

BEBOP MAJOR SCALES

Bebop scales are chord scales with added chromatic passing tones. When these passing notes are added to the diatonic chord scale, certain notes then stand out in the scale. The major and dominant bebop scales are the most common. In C major, an Ab is added between the 5th and 6th tones of the major scale. This means that every downbeat note is a chord tone.

Starting notes are the root, 3rd, 5th and 6th. Starting the scale on the 2nd, 4th or 7th means that the downbeats do not then 'spell' the chord.

C major bebop starting on the root:



Starting on the 3rd:



Starting on the 5th:



Starting on the 6th:



To form a Dominant bebop scale, add the extra note between the root and the dominant 7th.

G7 bop scale starting on the root:



Starting on the 3rd:



Starting on the 5th:

