

# STRIDE PIANO: LESSON 2 - MIXING IT UP

In this lesson we will explore variations for the left and right patterns, including interesting ways to transition from one chord to another, and adding arpeggios.

## PART A

In stride piano, the most common move from one chord to another is a perfect 4th interval. We're now going to look at a "walk-up" chord progression to make that move in a more interesting way, shown in all 12 keys below. Watch my video for a demonstration.

System 1: C, Dm7, D#o7, C/E, F, F, Gm7, G#o7, F/A, Bb. Fingerings: 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, 4, 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, 4.

System 2: Bb, Cm7, C#o7, Bb/D, Eb, Eb, Fm7, F#o7, Eb/G, Ab. Fingerings: 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, 4, 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, 4.

System 3: Ab, Bbm7, B#o7, Ab/C, Db, Db, Ebm7, Eo7, Db/F, Gb. Fingerings: 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, 4, 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, 4.

System 4: Gb, Abm7, A#o7, Gb/Bb, B, B, C#m7, D#o7, B/D#, E. Fingerings: 1, 2m7, #2o7, 1/3, #3, 1, 2m7, b3o7, 1/3, 4.

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17 E F#m7 G°7 E/G# A A Bm7 C°7 A/C# D

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3 4 1 2m7 b3°7 1/3 4

21 D Em7 F°7 D/F# G G Am7 Bb°7 G/B C

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3 4 1 2m7 b3°7 1/3 4

## PART B

Here's a go-to option for right hand (RH) voicing for our walk-ups, again shown in all 12 keys. I really like this way of voicing the RH because my thumb and pinkie fingers (#1 & #5) stay on the tonic octaves (per each key). The only movement is single notes between the octave notes.

25 C Dm7 D#°7 C/E F F Gm7 G#°7 F/A Bb

1 2m7 #2°7 1/3 4 1 2m7 #2°7 1/3 4

29 Bb Cm7 C#°7 Bb/D Eb Eb Fm7 F#°7 Eb/G Ab

1 2m7 #2°7 1/3 4 1 2m7 #2°7 1/3 4

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33

Ab Bbm7 B<sup>o</sup>7 Ab/C Db Db Ebm7 E<sup>o</sup>7 Db/F Gb

1 2m7 #2<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4 1 2m7 #2<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4

37

Gb Abm7 A<sup>o</sup>7 Gb/Bb B B C#m7 D<sup>o</sup>7 B/D# E

1 2m7 #2<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 #3 1 2m7 b3<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4

41

E F#m7 G<sup>o</sup>7 E/G# A A Bm7 C<sup>o</sup>7 A/C# D

1 2m7 b3<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4 1 2m7 b3<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4

45

D Em7 F<sup>o</sup>7 D/F# G G Am7 Bb<sup>o</sup>7 G/B C

1 2m7 b3<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4 1 2m7 b3<sup>o</sup>7 1/3 4

## PART C

Now let's see how the walk-ups are integrated into stride.  
Example One is a simple stride pattern with no walk-up.

Example One:

Example One musical notation (measures 49-51). The right hand has chords and the left hand has a bass line. Chords are C, C, and F.

example two

Same as above except the 2nd measure features a walk-up to the IV chord (F)

Example Two musical notation (measures 52-54). The right hand has chords and the left hand has a bass line. Chords are C, Dm7, D#o7, C/E, and F. A bracket above measures 53-54 is labeled "1 measure walk-up".

example three

2-bar walk-up to the IV chord

Example Three musical notation (measures 55-57). The right hand has chords and the left hand has a bass line. Chords are C, Dm7, D#o7, C/E, and F. A bracket above measures 56-57 is labeled "2 measure walk-up".

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## example four

Same as example two except the right-hand part is arpeggiated

58 C Dm7 D#o7 C/E F

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 4

1 measure walk-up

## example five

Same as example three except the right-hand part is arpeggiated

61 C Dm7 D#o7 C/E F

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 4

2 measure walk-up

## example six

Same as example four except the right-hand part adds intervals to the arpeggiations

64 C Dm7 D#o7 C/E F

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 4

1 measure walk-up

*example seven*

Same as example five except the right-hand part adds intervals to the arpeggiations

2 measure walk-up

67 C Dm<sup>7</sup> D<sup>#o7</sup> C/E F

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3 4

*example eight*

Same as example six except the right-hand part adds full triads to the arpeggiations

1 measure walk-up

70 C C Dm<sup>7</sup> D<sup>#o7</sup> C/E F

1 1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3 4

*example nine*

More rhythmic complexity.

