

Modal Moves



Here are chord progressions for the major scale modes in the key of G major. The idea is for you to gain an appreciation of the sound of these modes by playing the chord progressions. There is also a backing track of these progressions joined into a continuous piece of music for you to improvise over.

Remember that the modes are actually scales. All of them in fact are the major scale but simply emphasising one note over all the others. This is called the 'Tonal Center'.

Practice playing the chord progressions as well as improvising over them.

IONIAN

||: G | Cadd9 | D Cadd9 | G :||

DORIAN

||: Am7 | D9 | Am7 | D9 :||

PHRYGIAN

||: Bm | C | Bm | C |
| Bm | C | Em | C :||

LYDIAN

||: Caug4 C | Dsus4 | Caug4 C | Dsus4 :||

MIXOLYDIAN

||: D Cadd9 | G Cadd9 | D Cadd9 | G Cadd9 :||

AEOLIAN

||: Em7add9 | Em7add9 | Cmaj7 | Dsus4 :||

LOCRIAN

||: F#mb5 | Bm | F#mb5 | D :||