

## Combined Rhythmic Inventions

Much better music is possible when the five rhythmic invention techniques are combined.

With a swing!

Chords: C, C7, F, C, G7, C, G7, C

Chords: C, G7, C, G7, C, G7, C, G7

Chords: C, C7, F, C, G7, C, G7, C

**No 6:** Perhaps one more technique can be grouped into the concept of Rhythmic Invention although it involves an addition of a new note. A **chordal root** may be added at any point. This technique is particularly good if the melody which you have chosen has many notes of longer duration. Although this tune does not have many particularly long notes, the addition of the chordal root can add some interest. For now, do not add any other chordal tones because that can simply lead to a flurry of arpeggios. Here is an example with some added chordal roots. A note by note analysis, while not absolutely necessary, may very well be a good idea.

Chords: C, C7, F, C, G7, C, G7, C

Chords: C, G7, C, G7, C, G7, C, G7

Chords: C, C7, F, C, G7, C, G7, C

With the techniques which have been introduced to this point, you can create endless variations on a given theme. You might search into some classical music from several centuries past and find that composers of the period wrote music along these lines. The style of music was perhaps rhythmically much more square. It seems that more syncopated rhythms have arrived in music in the 20th century and most likely due to an African influence. Thankfully rhythm has become a very important aspect of modern music but it seems to me that harmony and melody are taking a back seat in 21st century popular music.