

Fretboard Workshop: Melodic Transformations

By Bryan Clark
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Ex. 1 Original maj7 Arpeggio

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gmaj7

mf

T
A
B

5 4 3 2 | 3 2 5 4 5 4 3 2

Ex. 2 Moving the 3rd Down = sus2 (maj9)

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gmaj7sus2

(Gmaj9)

mf

T
A
B

5 2 3 2 | 3 5 5 4 5 4 3 2

Ex. 3 Moving the 3rd Up = maj7sus4

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gmaj7sus4

mf

T
A
B

5 5 7 7 | 3 3 5 4 5 5 7 7

Ex. 4 Moving the 5th Down 1/2 Step = maj7 #11

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gmaj7#11

mf

T
A
B

5 4 2 2 | 3 2 4 4 5 4 2 2

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Ex. 5 Getting It Under Your Fingers - MAJOR

Moderately slow ♩ = 80

Gmaj7 Gmaj7sus2 Gmaj7sus4 Gmaj7#11

mf

TAB: 5 4 3 2 3 4 5, 5 2 3 2 3 2 5, 5 5 3 2 3 5 5, 5 4 2 2 4 5

Ex. 6 Getting It Under Your Fingers - MAJOR

Moderately slow ♩ = 80

Gmaj7 Gmaj7sus2 Gmaj7sus4 Gmaj7#11

mf

TAB: 5 4 7 7 4 5, 5 7 7 7 7 5, 5 5 7 7 7 5 5, 5 4 6 6 4 5

Ex. 7 MAJOR Examples: All over G Major

Moderately ♩ = 115

Gmaj7sus2

mf

TAB: 10 12 12 11 10 12 10 14

Ex. 8 MAJOR Examples: All over G Major

Moderately ♩ = 200

Gmaj7sus4

mf

TAB: 12 10 12 11 12 13 10 14

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Ex. 9 MAJOR Examples: All over G Major

Moderately ♩ = 200

Gmaj7#11

mf

T
A
B

Ex. 10 MAJOR Examples: Combining All Three

Moderately ♩ = 100

Gmaj7sus4

Gmaj7#11

Gmaj7sus2

mf

T
A
B

Ex. 11 Original m7 Arpeggio

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gm7

mf

T
A
B

Ex. 12 Moving the 3rd Down = m7sus2 (m9)

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gm7sus2

(Gm9)

mf

T
A
B

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Ex. 13 Moving the 3rd Up = m7sus4

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gm7sus4

Musical notation for Ex. 13. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody starts on G4, moves to A-flat4, B-flat4, and C5, then descends: B-flat4, A-flat4, G4, F4, E-flat4, D4. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 5, 5, 7, 6, 3, 3, 5, 3, 5, 5, 7, 6.

Ex. 14 Moving the 5th Down 1/2 Step = m7 b5

Moderately ♩ = 120

Gm7b5

Musical notation for Ex. 14. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The melody starts on G4, moves to A-flat4, B-flat4, and C5, then descends: B-flat4, A-flat4, G4, F4, E-flat4, D4. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 5, 3, 6, 6, 3, 6, 4, 3, 5, 3, 6, 6.

Ex. 15 Getting It Under Your Fingers - MINOR

Moderately slow ♩ = 80

Gm7

Gm7sus2

Gm7sus4

Gm7b5

Musical notation for Ex. 15. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It features four measures of eighth-note triplets. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 5, 3, 3, 1, 3, 3, 5, 5, 2, 3, 1, 3, 2, 5, 5, 5, 3, 1, 3, 5, 5, 5, 5, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 5.

Ex. 16 Getting It Under Your Fingers - MINOR

Moderately slow ♩ = 80

Gm7

Gm7sus2

Gm7sus4

Gm7b5

Musical notation for Ex. 16. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It features four measures of eighth-note triplets. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 5, 8, 7, 6, 7, 8, 5, 5, 7, 6, 7, 7, 5, 5, 5, 7, 6, 7, 5, 5, 5, 8, 6, 6, 8, 5.

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Ex. 17 MINOR Examples: All over Em

Moderately ♩ = 150

Em7sus2

mf

TAB: 7 9 7 9 7 7 7 10 12

Ex. 18 MINOR Examples: All over Em

Moderately ♩ = 150

Em7sus4

mf

TAB: 9 7 7 9 7 7 7 9 10 7 12 12 10 12 9

Ex. 19 MINOR Examples: All over Em

Very fast ♩ = 200

Em7b5

mf

TAB: 10 9 6 8 9 7 8 10 7 10 8

Ex. 20 MINOR Examples: Combining All Three

Very fast ♩ = 200

Em7b5

Em7sus2

Em7sus4

mf

TAB: 8 7 10 8 7 9 7 7 10 12 12 10 9