OK. ke.
STUDY THIS BOOK
AFTER READING.
DON'T READ THIS
BOOK STUDY IT.

Melodic Rhythms for Guitar

42 comprehensive exercises

and

92 complete harmonized studies

by

William G. Leavitt

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Introduction

In this book "rhythm groups", consisting of a specific number of attacks per measure, are presented with all possible combinations of time durations. Two types of notation are shown with picking (which applies to both) indicated along the top stave of each system. These picking indicators are very important. I strongly recommend, when learning to read syncopated rhythms, that you pick the string in the same direction in which the tapping foot is moving at that instant.... DOWN on the beat and UP for the off beats (or "ands").

This concerted movement of (picking) hand and (time keeping) foot is a valuable aid in learning to read, and properly execute, these swing rhythms. It is also good discipline for practicing them later on.

The original "Studies"(or songs) that follow the presentation of each "rhythm group" have been especially composed to employ all of the rhythms of that group. Count out all difficult phrases, as you play them, until you can "feel" the time. As all the "Studies" have chord symbols it would be helpful to practice them as duets with another player or with yourself by tape recording the rhythm guitar parts.

After these rhythms have been mastered you will be able to vary your picking (for the purpose of phrasing and accents) and still be consistant and accurate.

William G. Leavitt

FOUR-FOUR

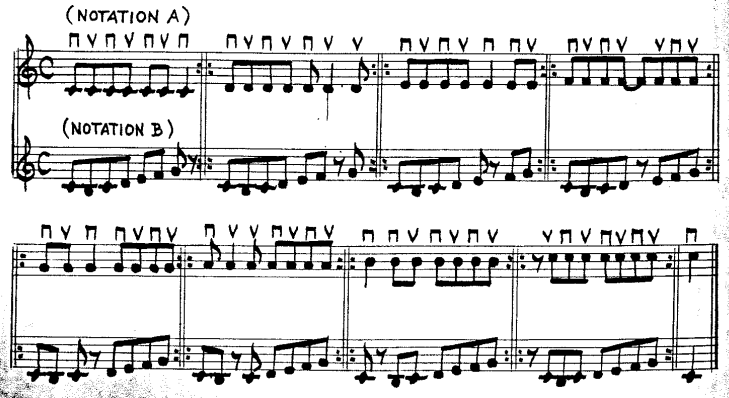
TAP FOOT IN 4 THRU-OUT AND PRACTICE RHYTHM GROUPS AS FOLLOWS:

(1) PLAY MEASURE ONE FOLLOWED BY FOUR BEATS REST. . . . . THEN PLAY MEASURE TWO FOLLOWED BY FOUR BEATS REST. . . . . ETC. (NO REPEATS)
(2) OMIT MEASURES OF RESTS BUT USE REPEATS. . . . (PLAY EACH MEASURE TWICE)
(3) PLAY STRAIGHT THRU - NO REPEATS, NO MEASURE OF RESTS.

Rhythm Group #1

7 ATTACKS PER MEASURE

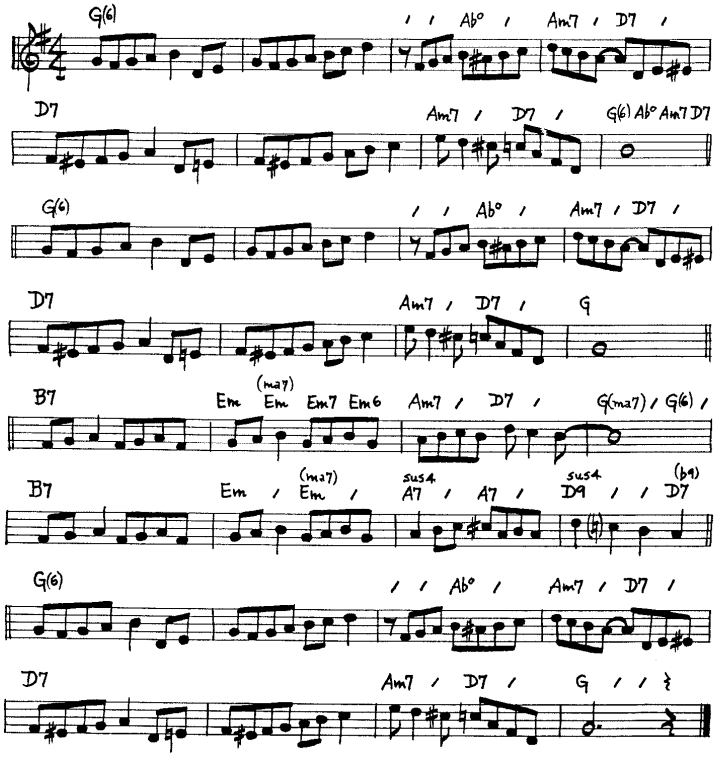
⊓ = Pick downward V = Pick upward



PRACTICE ALL 4/4 "STUDIES" TWO WAYS. . . .
(1) WITH CONSECUTIVE EIGHTH NOTES EXACTLY AS WRITTEN . . . . . RHYTHM GUITAR PLAY BASIC LATIN BEAT.
(2) WITH SWING FEELING ON CONSECUTIVE EIGHTH NOTES. . . . . RHYTHM GUITAR PLAY STRAIGHT 4 OR SHUFFLE RHYTHM.

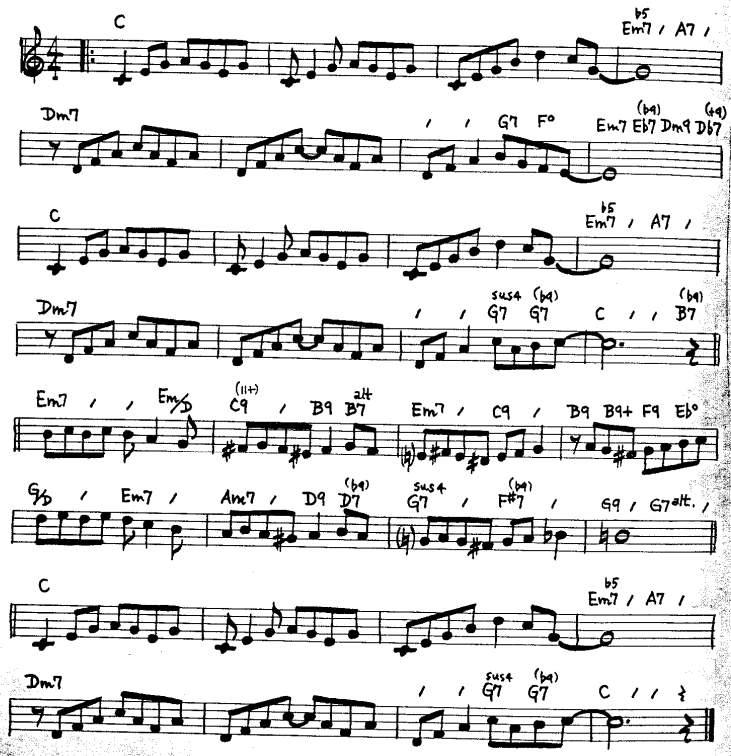
Study #1

STUDY ONLY THE RHYTHM GROUPS



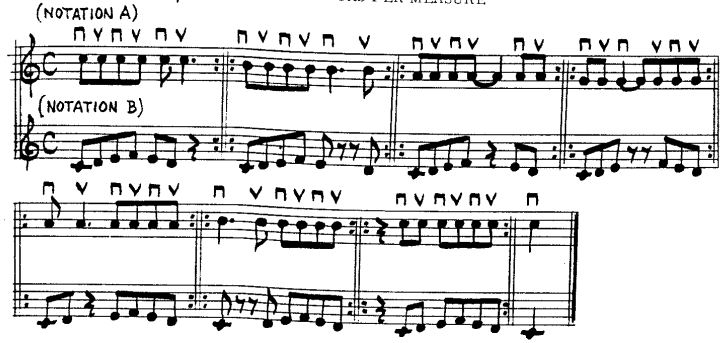
WHEN NO TEMPO IS INDICATED, THE SPEED AT WHICH A STUDY IS TO BE PLAYED IS FLEXIBLE. THESE STUDIES SHOULD BE PRACTICED AT SLOW, MEDIUM, AND (WHERE POSSIBLE) MODERATELY FAST TEMPOS.

Study # 1A



Rhythm Group #2

6 ATTACKS PER MEASURE



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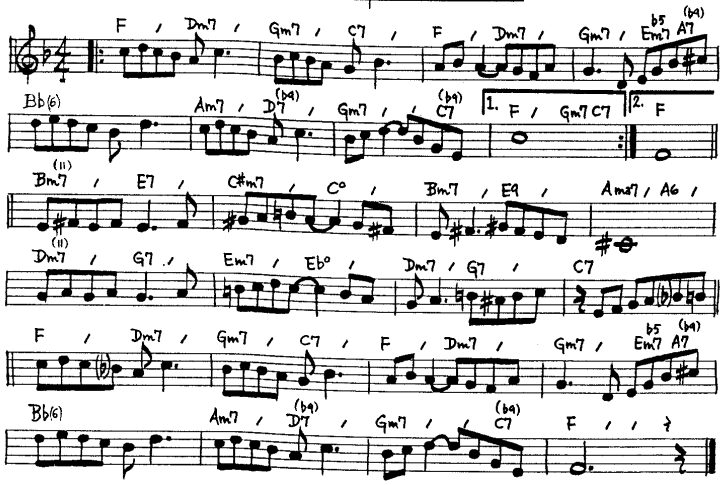
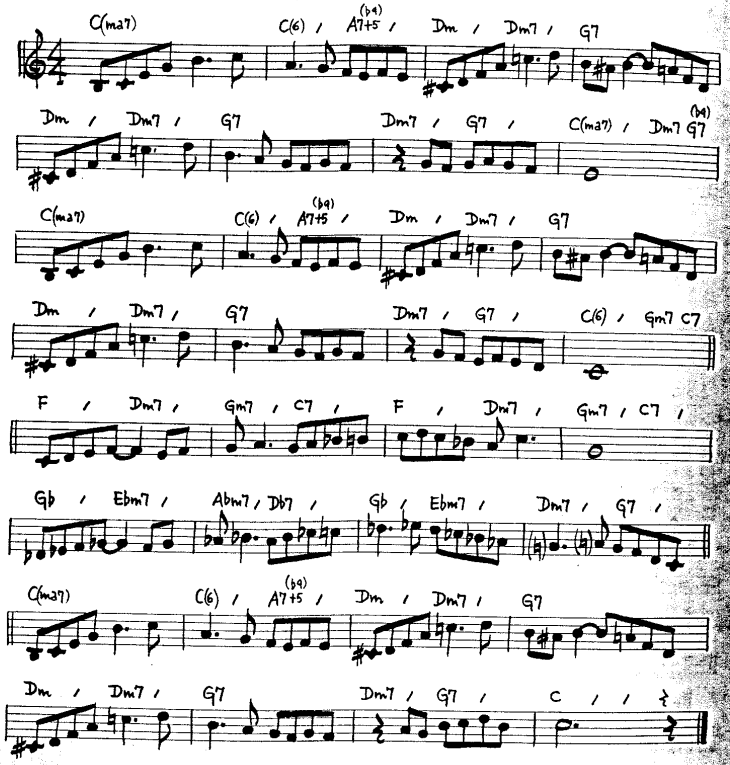


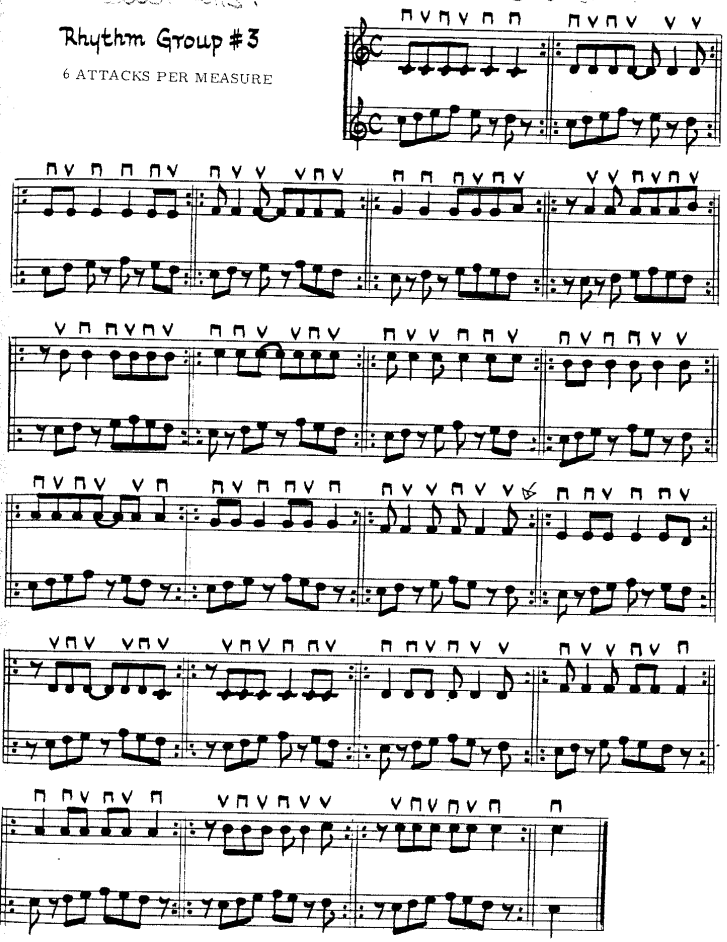
PRACTICE THE "STUDIES" IN ALL PRACTICAL POSITIONS.....
(FROM I THRU VII OR VIII, DEPENDING UPON THE KEY AND THE OUTSIDE RANGE.)

Study #2A



Rhythm Group #3

6 ATTACKS PER MEASURE



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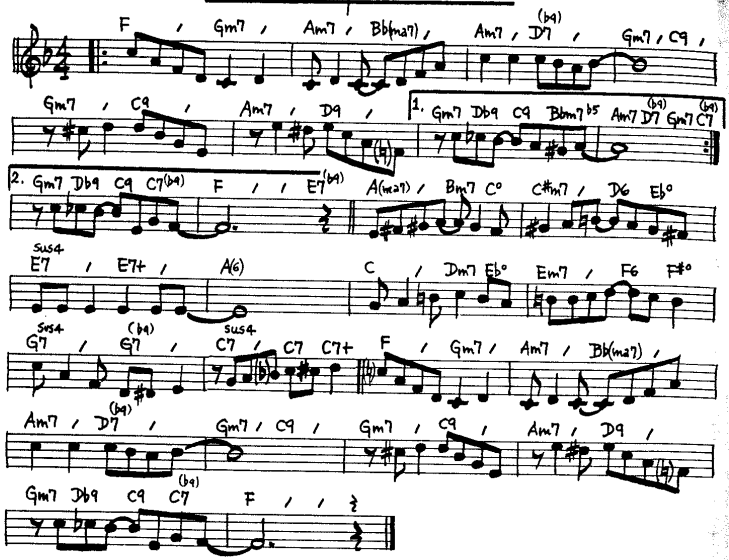

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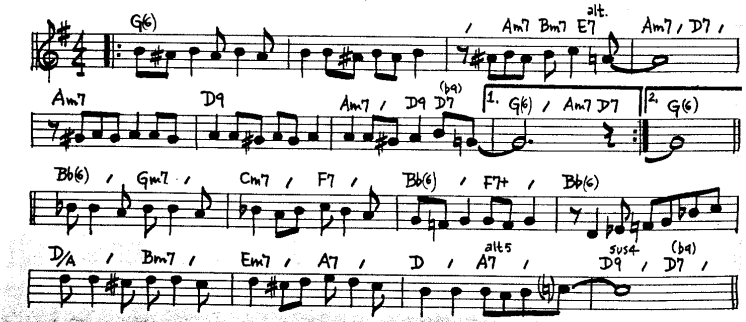

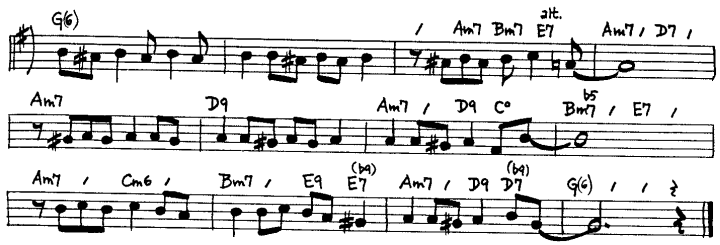

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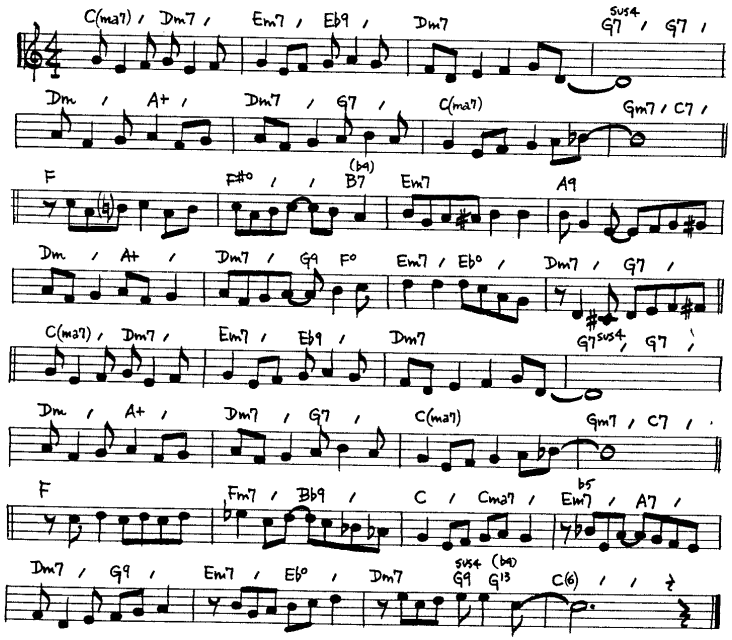
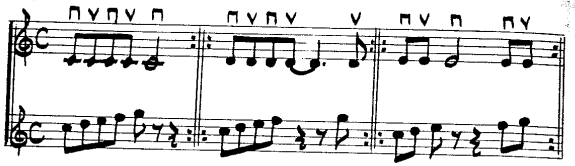
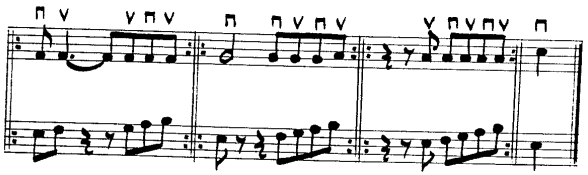


GRADUALLY INCREASE THE TEMPO FOR ALL 4/4 "RHYTHM GROUPS" UNTIL YOU ARE ABLE TO PLAY THEM WITH FOOT TAPPING "IN TWO".