1 measure walk-up

73 C C Dm<sup>7</sup> D<sup>#o7</sup> C/E F

1 1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3 4

**PART D**

2-bar walk-ups in all 12 keys - rh arpeggio / LH stride

76 C Dm7 D#o7 C/E

78 F Gm7 G#o7 F/A

80 Bb Cm7 C#o7 Bb/D

82 Eb Fm7 F#o7 Eb/G

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84

Ab 8bm7 8o7 Ab/C

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3

86

Db Ebm7 Eo7 Db/F

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3

88

Gb Abm7 Ao7 Gb/Bb

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3

90

B C#m7 Do7 B/D#

1 2m7 b3o7 1/3



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92 E F#m7 G°7 E/G#

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3

94 A Bm7 C°7 A/C#

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3

96 D Em7 F°7 D/F#

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3

98 G Am7 Bb°7 G/B

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3

## PART E

2-bar walk-ups in all 12 keys - rh arpeggio / LH rolling octaves

100

C Dm<sup>7</sup> D<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> C/E F Gm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> F/A

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2o<sup>7</sup> 1/3

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2o<sup>7</sup> 1/3

102

B<sup>b</sup> Cm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>/D E<sup>b</sup> Fm<sup>7</sup> F<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2o<sup>7</sup> 1/3

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2o<sup>7</sup> 1/3

104

A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m<sup>7</sup> B<sup>o</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/C D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>m<sup>7</sup> E<sup>o</sup> D<sup>b</sup>/F

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2o<sup>7</sup> 1/3

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2o<sup>7</sup> 1/3

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G $\flat$ 
A $\flat$ m $^7$ 
A $^{\circ}7$ 
G $\flat$ /B $\flat$ 
B
C $\sharp$ m $^7$ 
D $^{\circ}7$ 
B/D $\sharp$

1    2m $^7$     #2 $^{\circ}7$     1/3

1    2m $^7$     b3 $^{\circ}7$     1/3

108

E
F $\sharp$ m $^7$ 
G $^{\circ}7$ 
E/G $\sharp$ 
A
Bm $^7$ 
B $\sharp$  $^{\circ}7$ 
A/C $\sharp$

1    2m $^7$     b3 $^{\circ}7$     1/3

1    2m $^7$     #2 $^{\circ}7$     1/3

110

D
E $\flat$ m $^7$ 
E $\sharp$  $^{\circ}7$ 
D/F $\sharp$ 
G
A $\flat$ m $^7$ 
A $\sharp$  $^{\circ}7$ 
G/B

1    2m $^7$     #2 $^{\circ}7$     1/3

1    2m $^7$     #2 $^{\circ}7$     1/3

## PART F

1-bar walk-ups in all 12 keys - Left hand playing wide chord voicings.  
Roll the LH chords if the stretch is difficult.

112 C Dm7 D#o7 C/E F Gm7 G#o7 F/A Bb Cm7 C#o7 Bb/D Eb Fm7 F#o7 Eb/G

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 1 2m7 #2o7 1/3

116 Ab Bbm7 B#o7 Ab/C Db Ebm7 Eo7 Db/F Gb Abm7 A#o7 Gb/Bb B Cm7 D#o7 B/D#

1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 1 2m7 #2o7 1/3 1 2m7 b3o7 1/3

120 E F#m7 G#o7 E/G# A Bm7 C#o7 A/C# D Em7 F#o7 D/F# G Am7 B#o7 G/B

1 2m7 b3o7 1/3 1 2m7 b3o7 1/3 1 2m7 b3o7 1/3 1 2m7 b3o7 1/3

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## PART G

2-bar walk-ups in all 12 keys - rh arpeggio / LH stride  
 wide chord voicings in the left hand on the 1st & 3rd beats.  
 Roll the LH chords on beats 1 & 3 are they are too wide

124

C Dm<sup>7</sup> D<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> C/E F Gm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> F/A

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3

128

B<sup>b</sup> Cm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>/D E<sup>b</sup> Fm<sup>7</sup> F<sup>♯</sup>o<sup>7</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/G

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3

132

A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m<sup>7</sup> B<sup>o7</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/C D<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>m<sup>7</sup> E<sup>o7</sup> D<sup>b</sup>/F

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3

1 2m<sup>7</sup> #2<sup>o7</sup> 1/3

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136

Gb Abm7 A°7 Gb/Bb B C#m7 D°7 B/D#

1 2m7 #2°7 1/3 1 2m7 b3°7 1/3

140

E F#m7 G°7 E/G# A Bm7 C°7 A/C#

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3 1 2m7 b3°7 1/3

144

D Em7 F°7 D/F# G Am7 Bb°7 G/B

1 2m7 b3°7 1/3 1 2m7 b3°7 1/3