

BASS TIPS

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Playing a "2 feel"

When you are playing a swing in a 4/4 time, you must know the "2 feel" or playing "in 2" interpretation.

Why?

Because in jazz standards:

- The head or melody of the tune will be played with a "2 feel"
- This kind of playing allows a good balance within the rhythm section

How can I play the "2 feel"?

Playing "in 2" is very easy. All you have to do is:

- Play half notes on beats 1 and 3
- Play the root/fifth combination
- Play the root on beat 1 and the fifth on beat 3

Fig. 1 - Let's swing "in 2."

1

Cmaj7 E7

4/4

3 5 3 3 0 7 7 7

5

A7 Dm

5 0 5 7 5 7 5 0

9

F Fm Cmaj7 Em7 A7

3 3 1 3 0 5 7

13

Dm7 G7 C6 E° Dm7 G7

5 5 3 5 3 6 5 3