Rhythm Group #4

5 ATTACKS PER MEASURE





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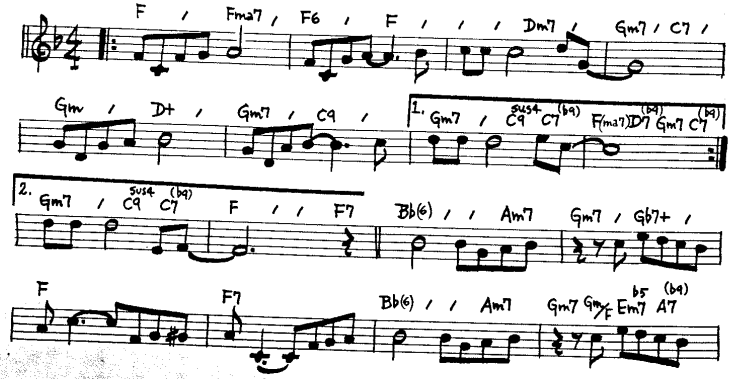

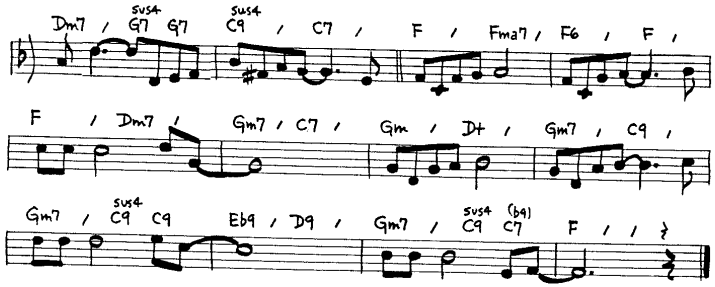

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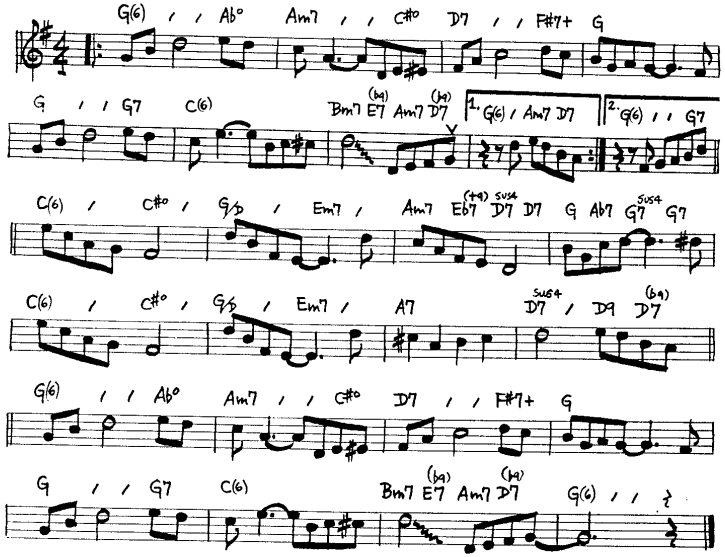
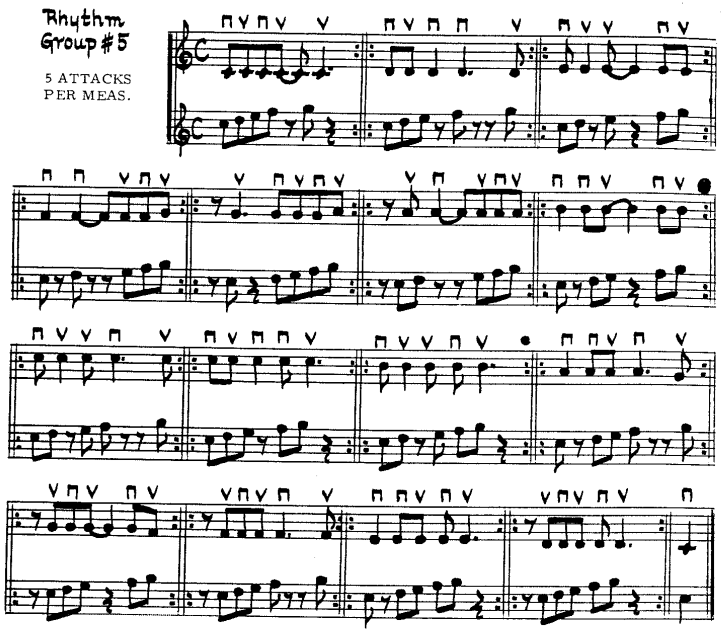


Rhythm Group #5

5 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



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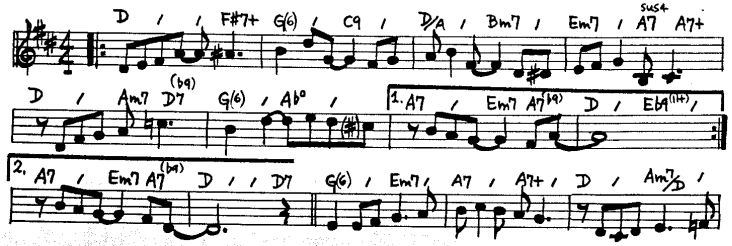

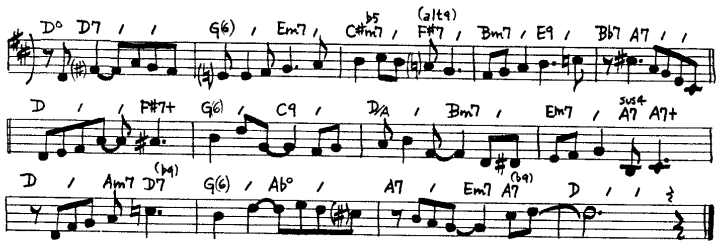

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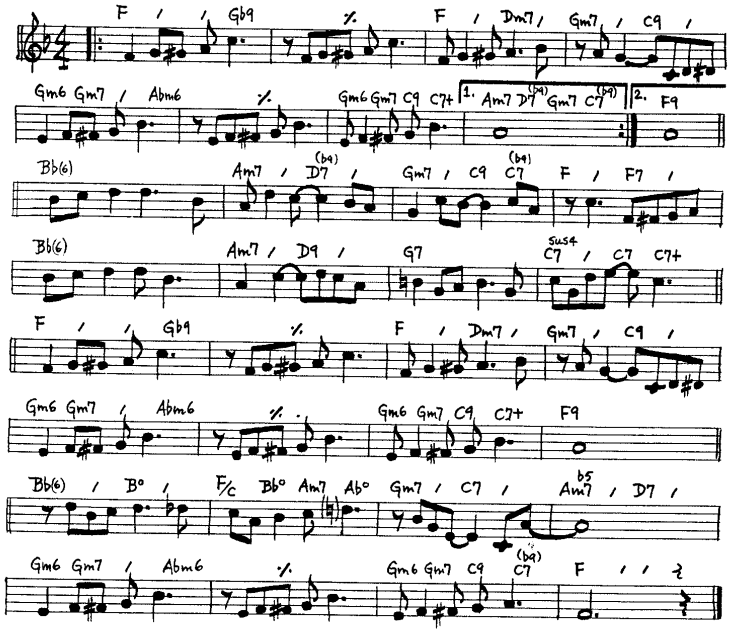
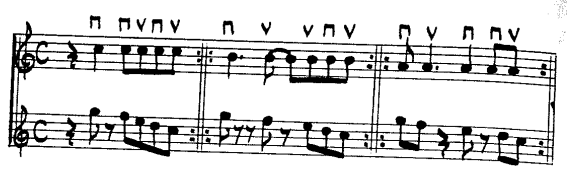
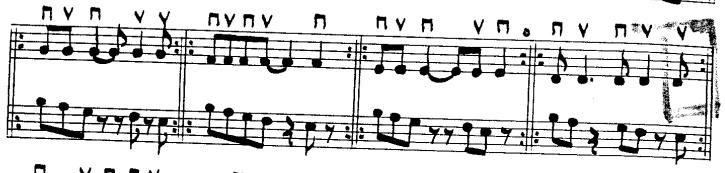
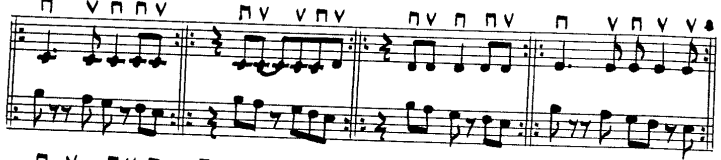


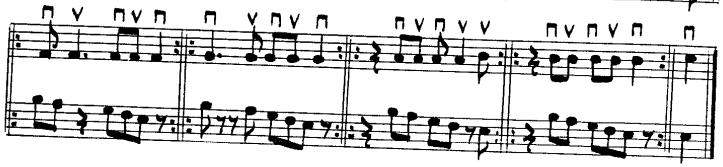
Rhythm Group #6

5 ATTACKS PER MEAS.









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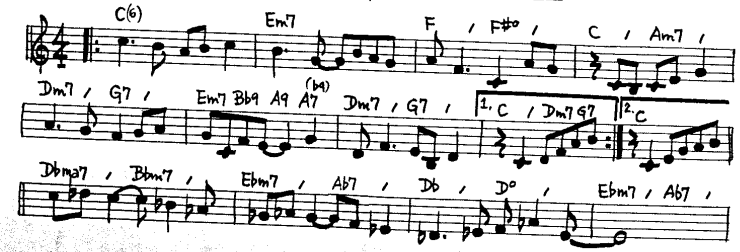
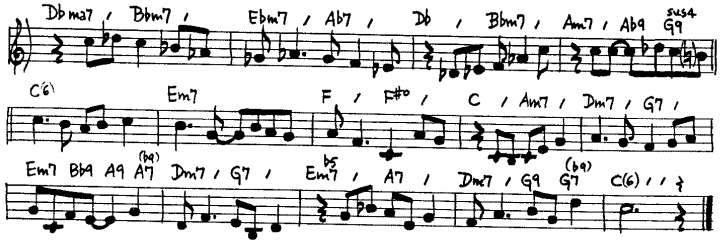
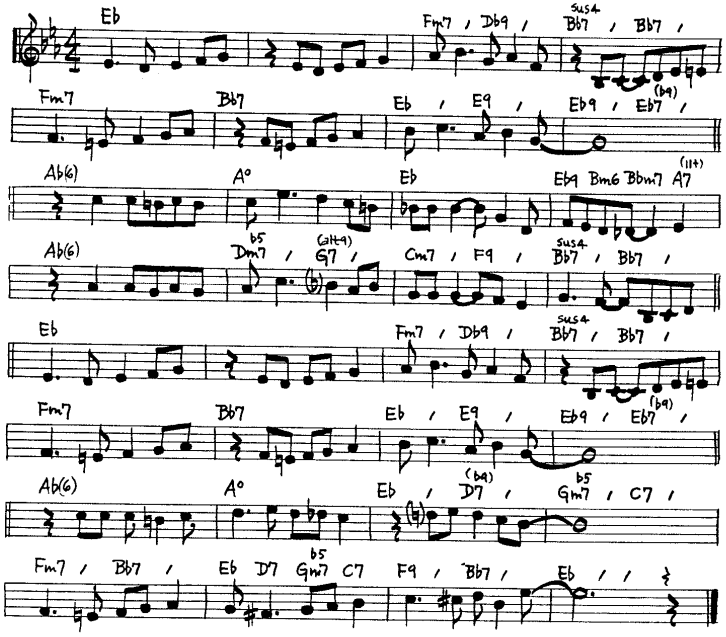


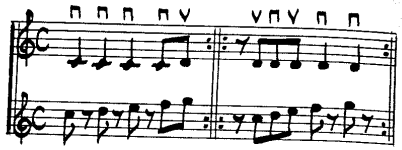


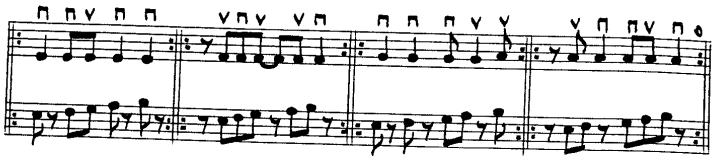
Study #6A /

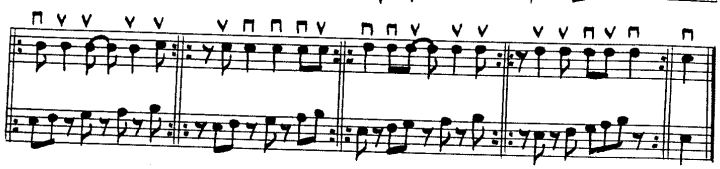


Rhythm Group #7

5 ATTACKS PER MEAS.







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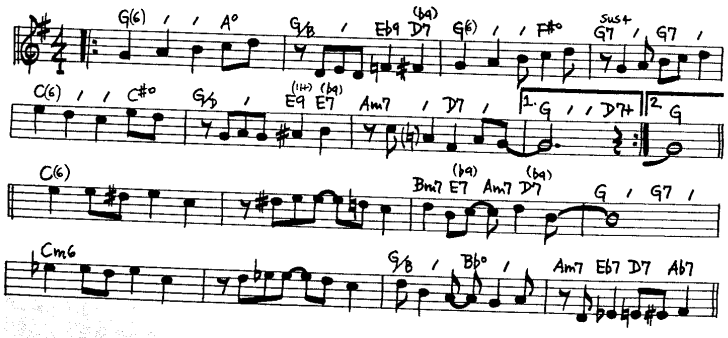

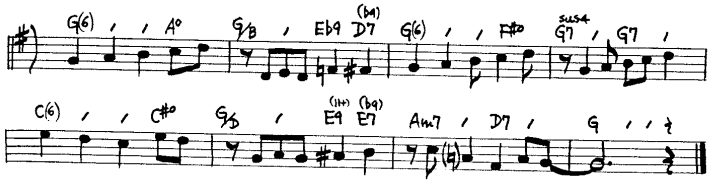

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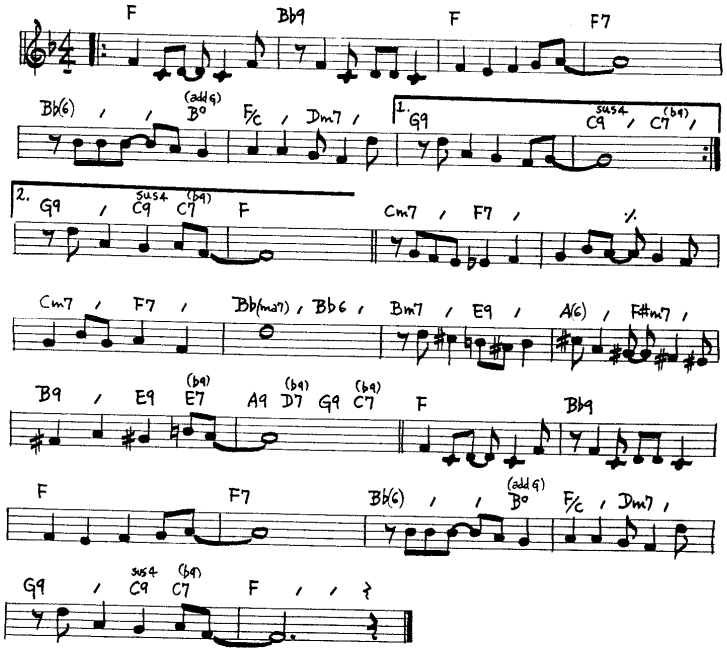
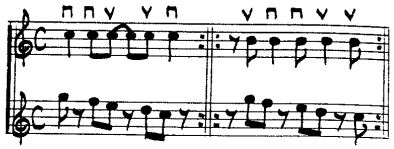
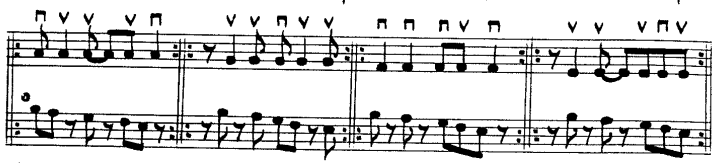
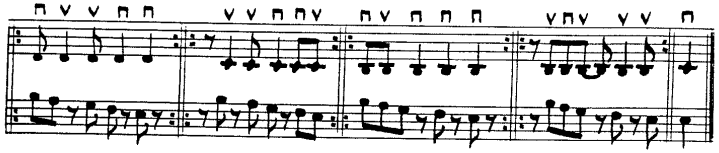


