

A Practical Approach to

Odd meters

Your Guide to Mastering Mixed Meters

**30+ Play-Along Tracks
included for
Over 150 Exercises!**

written by

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Foreword

Mixed meters (aka Odd Time Signatures) are a territory that can often seem intimidating due to unfamiliarity. What you will find in this document is a series of **essential but practical studies** for conquering the unknown. Because an Odd Time Signature is a **novel way of grouping notes together**, the act of conceptualizing these new groupings becomes the technique that this book abundantly offers.

When setting out to write this material, we knew that it was going to be important to **combine** this relatively unfamiliar way of grouping notes with **fun but challenging** exercises and etudes. You will find that each topic helps to conceptualize what we consider to be **essential elements for rhythmic and/or harmonic liberation** in Odd Time Signatures. This is also why we set out to find a very talented up and coming **NYC rhythm section** to create the **lush and swinging backing tracks** you are sure to have fun jamming along with.

We sincerely hope you have fun **unlocking new abilities** and a new found confidence when faced with the opportunity to **improvise over Odd Time Signatures**. We guarantee that **learning the concepts** found in this book will give fresh insights to your practice routine and **add new depth** to your rhythmic and improvisatory awareness.

Musically,
Colin and Steve

4. 'Jack Flash'

E♭ Instruments

Based on the Chord Progression to 'Tea For Two'

4. 5 Note Groupings (5/8 over 5/4)

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B♭). The time signature is 5/8 over 5/4. The score consists of six staves of music, each containing five-measure phrases. The chords and their positions are as follows:

- Staff 1: Measures 1-5. Chords: G⁻⁷ (measures 1-2), C⁹ (measures 3-4), G⁻⁷ (measure 5).
- Staff 2: Measures 6-10. Chords: C¹³(b9) (measures 6-7), F^{Δ7} (measures 8-9), B♭7(b9) (measure 10).
- Staff 3: Measures 11-15. Chords: A⁻⁷ (measures 11-12), G^{#o7} (measures 13-14), G⁻⁷ (measure 15).
- Staff 4: Measures 16-20. Chords: C⁷(b9) (measures 16-17), G⁻⁷ (measures 18-19), C¹³(b9) (measure 20).
- Staff 5: Measures 21-25. Chords: A^{ø7} (measures 21-22), D7(b9) (measures 23-24), D7(b9) (measure 25).
- Staff 6: Measures 26-30. Chords: G⁻⁷ (measures 26-27), A^{o7} (measures 28-29), G⁻⁷ (measure 30).
- Staff 7: Measures 31-35. Chords: E♭¹³ (measures 31-32), F/A (measures 33-34), G^{#o7} (measures 35-36), G⁻⁷ (measures 37-38), C¹³(b9) (measures 39-40).
- Staff 8: Measures 41-45. Chords: F^{Δ7} (measures 41-42), B♭7(#11) (measures 43-44), A⁻⁷ (measures 45-46), D7 alt. (measures 47-48), D7 alt. (measures 49-50).

4. 'Jack Flash'

Bb Instruments

Based on the Chord Progression to 'Tea For Two'

4. 5 Note Groupings (5/8 over 5/4)

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The time signature is 5/8 over 5/4. The score consists of six staves of music, each with a measure number and a set of chords above it. The notes are primarily eighth and quarter notes, often grouped in a way that suggests a 5/8 over 5/4 feel. The chords are: C-7, F9, C-7, F13(b9), BbΔ7, Eb7(b9) on the first staff; D-7, C#o7, C-7, F7(b9), C-7, F13(b9) on the second; Dø7, G7(b9) on the third; C-7, Dø7, EbΔ7, Dø7, C-7 on the fourth; Ab13, Bb/D, C#o7, C-7, F13(b9) on the fifth; and BbΔ7, Eb7(#11), D-7, G7alt. on the sixth.

1 C-7 F9 C-7 F13(b9) BbΔ7 Eb7(b9)

4 D-7 C#o7 C-7 F7(b9) C-7 F13(b9)

7 Dø7 G7(b9)

9 C-7 Dø7 EbΔ7 Dø7 C-7

12 Ab13 Bb/D C#o7 C-7 F13(b9)

15 BbΔ7 Eb7(#11) D-7 G7alt.

4. 'Jack Flash'

C Instruments

Based on the Chord Progression to 'Tea For Two'

4. 5 Note Groupings (5/8 over 5/4)

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six staves of music, each containing six measures. The first staff is in 5/8 time, and the subsequent staves are in 5/4 time. The notes are grouped in a way that creates a 5/8 over 5/4 feel. The chord progressions are as follows:

- Staff 1: Bb-7, Eb9, Bb-7, Eb13(b9), AbΔ7, Db7(b9)
- Staff 2: C-7, B°7, Bb-7, Eb7(b9), Bb-7, Eb13(b9)
- Staff 3: C°7, F7(b9)
- Staff 4: Bb-7, C°7, DbΔ7, C°7, Bb-7
- Staff 5: Gb13, Ab/C, B°7, Bb-7, Eb13(b9)
- Staff 6: AbΔ7, Db7(#11), C-7, F7alt.

4. 'Jack Flash'

Bass Clef Instruments *Based on the Chord Progression to 'Tea For Two'*

4. 5 Note Groupings (5/8 over 5/4)

B \flat -7 E \flat 9 B \flat -7 E \flat 13(b9) A \flat Δ 7 D \flat 7(b9)

4 C-7 B \circ 7 B \flat -7 E \flat 7(b9) B \flat -7 E \flat 13(b9)

7 C \circ 7 F7(b9)

9 B \flat -7 C \circ 7 D \flat Δ 7 C \circ 7 B \flat -7

12 G \flat 13 A \flat /C B \circ 7 B \flat -7 E \flat 13(b9)

15 A \flat Δ 7 D \flat 7(#11) C-7 F7 alt.