

(Book 5) Lesson 11c.

Resolution of 11th Chord: (Interchangeable Major 6th)



The 11th chord usually resolves to its own Root.
The maj9th will fall to the Root and the 11th will fall to the 3rd.

The resolution is more easily heard against a sustained bass note. (Hum bass or hire a bass player.)

11th
bass
on "D"
string

Four measures of music for the 11th bass on the "D" string. Each measure contains two chords: E11 and E7. The bass line consists of a sustained E note. The treble clef shows the resolution of the 11th chord to the E7 chord. The notes in the treble clef are: E11 (F#, G, A, B, C, D) and E7 (G, A, B, C, D). The resolution is shown by the movement of the 11th (F) to the 3rd (G) and the maj9th (F#) to the root (E).

11th
bass
on "A"
string

Four measures of music for the 11th bass on the "A" string. Each measure contains two chords: C11 and C7. The bass line consists of a sustained C note. The treble clef shows the resolution of the 11th chord to the C7 chord. The notes in the treble clef are: C11 (D, E, F, G, A, B) and C7 (D, E, G, A, B). The resolution is shown by the movement of the 11th (F) to the 3rd (G) and the maj9th (D) to the root (C).

11th
bass
on "E"
string

Four measures of music for the 11th bass on the "E" string. Each measure contains two chords: G11 and G7. The bass line consists of a sustained G note. The treble clef shows the resolution of the 11th chord to the G7 chord. The notes in the treble clef are: G11 (A, B, C, D, E, F) and G7 (A, B, D, E, F). The resolution is shown by the movement of the 11th (F) to the 3rd (D) and the maj9th (A) to the root (G).

Think of the note movements while playing.

You may find these resolutions more difficult to hear in the lower eschelons. Humming the bass note before playing the chords may help. It is important to try to produce a bass note that is lower in pitch than any one of the notes in the chords.

The first staff system (E11 to E7) gives you a good opportunity to hear the resolution of the E11 chord because you have a good open string bass note to work with.

However boring this may seem, this subject matter is very important.