Rhythm Group # 8

5 ATTACKS PER MEAS.







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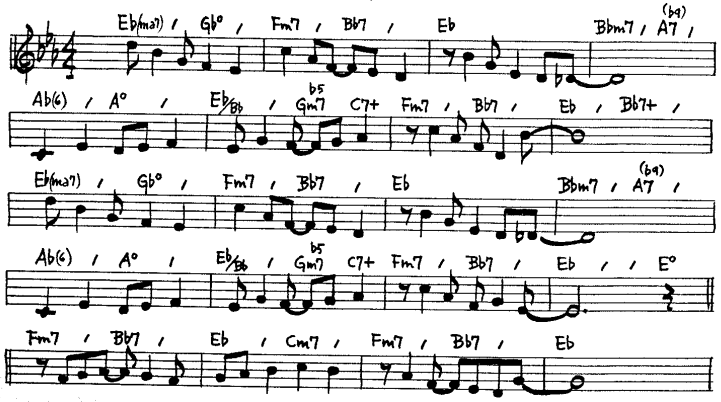

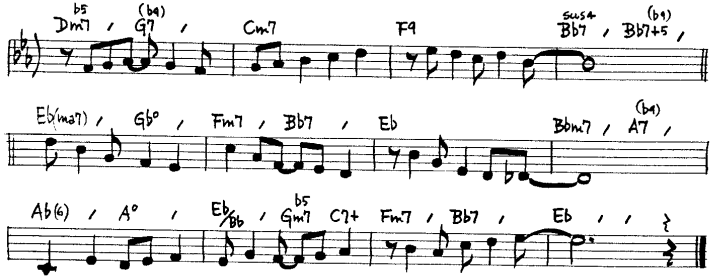

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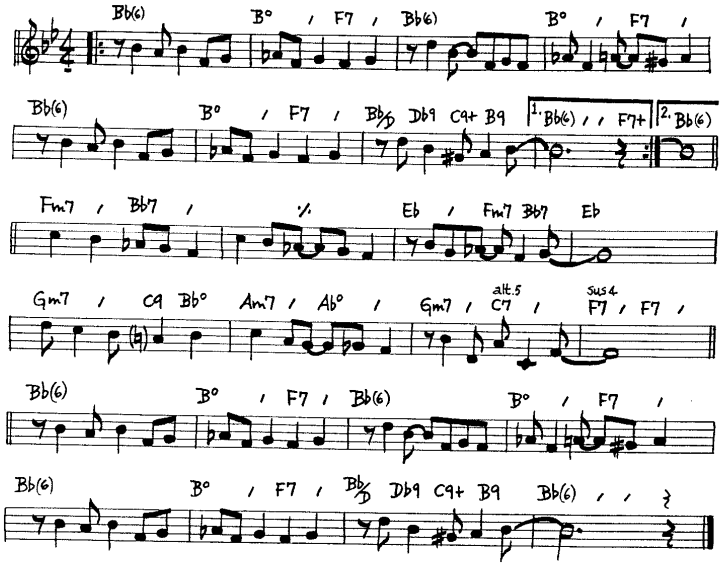
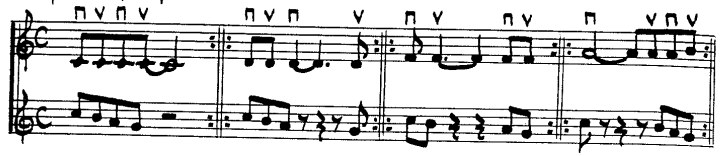


Watch for ♩.♪ = ♩

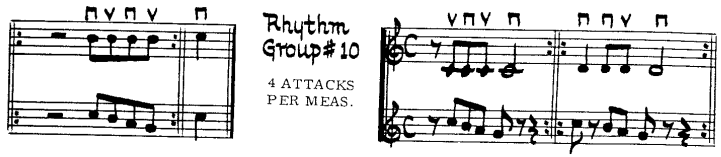
Rhythm Group #9

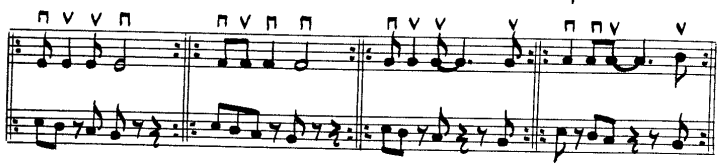
4 ATTACKS PER MEASURE

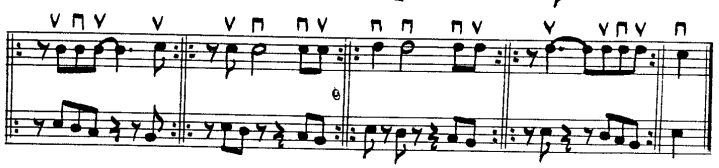


Rhythm Group #10

4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.







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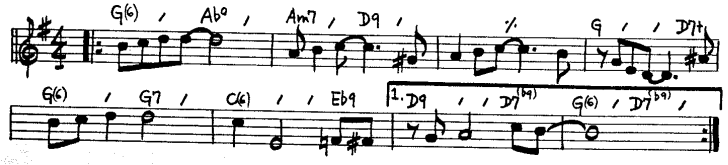
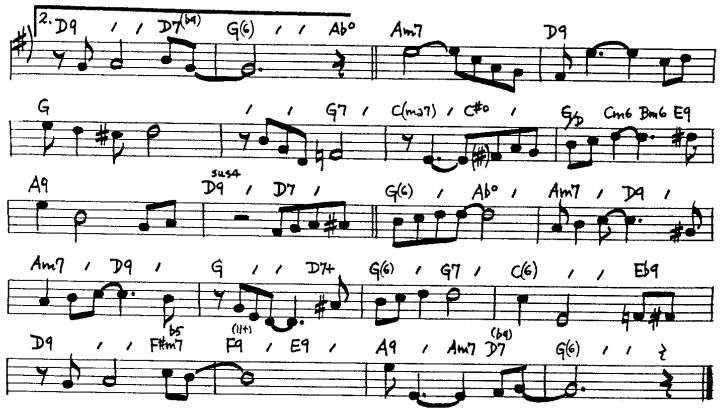
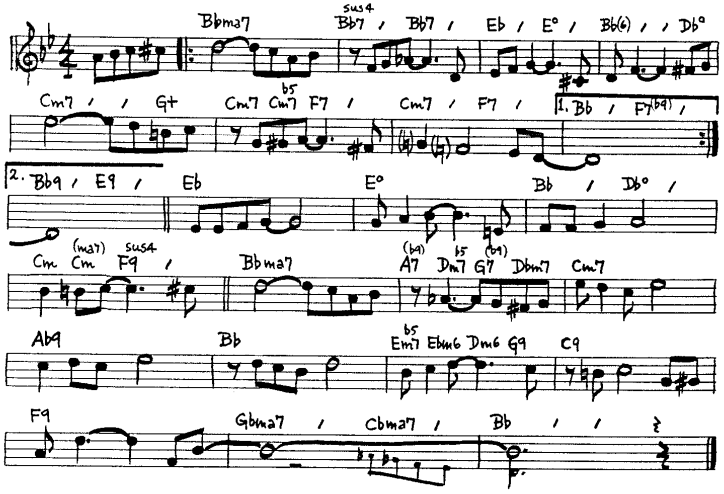


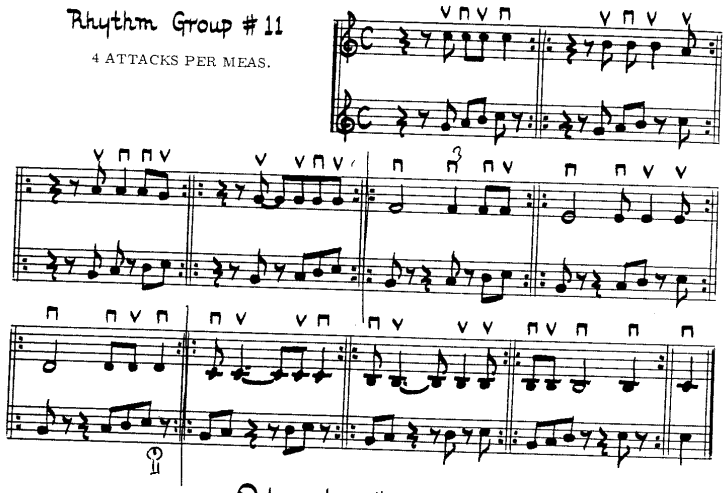


Study #9-10A

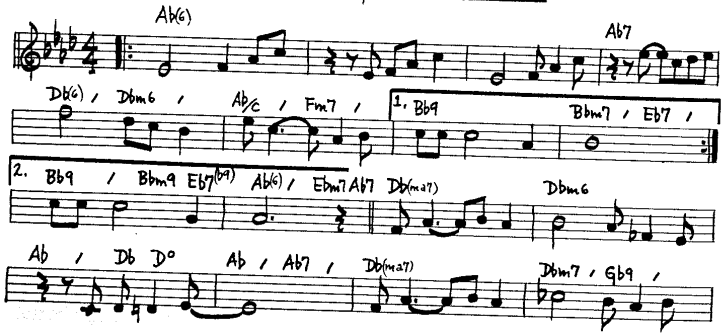


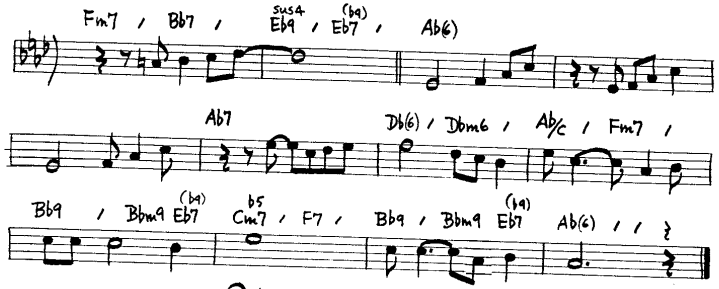
Rhythm Group # 11

4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

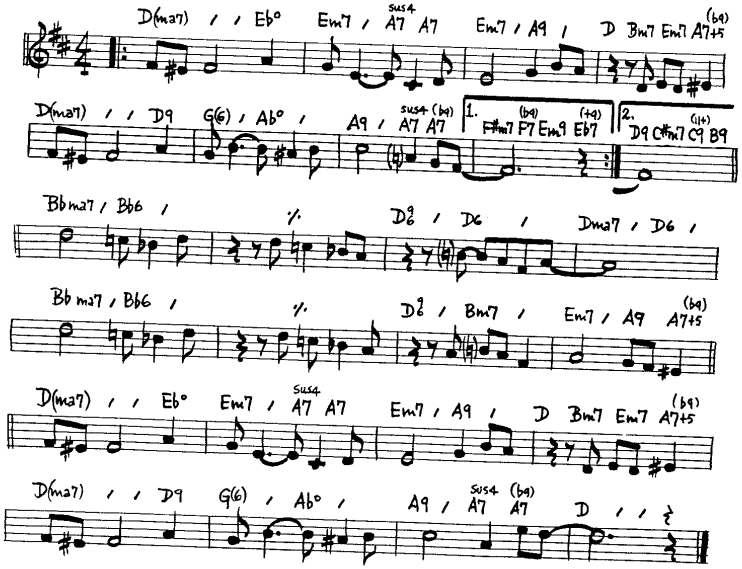


Study # 11





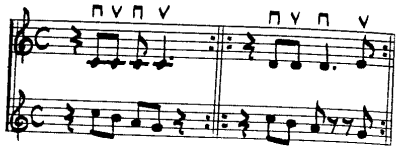
Study # 11 A

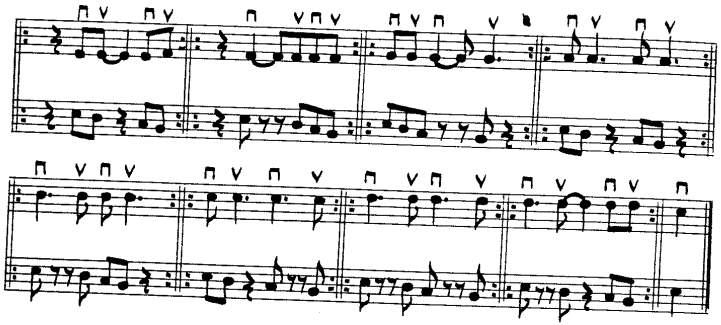


WHEN NO TEMPO IS INDICATED, THE SPEED AT WHICH A STUDY IS TO BE PLAYED IS FLEXIBLE. THESE STUDIES SHOULD BE PRACTICED AT SLOW, MEDIUM, AND (WHERE POSSIBLE) MODERATELY FAST TEMPOS.

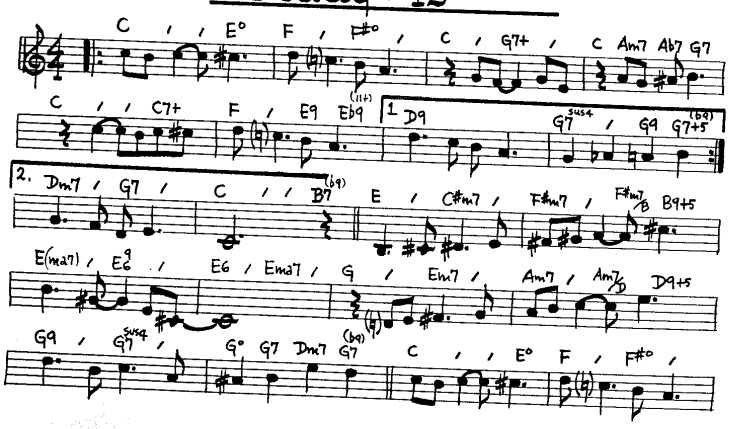
Rhythm Group # 12

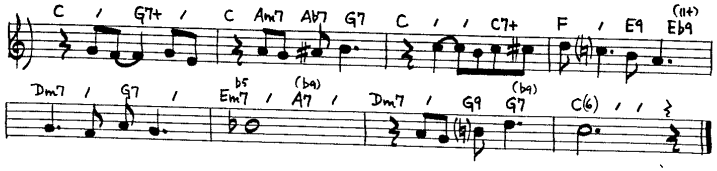
4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



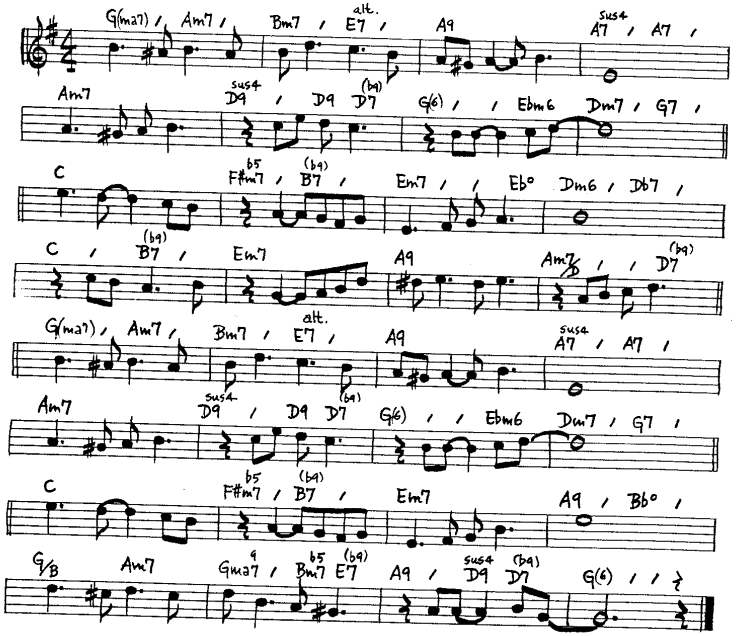


Study # 12





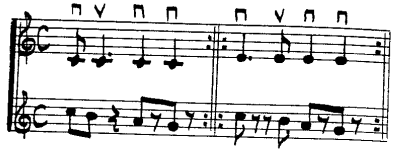
Study # 12A

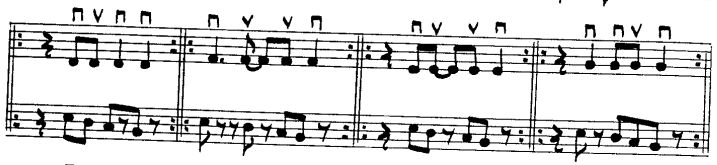


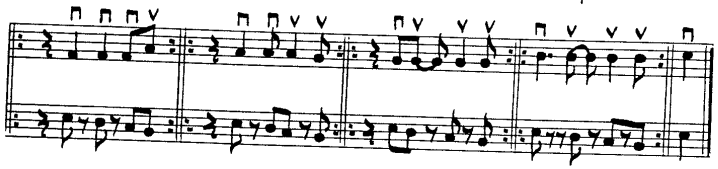
FOR PRACTICE IN THE HIGHER POSITIONS PLAY ALL "STUDIES" 8 VA.

