

The First 10 Jazz Standards You Need To Know

I say it all the time: **Learn Jazz - Make Music**, and to do that you need to know some songs, so in this video, I am going to go over 10 jazz standards that you want in your repertoire and are great places to start learning jazz. This is in terms of playing changes and knowing all the chords and scale but also about the form that you want to know which is going to make it easier to learn more complicated standards.

#1 Take The A Train

Easy and very very common chord changes. Melody is clear about when the chord changes. It is a great simple example of an AABA form. Mostly played in C major.

#2 Cantaloupe Island

Easy to navigate with pentatonic scales. Clear riff to solo over and learn to follow the form

#3 The Blues

You probably already know the form and just need to add playing changes. Most common in F and Bb in Jazz.

#4 Satin Doll

Common AABA form, often played in C major.
Great tune to study II V progressions and a stellar example of an Ellington Bridge.

#5 Blue Bossa

Easy short form, very basic chord progressions and a great song to learn to change scale.

#6 Autumn Leaves

Very famous song that covers a lot of diatonic harmony and both major and minor II V I cadences.

#7 Perdido

Great 32 bar AABA form with very simple A parts and a Rhythm Bridge

#8 Summertime

Simple minor song with very little harmonic movement, almost modal but therefore easy. Very well-known melody.

#9 Solar

Great example of a tonic minor sound and a good progression to learn II V I progressions in different keys. The melody is very clear on where you are in the song in terms of harmony.

#10 All Of Me

Covers a lot of common major key harmony, but has a lot of chords lasting more than one bar making it easier to improvise on.