

## (Book 3) Lesson 40b.

### Harmonizing with Substitute 9th, 11th and 13th Chords

G7 nc. nc. nc. C  
 5th 3rd R b7 5th  
 G7 C

In this slightly unlikely example, notice that there is only smooth movement within the melody line. The scale is being harmonized with the 3 Part Dominant 7th Chord using the non-chordal tone approach. There is nothing particularly wrong with this harmony aside from the fact that it is just as boring as the actual melody.

G7 C  
 5 11 3 9 R b7 13 5  
 G7 C  
 Dm F Em Dm Em Dm Em Dm  
 9th 11th 13th 9th 13th 9th 13th 9th  
 C C

In this example, every note of the scale is harmonized with one of the possible substitute triads. Even the chordal tones are harmonized with 9th or 13th chord substitutions. The example would be most effective with an accompaniment G7 chord being played on beats one and three. The accompaniment is most effective if it is lower in pitch than the harmonized melody. This prevents over-crowding of the aural spectrum.

With these tools in hand, you can smooth out the harmony voices if that is your musical desire. There are no hard and fast rules as to when you should use this technique. Your ear will always be the final judge in all harmonic solutions. If it sounds good, it more than likely is good. If it sounds terrible, it is at least in bad taste.

Unfortunately, the concept of substitute triads for the dominant 7th chord opens up another theoretical can of worms because the same Dominant 7th chord also appears in the Parallel Minor scale. The parallel minor is a minor scale with the same root as the major scale.

example: Key of A minor is the parallel minor to A major. For the time being, consider the parallel minor as always being the Harmonic Minor form of the scale.

A Harmonic Minor: A B C D E F **G#** A **B** C **D** E F G# A  
 A Major: A B C# D E F# **G#** A **B** C# **D** E F# G# A  
 Root 3rd 5th b7th

Notice that both scales develop the identical Dominant 7th chord.

Lesson 40c demonstrates the dilemma which is brought on by this revelation.