Rhythm Group # 13

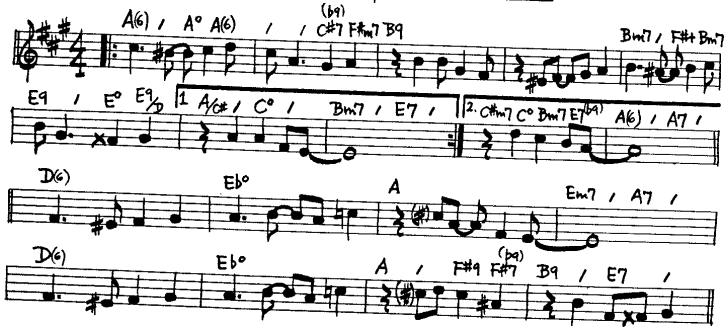
4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

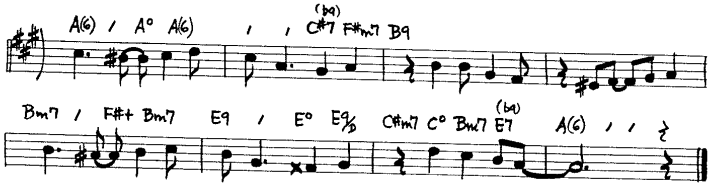




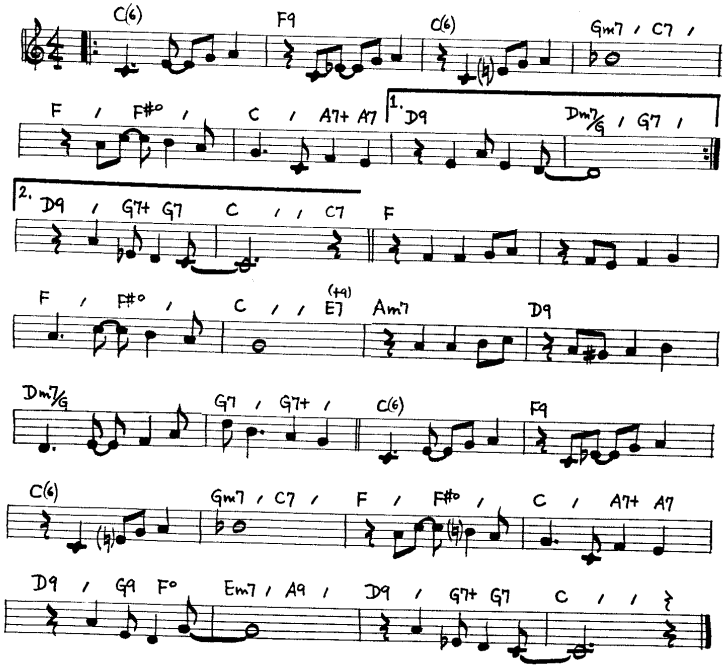


Study # 13 :



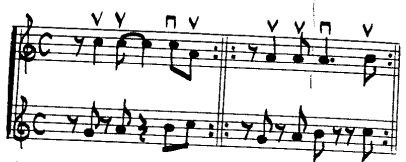


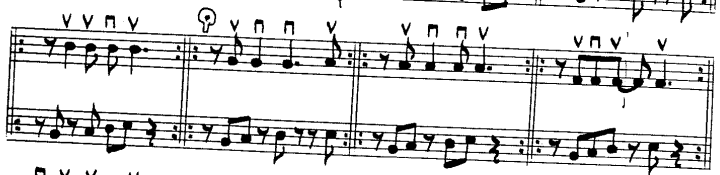
Study # 13A :

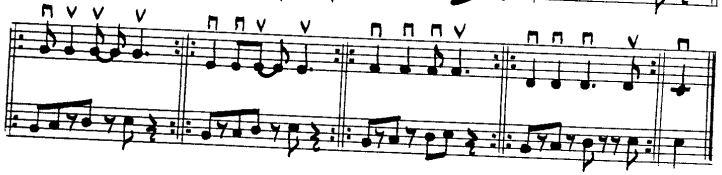


Rhythm Group # 14

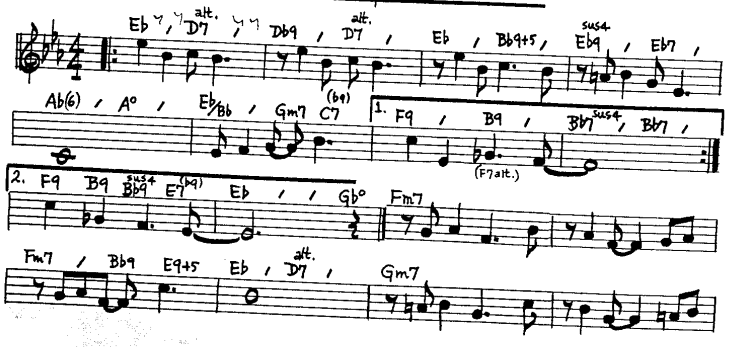
4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

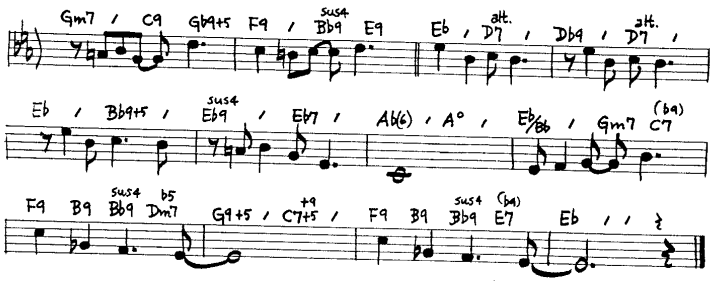




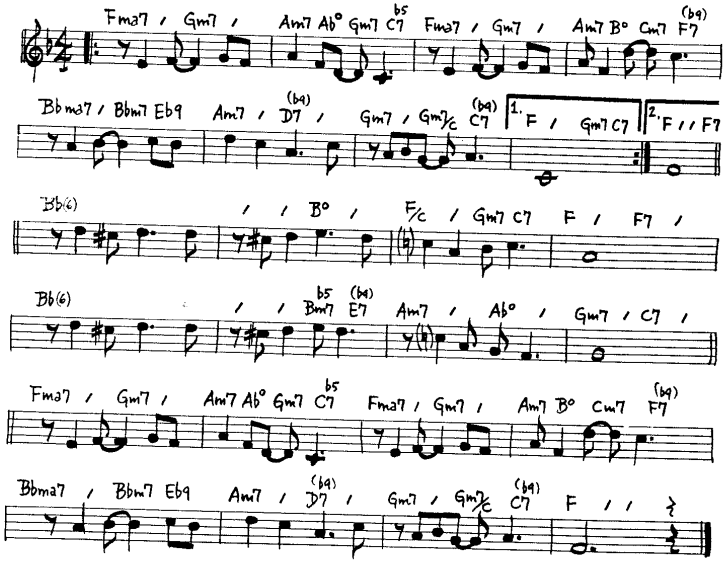


Study # 14



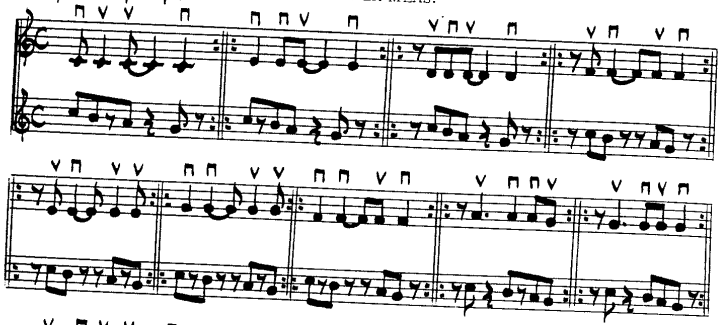


Study # 14A



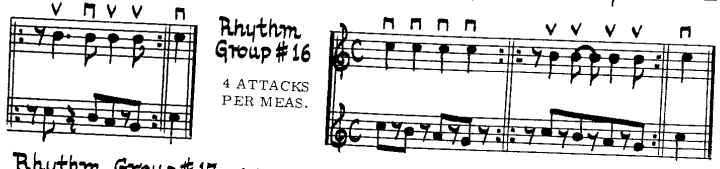
Rhythm Group # 15

4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



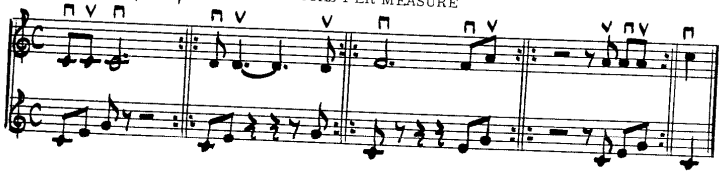
Rhythm Group # 16

4 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

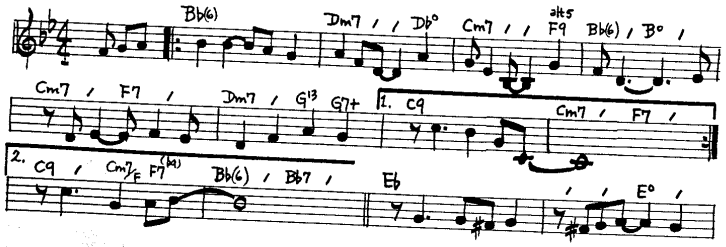


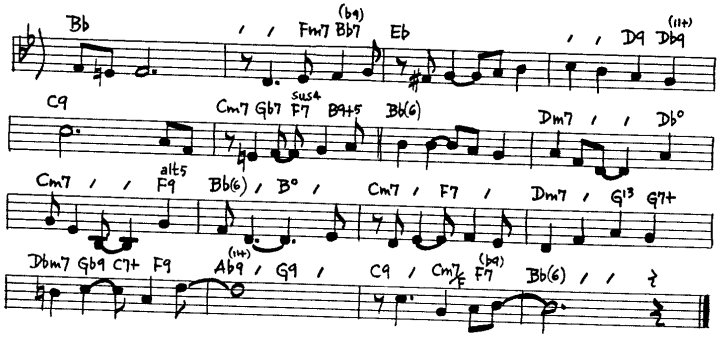
Rhythm Group # 17

3 ATTACKS PER MEASURE

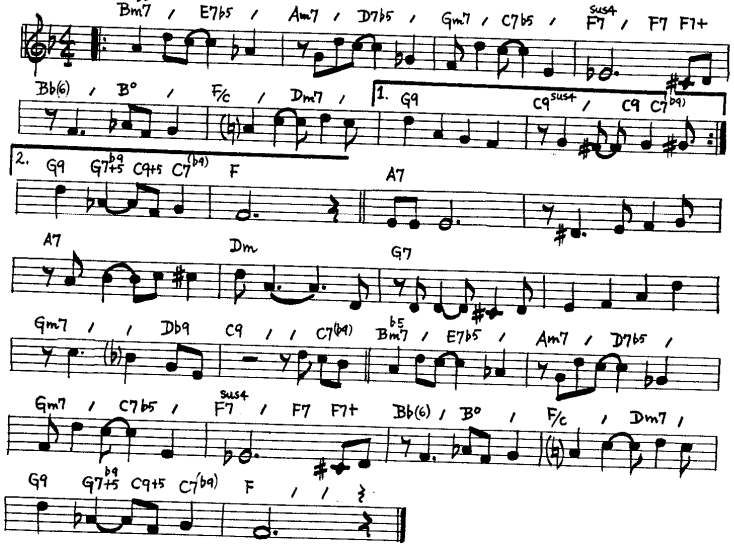


Study # 15-16-17A



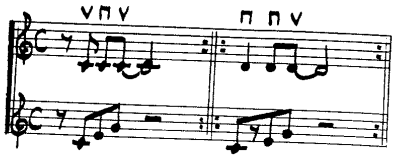


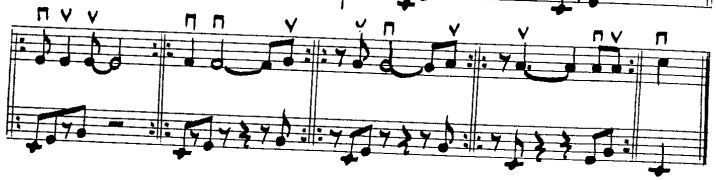
Study # 15-16-17A



Rhythm Group # 18

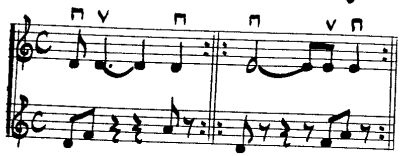
3 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

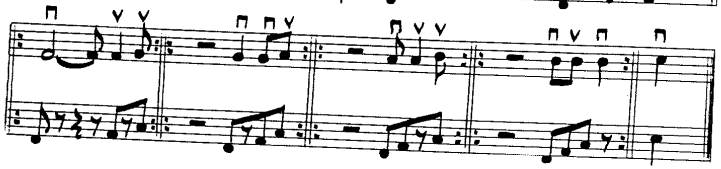




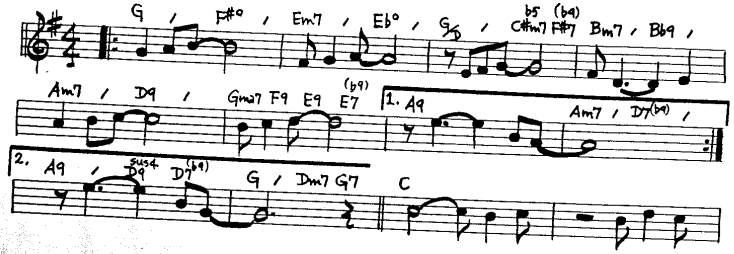
Rhythm Group # 19

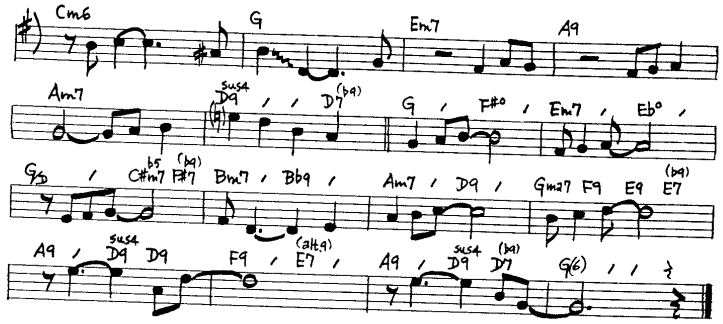
3 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



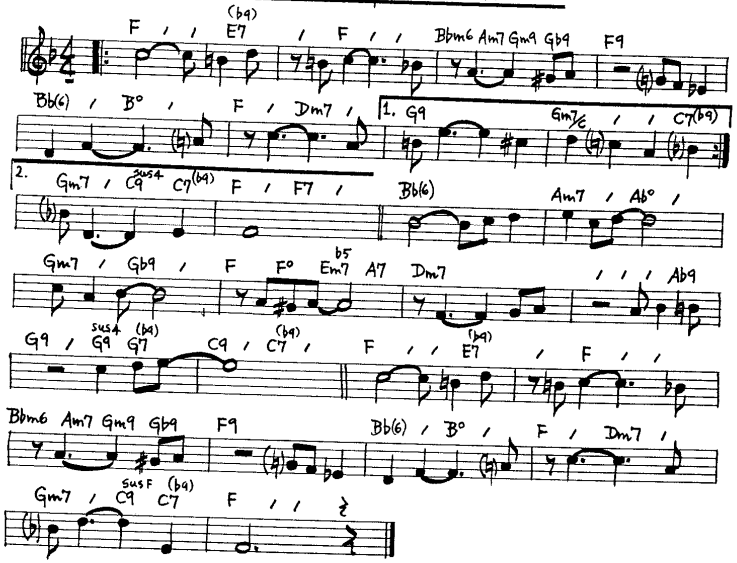


Study # 18-19.



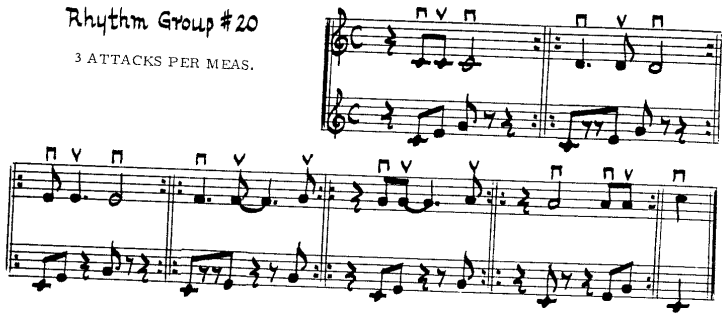


Study # 18-19 A.



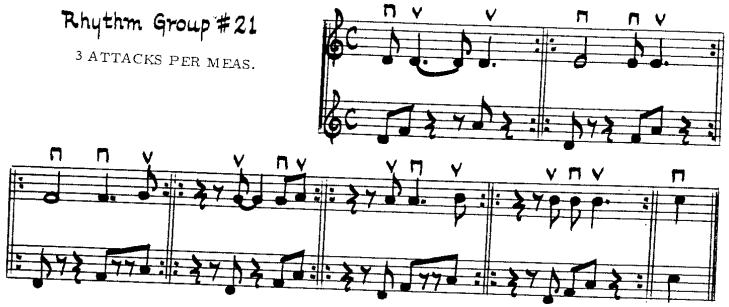
Rhythm Group #20

3 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

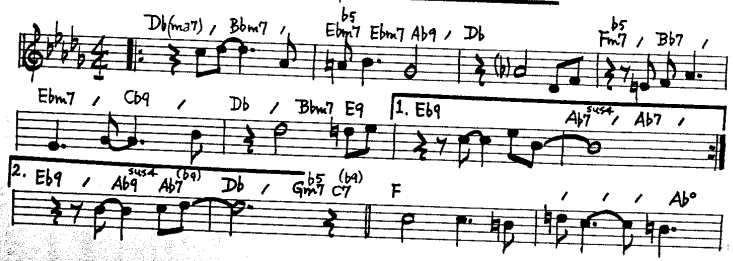


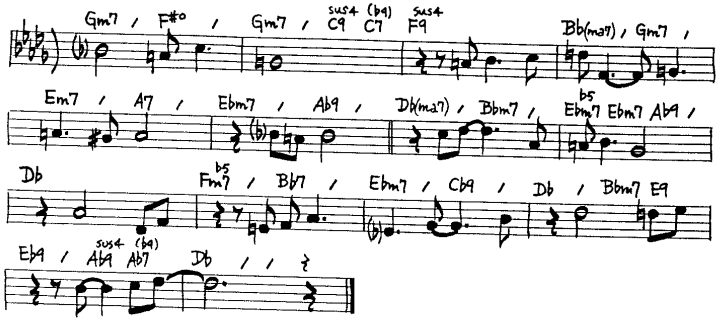
Rhythm Group #21

3 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

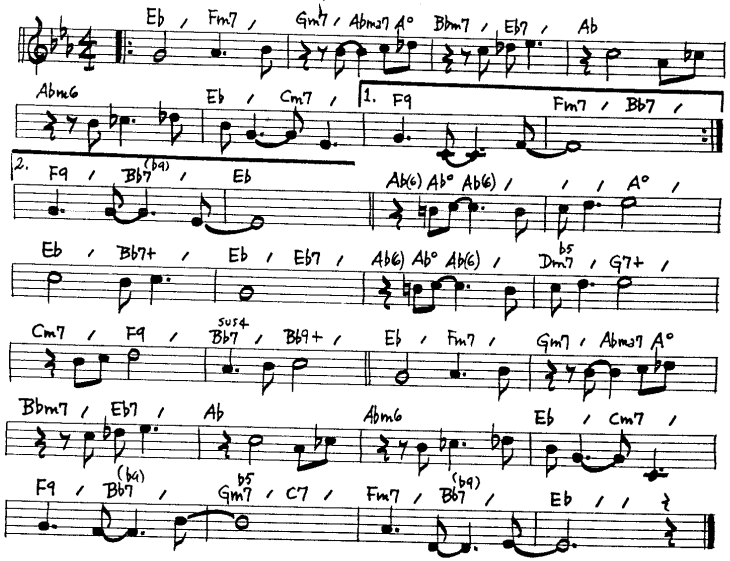


Study #20-21:



