-dim chord, try the Locrian or Locrian nat 2 scales.



For the G7b9, try the Phrygian Dominant or altered scales.

Usually on a Dom7b9 there is a b13 (b6).

We can think of this as the C harmonic minor (b3 b6) starting on the 5th (G).

The G altered scale starts on G, then every other note is lowered a 1/2 step.



For the Cm7, use the Dorian or melodic minor scales



iii-VI-ii-V-I

Can be found in

- Green Dolphin Street
- There Will Never Be Another You



Tritone sub

Replace the V7 with the V7 a tritone away.

We can also transpose the ii-7 by a tritone.

- A tritone is a dim 5th (3 whole steps).
- It is 1/2 way to the octave.

ii-7 D-7 bII⁷ Db⁷ I C I C

bvi-7 Ab-7 bII⁷ Db⁷ I C I C

Common notes in substituted chords

D-7 Ab-7 D-7 Ab-7 G⁷ Db⁷ G⁷ Db⁷

Backdoor Dominant

Can also think of this as a minor 3rd sub.

Replace the ii and V chords with chords a m3 higher

iv-7 F-7 bVII⁷ Bb⁷ I C I C

Notice the common notes in the arpeggios

F-7 Bb⁷ C Bb⁷ D⁷

Basic ii-V-I phrases

In E-flat

F-7 Bb⁷ Ebmaj7 Ebmaj7

5 4 b3 b7 4 3 7 4 3 3

G maj



G maj (variation 2)



Tritone sub phrases (Dom chord only)

Tritone in Cmaj

