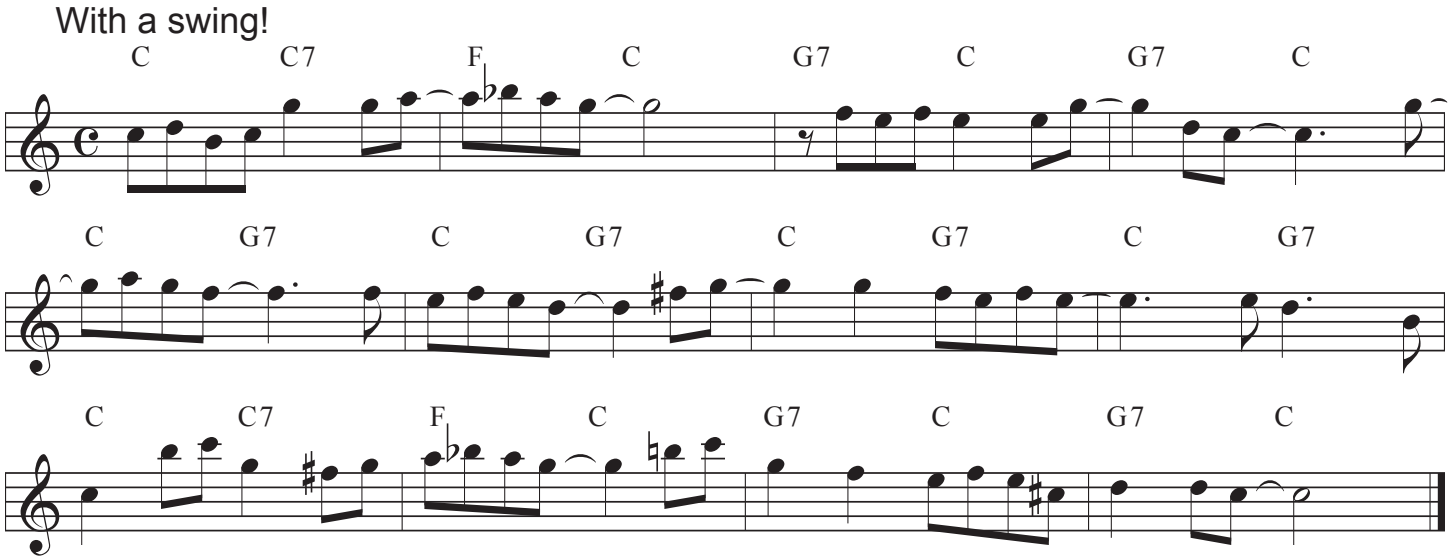
Lesson 4b.

Working With the Auxiliary Tone

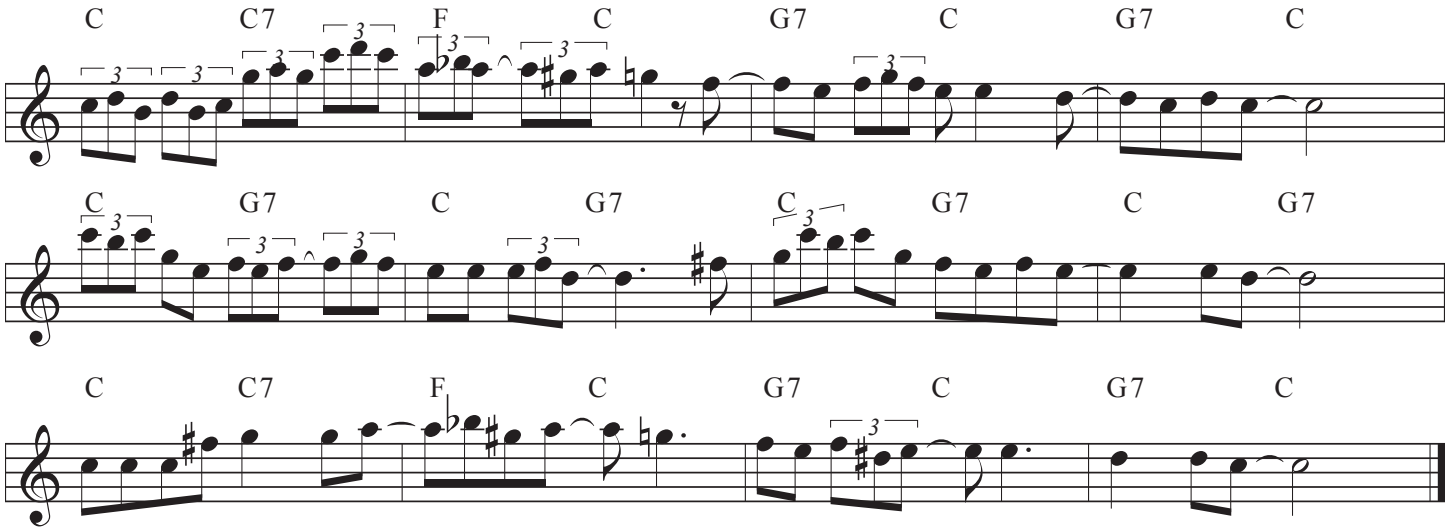
With the addition of the "auxiliary tones", an absolute hive of activity can be produced.

An overabundance of auxiliary tones may disguise the original melody to the point of absurdity.

Here is an example of using prepared and unprepared auxiliary tones along with all of the rhythmic inventions.



Perhaps this has gone to the side of auxiliarized absurdity.



Even under mild scrutiny, both verses in this Twinkle Star rendition are questionable. The happy nature of the original tune might be the thing that saves this variation from ending up in the waste basket.

The question which has arisen from students on many occasions is: "Do you actually think of all of this stuff when you improvise?" The answer is: "Probably not!" Over a course of time, the various embellishments become a way of playing. The purpose of studying the variety of melodic techniques is to expose the ear, brain and fingers to the musical possibilities. If you have not heard something previously, it is unlikely that a totally new and unique idea will come to you in the heat of battle. This does not mean that all solos have to be worked out in advance to a performance, but certainly, your musical history plays a role in how you improvise.