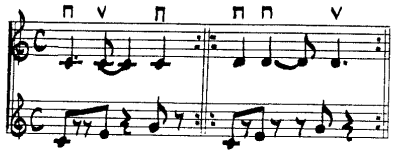


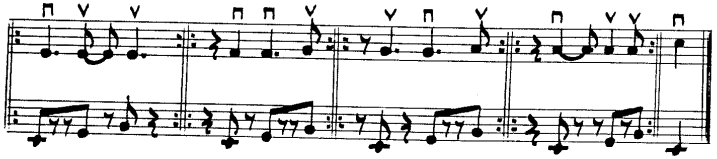
Study #20-21A°



Rhythm Group #22

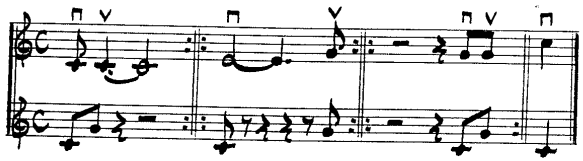
3 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



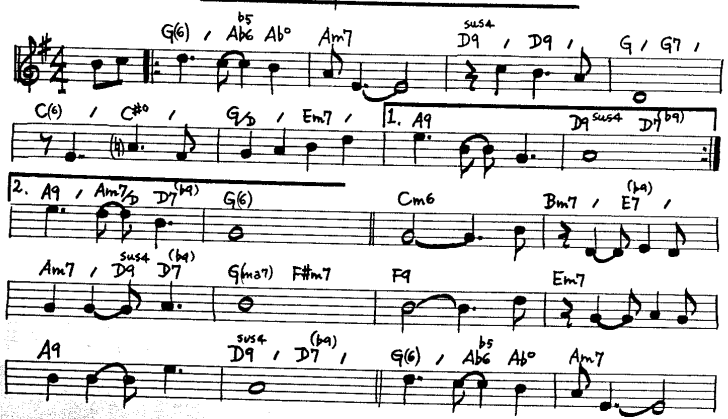


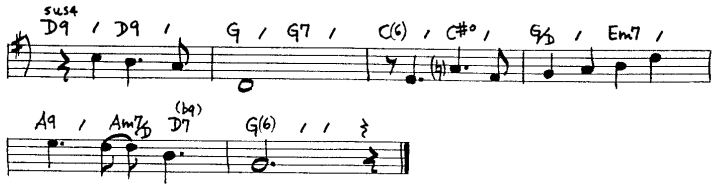
Rhythm Group #23

2 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

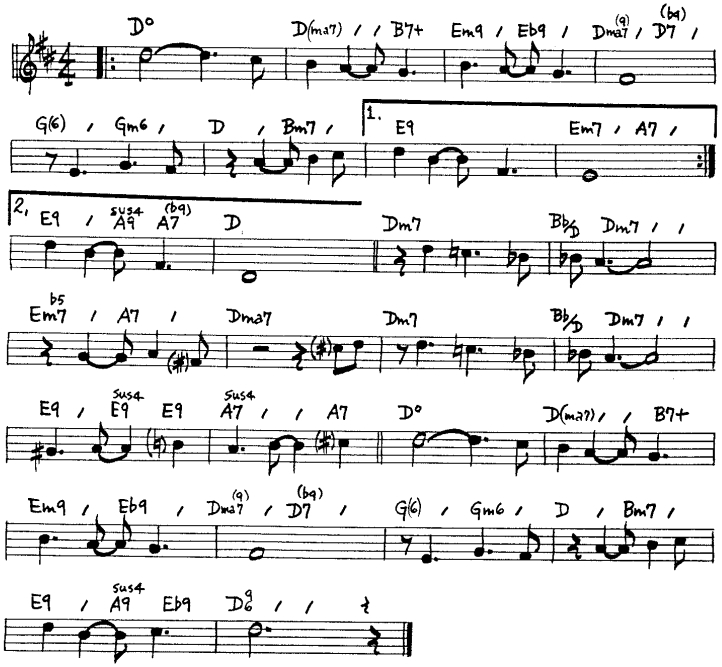


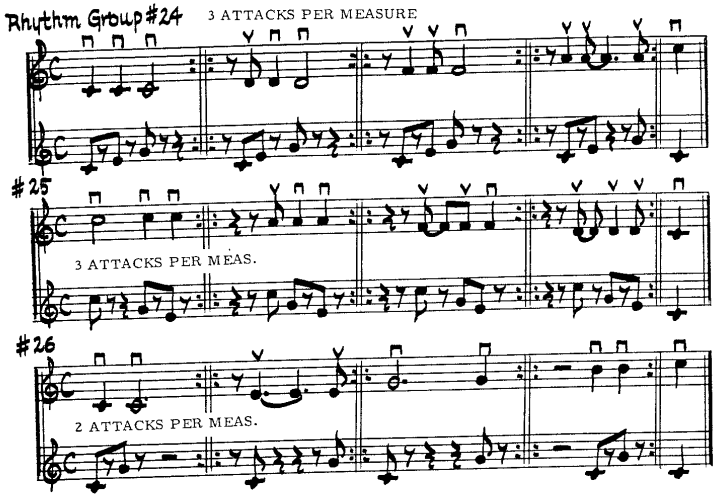
Study #22-23.



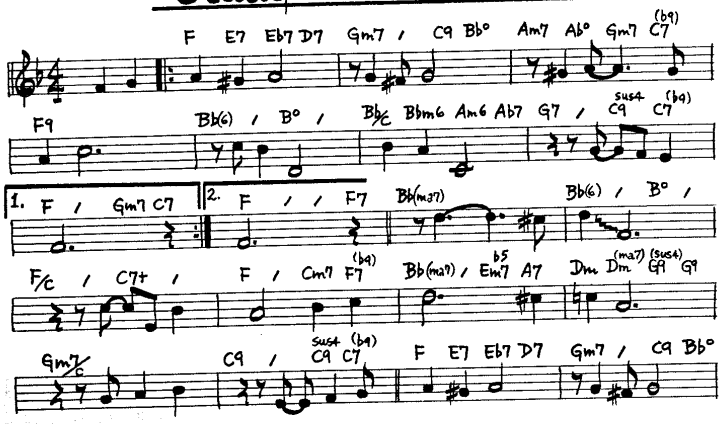


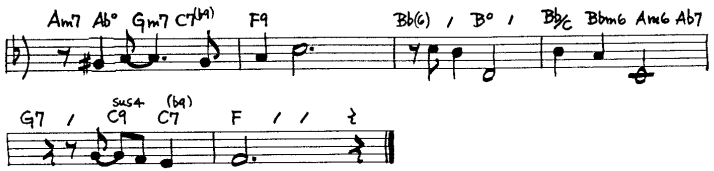
Study #22-23A :



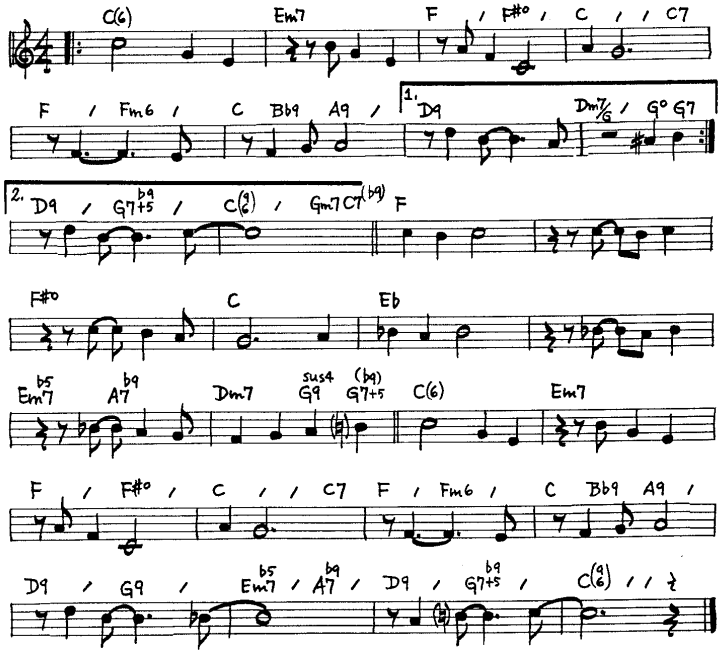


Study # 24-25-26 :

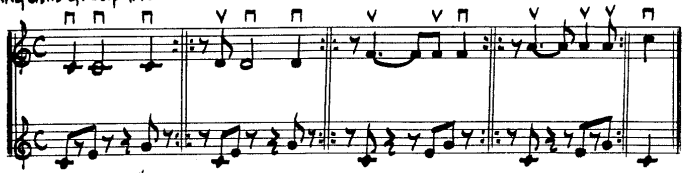




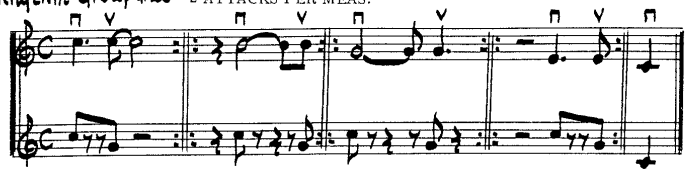
Study # 24-25-26A:



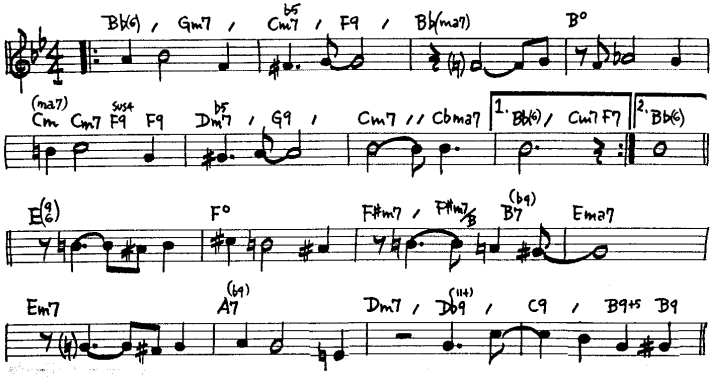
Rhythm Group #27 3 ATTACKS PER MEASURE

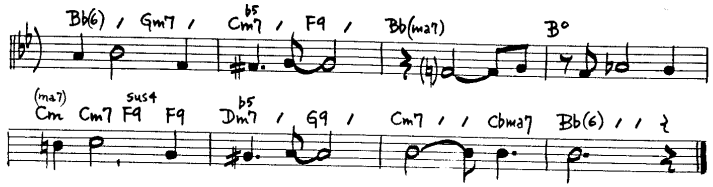


Rhythm Group #28 2 ATTACKS PER MEAS.

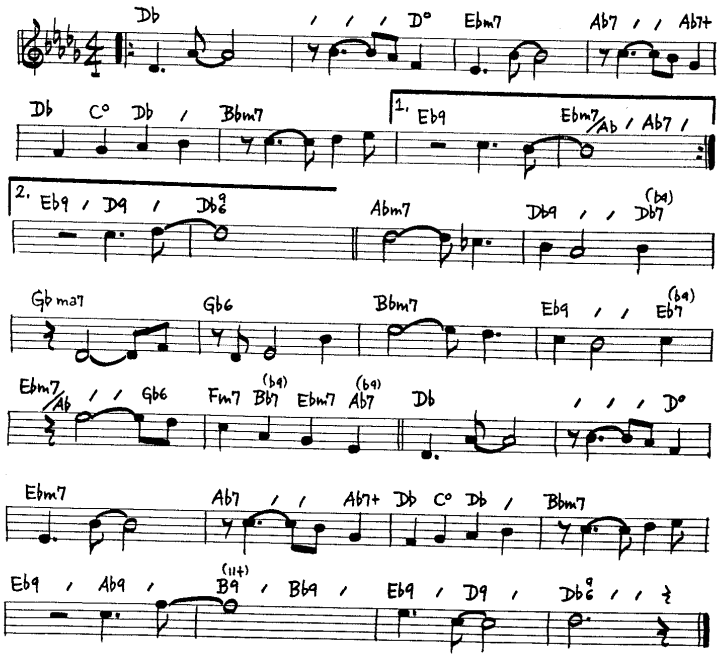


Study #27-28.

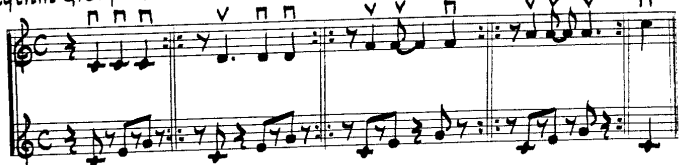




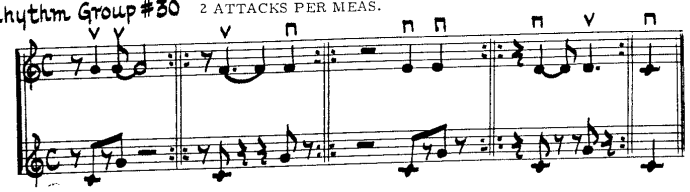
Study #27-28A.



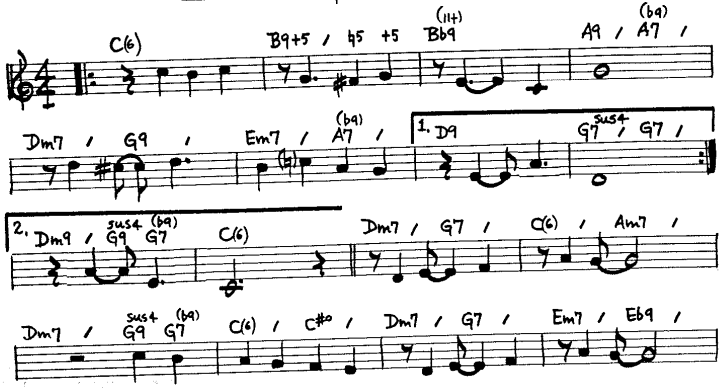
Rhythm Group #29 3 ATTACKS PER MEASURE

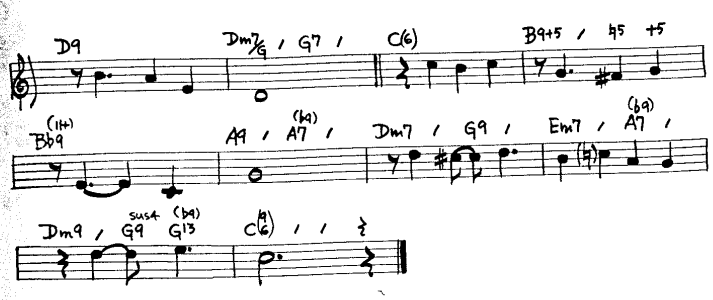


Rhythm Group #30 2 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



Study #29-30





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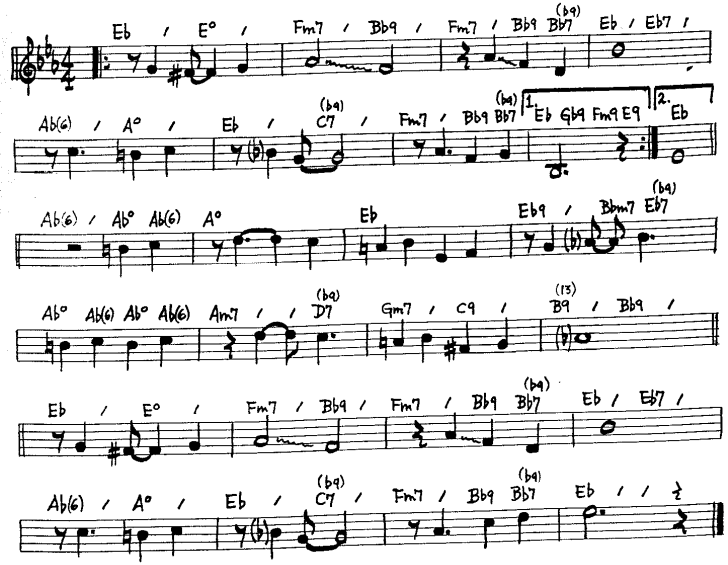
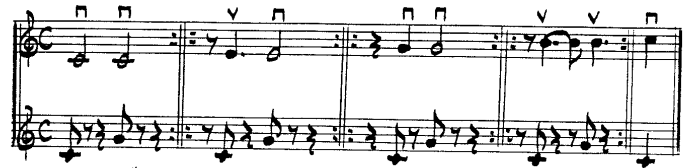
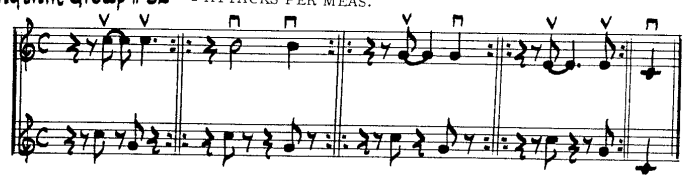


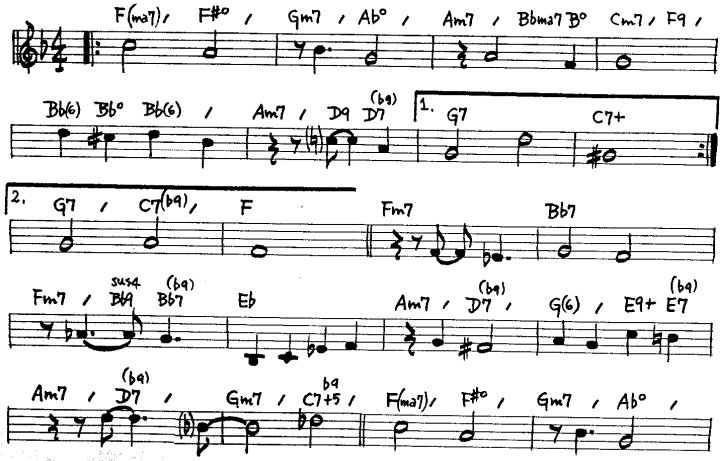
Rhythm Group # 31 2 ATTACKS PER MEASURE



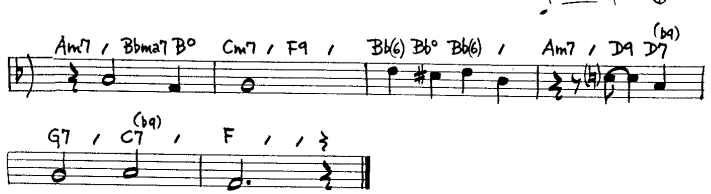
Rhythm Group # 32 2 ATTACKS PER MEAS.



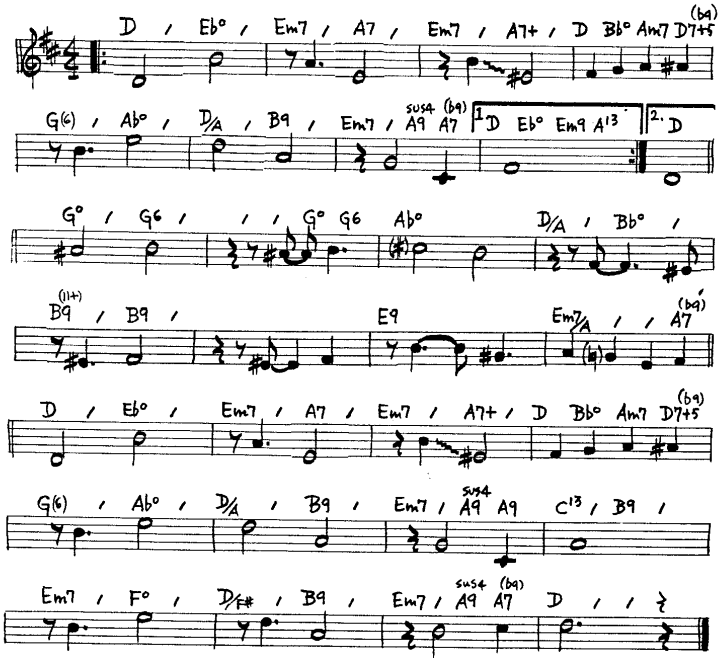
Study # 31-32



♩ = 126



Study # 31-32A



112

THREE - FOUR

TAP FOOT IN 3 THRU-OUT AND PRACTICE RHYTHM GROUPS AS FOLLOWS:

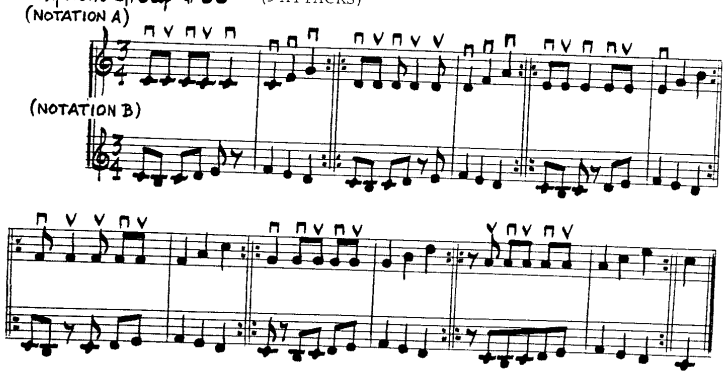
(1) PLAY WITH REPEATS .....(EACH TWO MEASURES TWICE)

(2) PLAY STRAIGHT THRU - NO REPEATS

Rhythm Group #33 (5 ATTACKS)

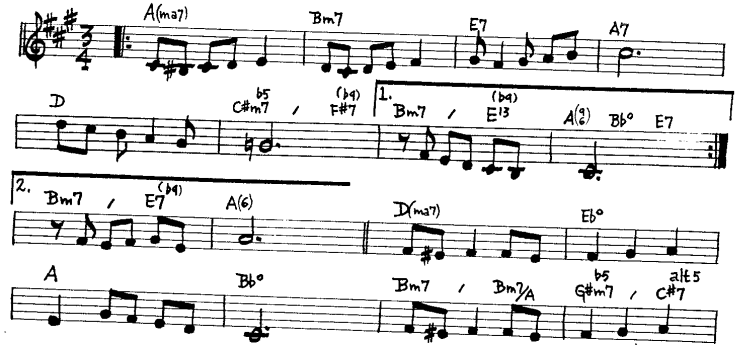
(NOTATION A)

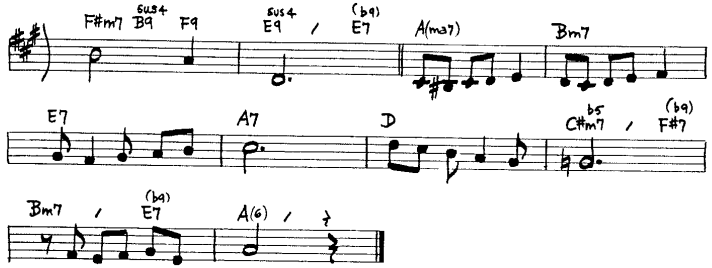
(NOTATION B)



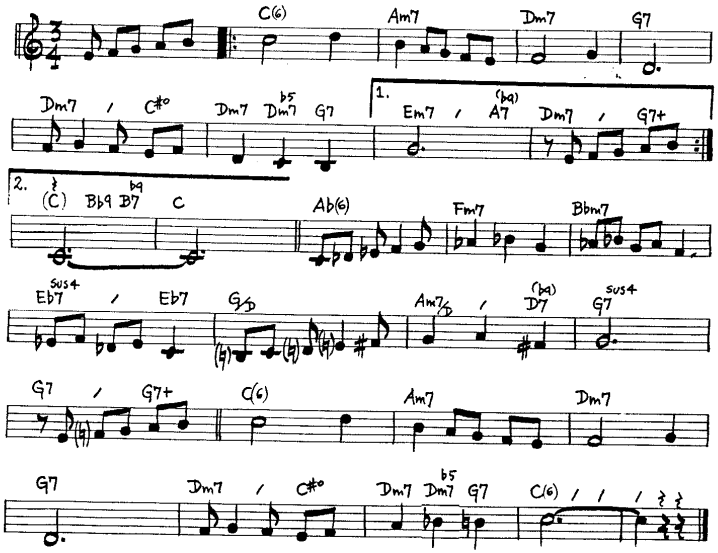
IN ALL 3/4 STUDIES PLAY CONSECUTIVE EIGHTH NOTES AS WRITTEN AT A SLOW TEMPO.....AND AS ♪♪ IN A BRIGHTER TEMPO.

Study # 33





Study # 33A

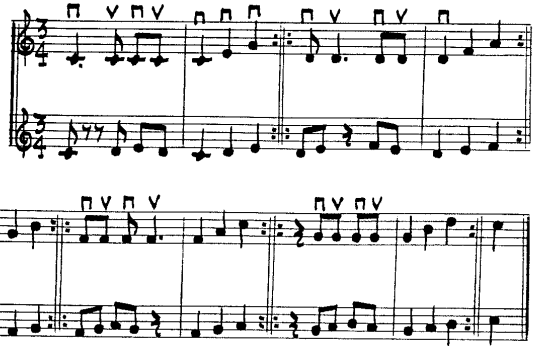


WHEN NO TEMPO IS INDICATED, THE SPEED AT WHICH A STUDY IS TO BE PLAYED IS FLEXIBLE. THESE STUDIES SHOULD BE PRACTICED AT SLOW, MEDIUM, AND (WHERE POSSIBLE) MODERATELY FAST TEMPOS.

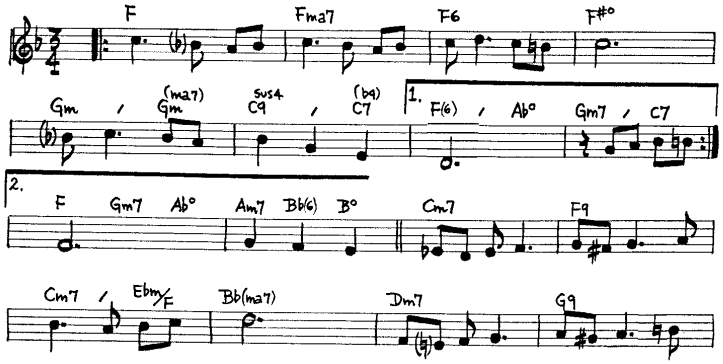
GRADUALLY INCREASE TEMPO FOR ALL 3/4 RHYTHM GROUPS
UNTIL YOU CAN PLAY THEM WITH FOOT TAPPING "IN ONE"

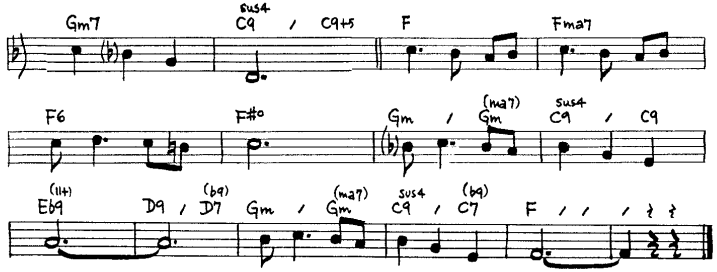
Rhythm Group # 34

(4 ATTACKS)

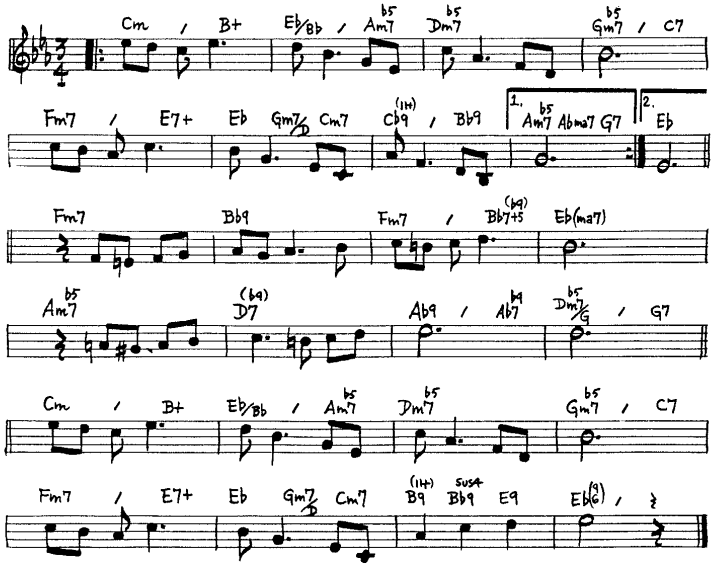


Study # 34



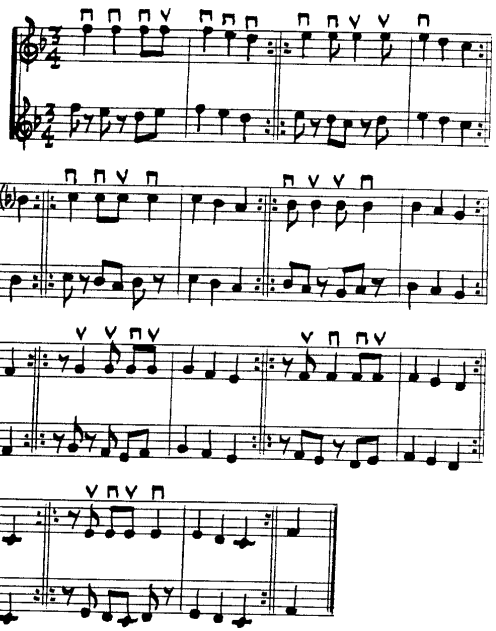


Study # 34A

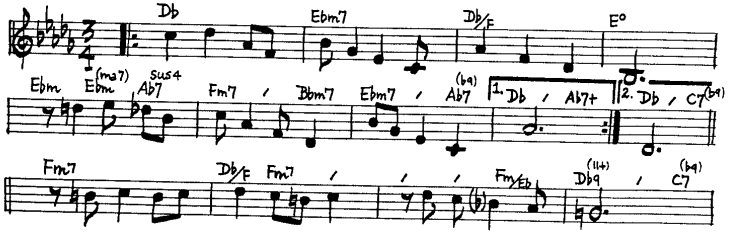


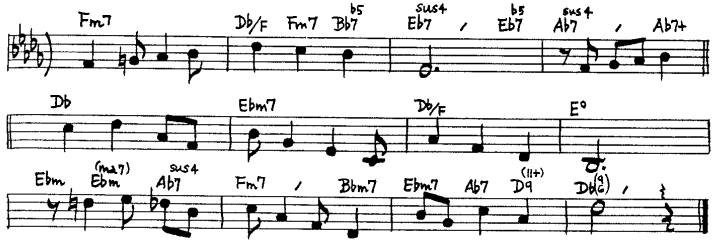
Rhythm Group # 35

(4 ATTACKS)

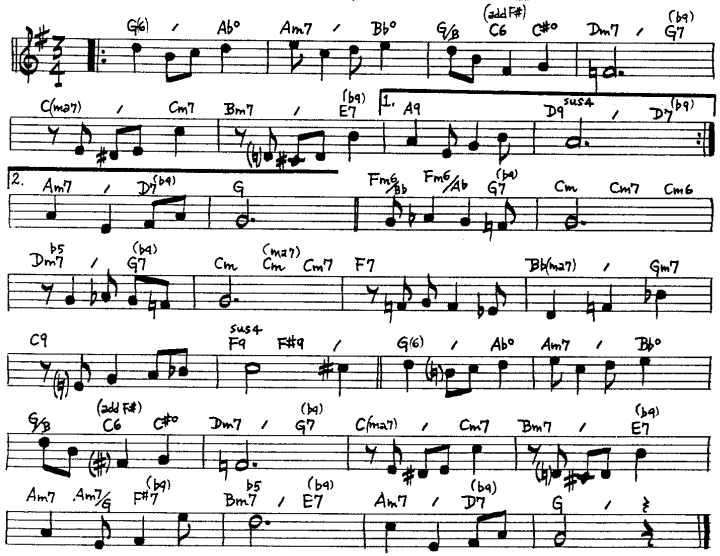


Study # 35





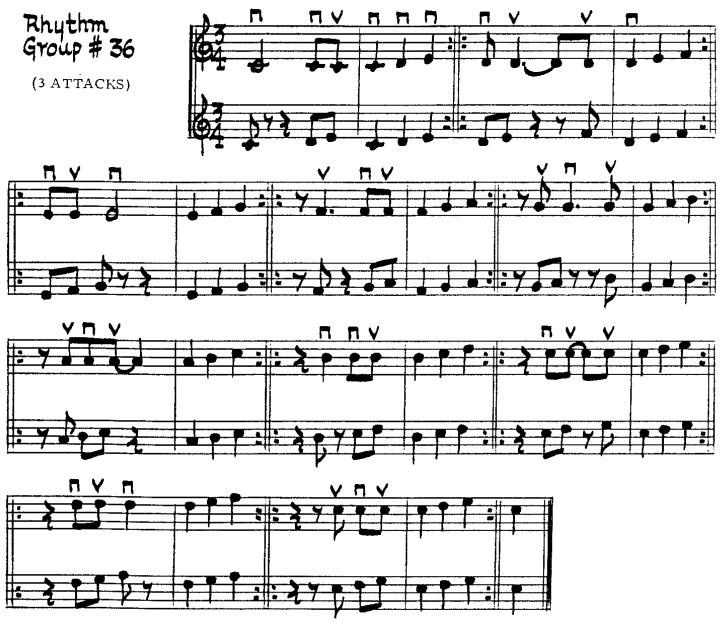
Study # 35A



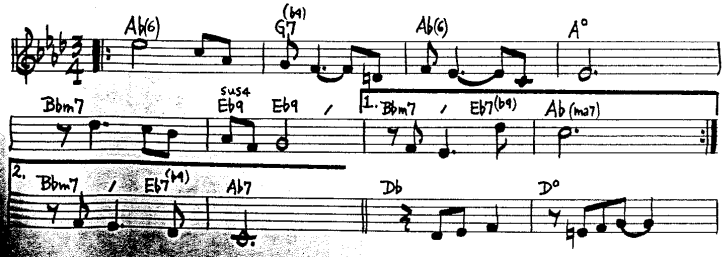
PRACTICE THE "STUDIES" IN ALL PRACTICAL POSITIONS.....
(FROM I THRU VII OR VIII, DEPENDING UPON THE KEY AND THE OUTSIDE RANGE.)

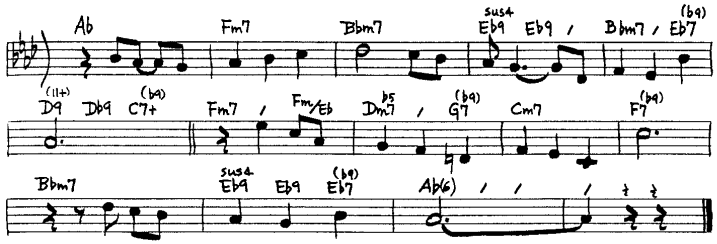
Rhythm Group # 36

(3 ATTACKS)

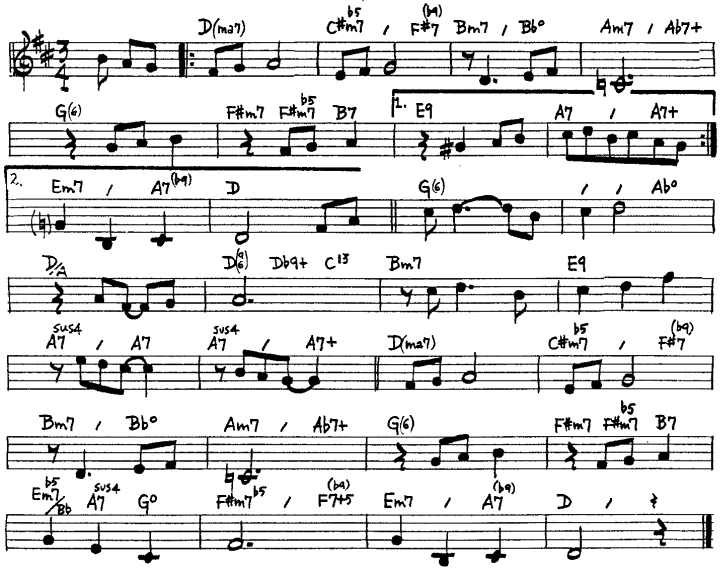


Study # 36

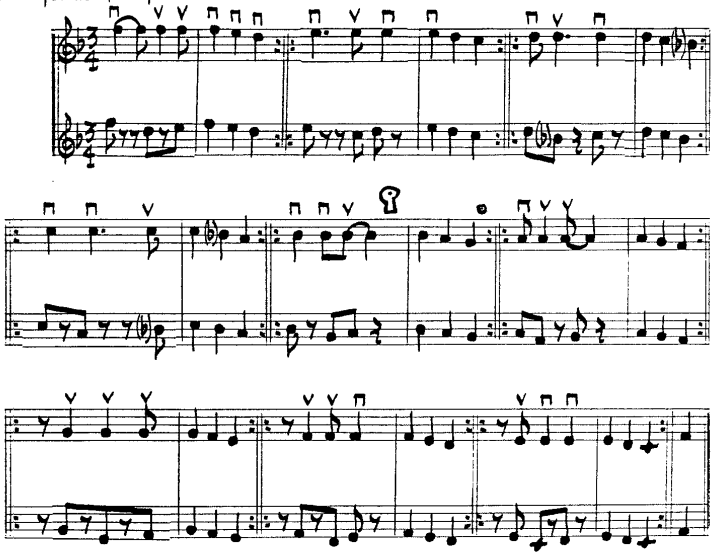




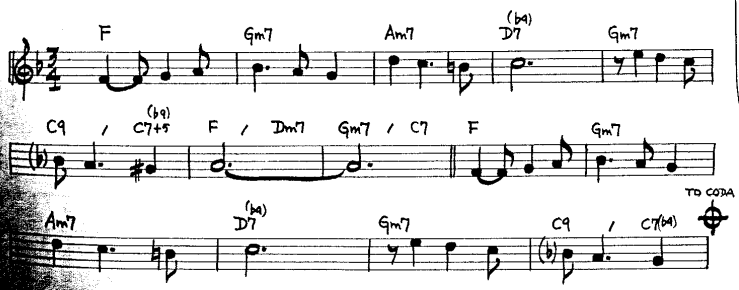
Study # 36A

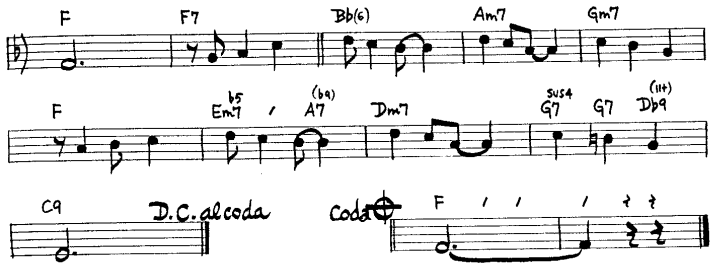


Rhythm Group # 37 (3 ATTACKS)



Study # 37





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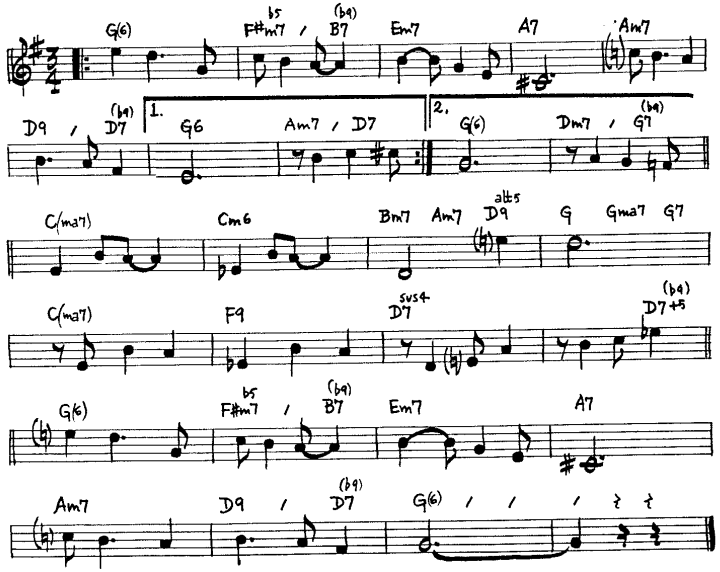
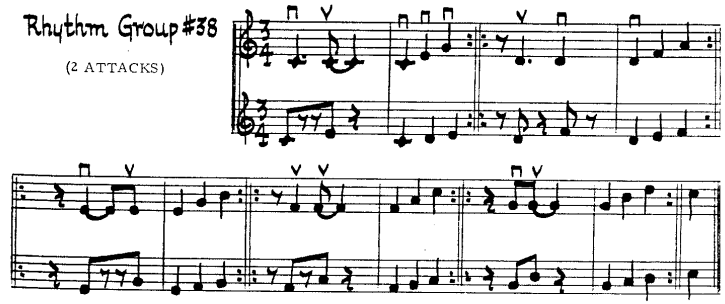


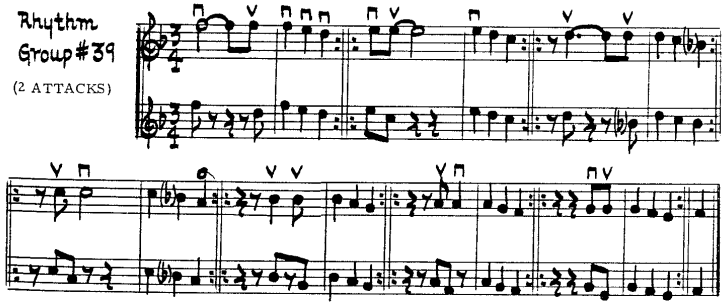
Rhythm Group #38

(2 ATTACKS)

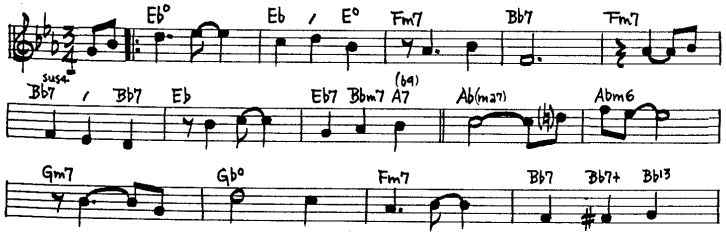


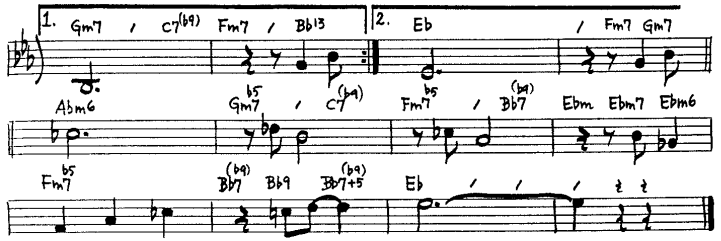
Rhythm Group #39

(2 ATTACKS)

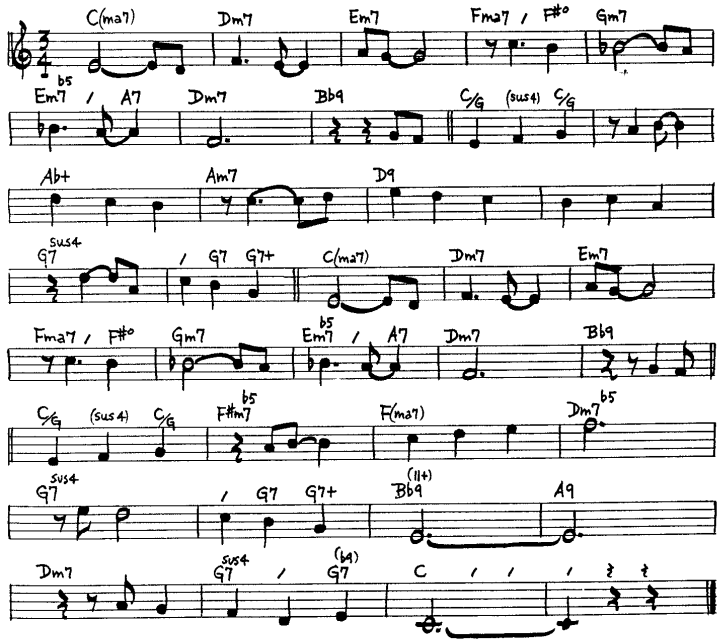


Study # 38-39





Study # 38-39A

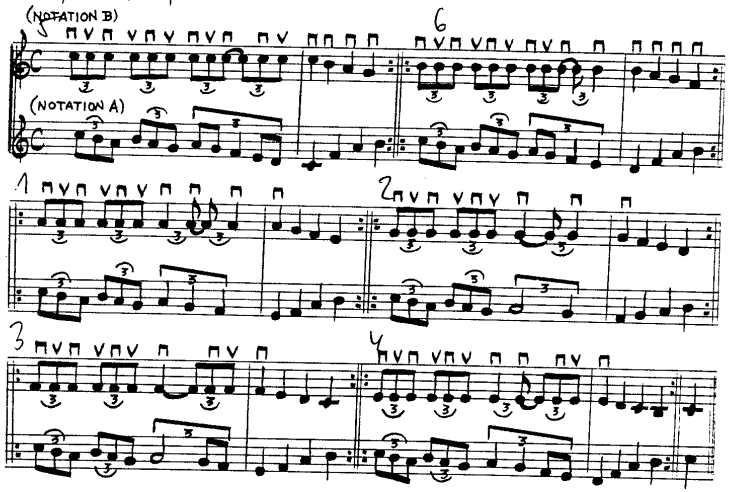


Play in Seq 1/2/3/4/5/6

TRIPLETS

Rhythm Group #40

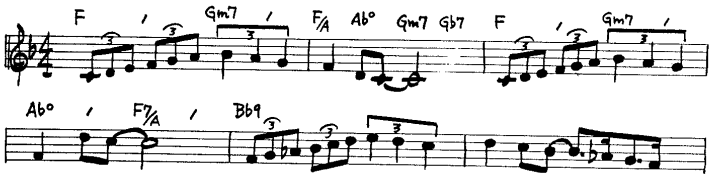
THE NUMBER OF ATTACKS PER MEASURE VARIES IN GROUPS 40, 41 AND 42 BECAUSE OF THE RHYTHMIC PREPARATION THAT IS NECESSARY TO "FEEL" THESE RHYTHMS.

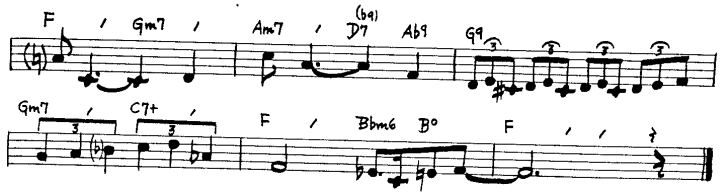


FROM THIS POINT ON PLAY ALL STUDIES WITH A SWING FEELING AND EXACTLY AS NOTATED.....

Study #40

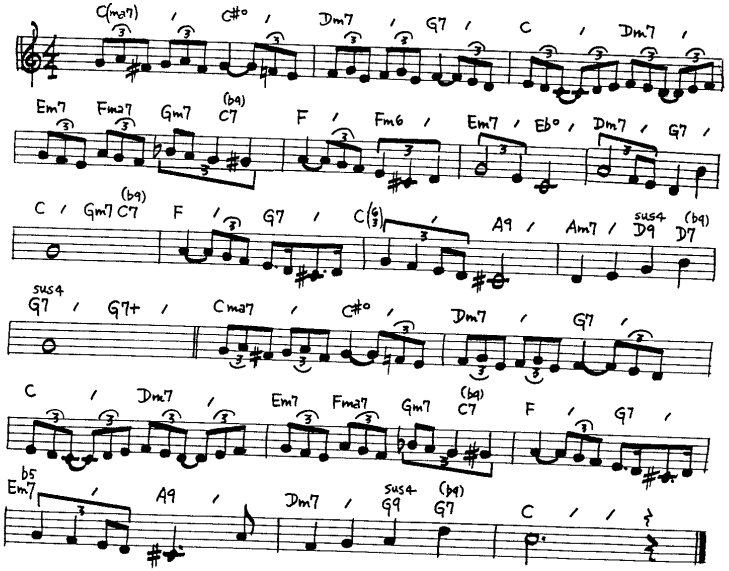
(Slow to Easy Swing Tempo)





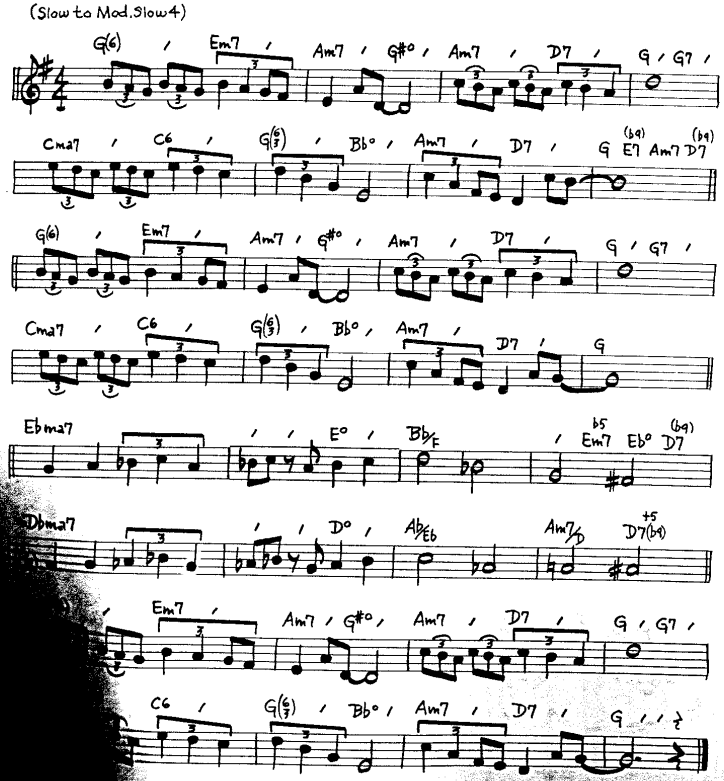
Study #40A

(Slow 4)



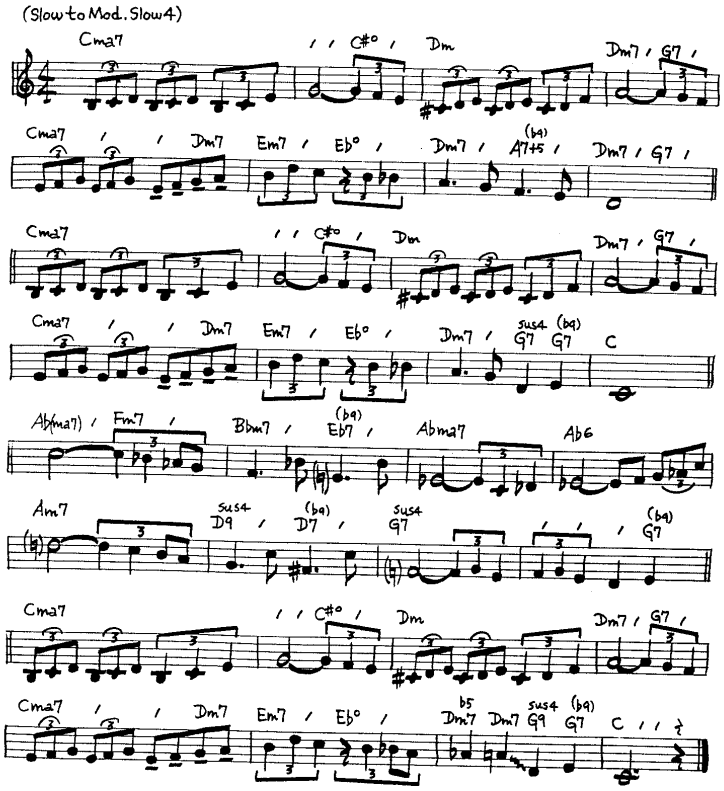
Study #40 B

(Slow to Mod. Slow 4)



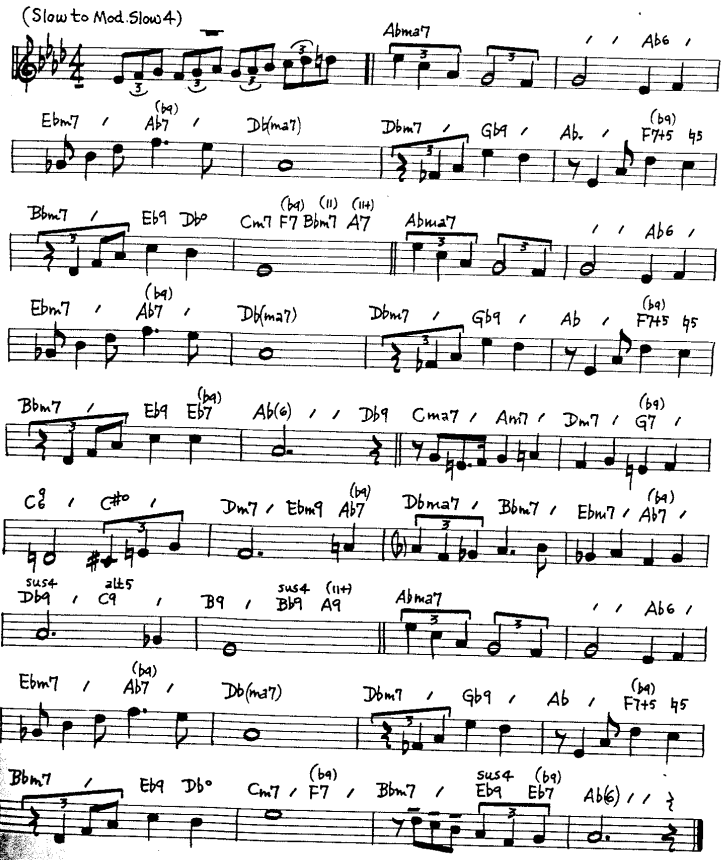
Study #40 C

(Slow to Mod. Slow 4)

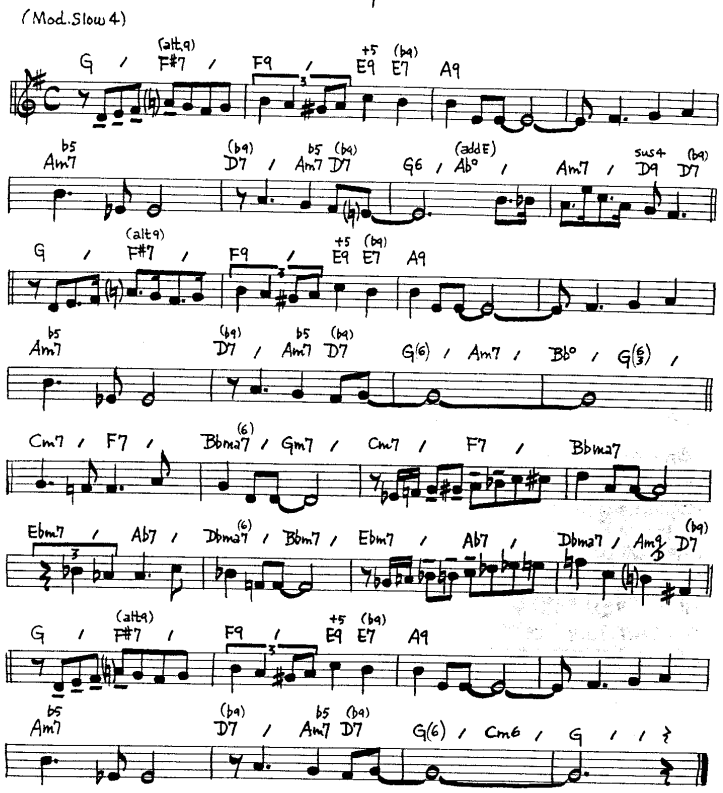


FOR PRACTICE IN THE HIGHER POSITIONS PLAY ALL "STUDIES" 8 VA.

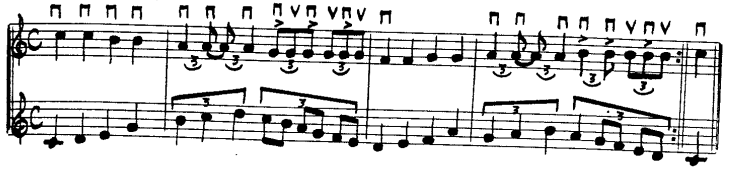
Study #40 D



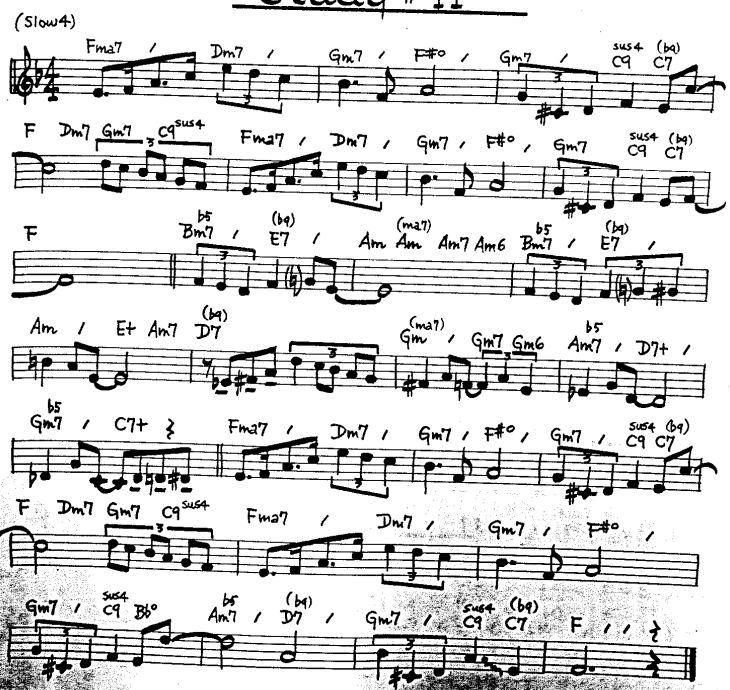
Study #40 E



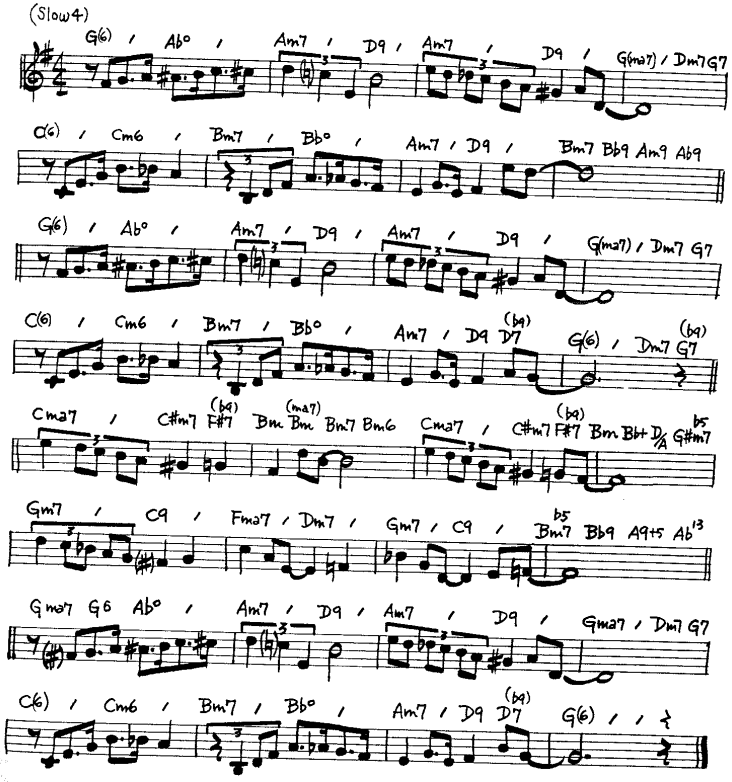
Rhythm Group #41



Study #41



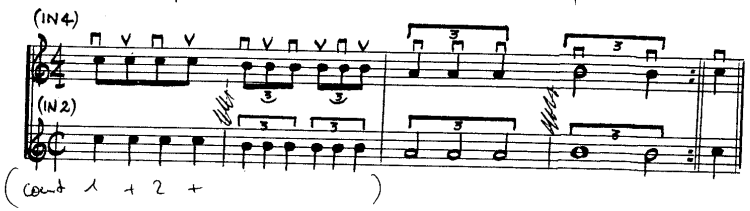
Study #41A



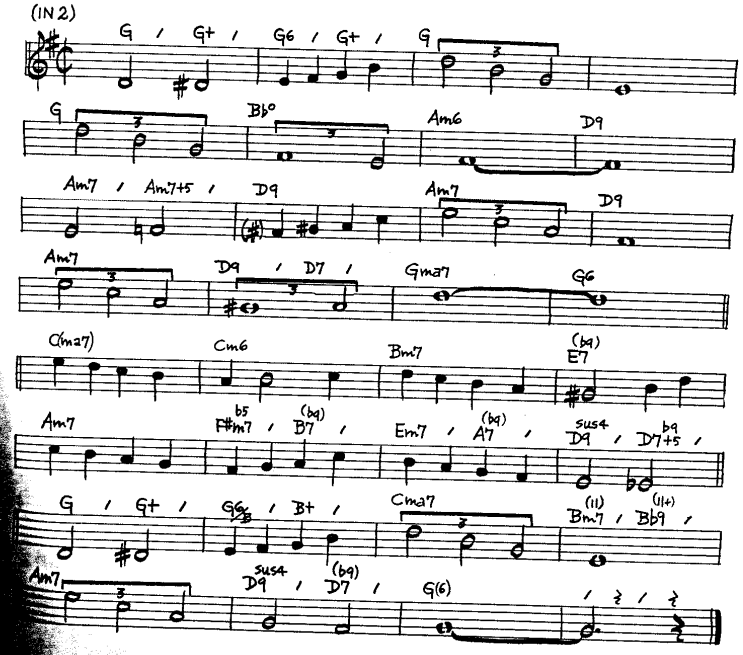
1 a + a 2 a + a 3 a + a 4 a + a

play behind Tube 2a AND 3+

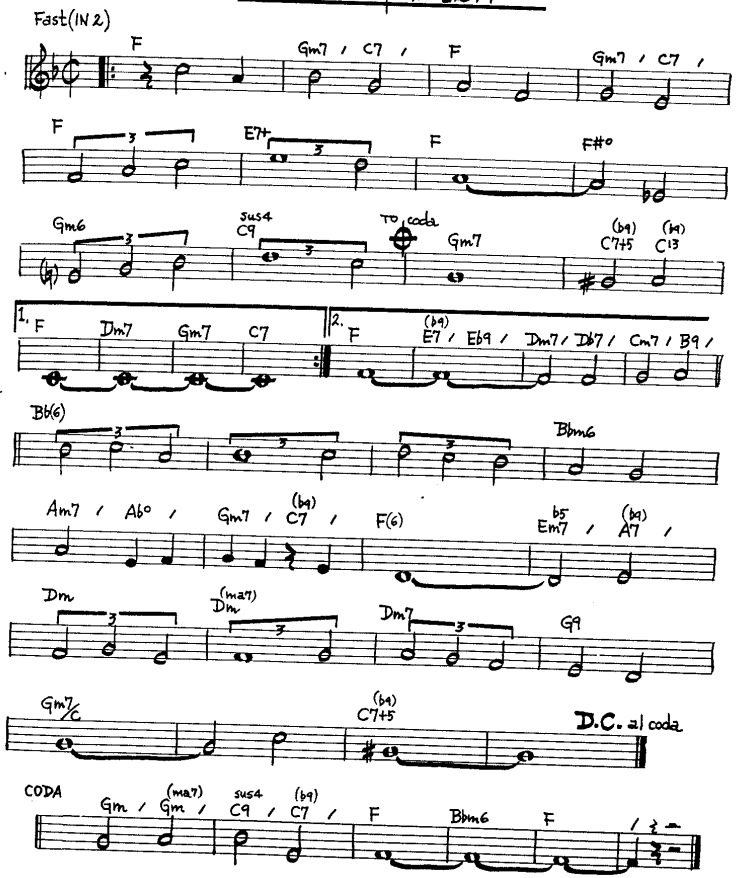
Rhythm Group #42



Study #42



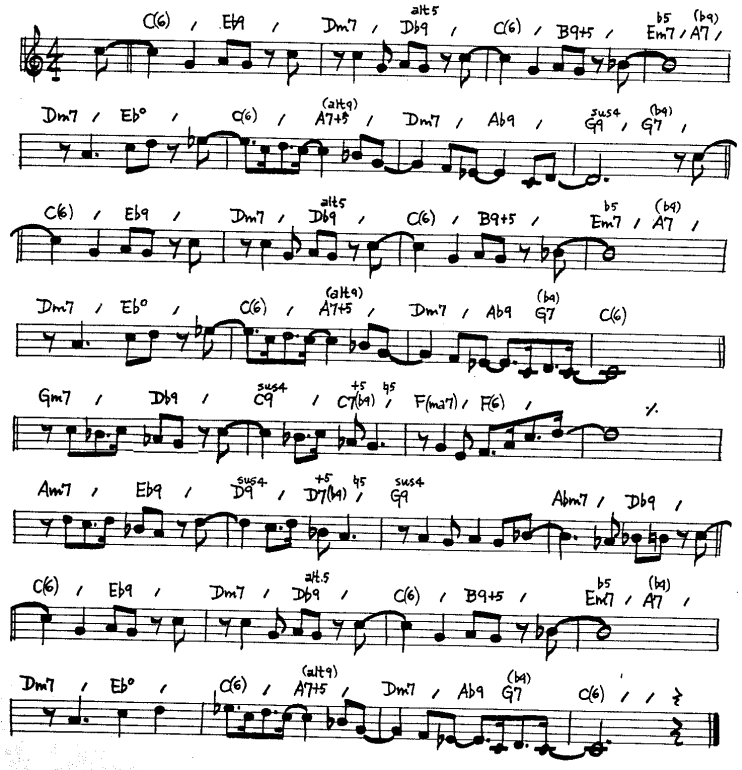
Study #42A



Special Studies ..... CONTAINING RHYTHMS FROM MIXED GROUPS.

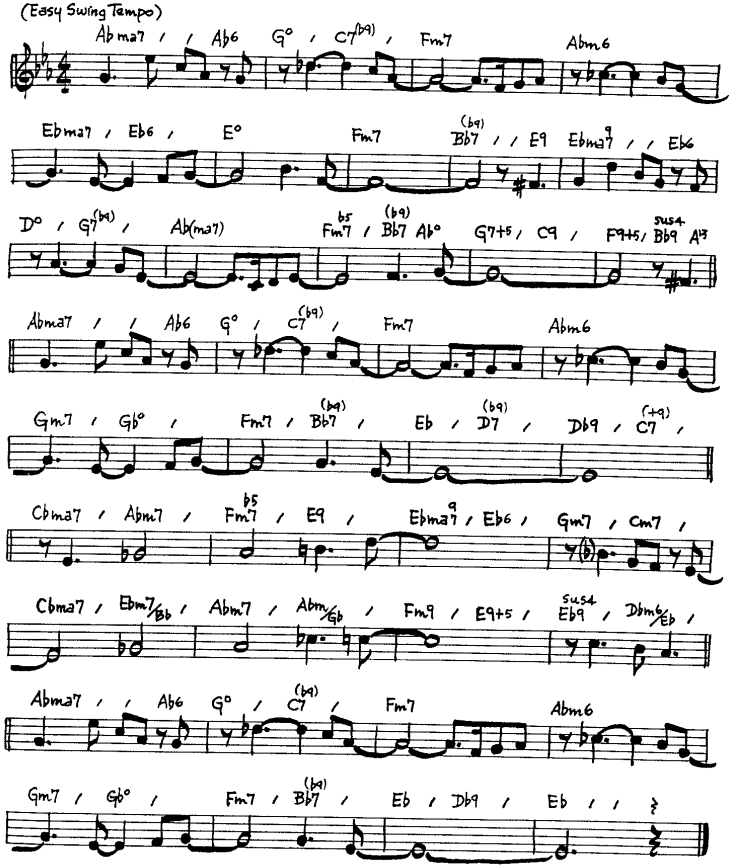
Study #43

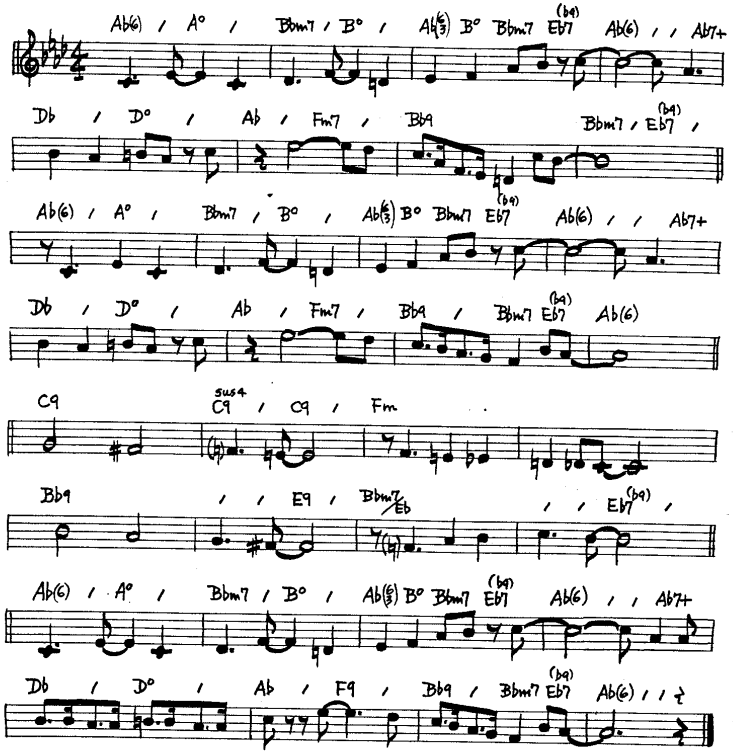
(Easy to Mod. Swing Tempo)



Study #43A

(Easy Swing Tempo)



Study #43 B

(Mod. to Fast 4)