

# *Skeleton Melody*

## *for Composition and Improvisation*

1. Choose a chord progression (e.g. Key of C major: ii - V - I - iv = dm - G - C - am).
2. Choose a skeleton melody from the list below (e.g. 1531 - indicates the interval of the chord).
3. Play the skeleton melody over the chord progression.

d - d - e - a

Skeleton Melody:     1 - 5 - 3 - 1

Chord Progression:   dm - G - C - am

ii - V - I - iv

4. Play the skeleton melody over the chord progression a few times to allow for the flow of melodic ideas.
5. Add notes using scales, arpeggios, skips, and leaps, appoggiaturas, suspensions, etc. in between the skeleton melody to create a catchy melody.
6. Transpose the melody to different modes and keys to expand and develop the melody.

1111	1511	3111	3511	5111	5511	7111	7511
1113	1513	3113	3513	5113	5513	7113	7513
1115	1515	3115	3515	5115	5515	7115	7515
1117	1517	3117	3517	5117	5517	7117	7517
1131	1531	3131	3531	5131	5531	7131	7531
1133	1533	3133	3533	5133	5533	7133	7533
1135	1535	3135	3535	5135	5535	7135	7535
1137	1537	3137	3537	5137	5537	7137	7537
1151	1551	3151	3551	5151	5551	7151	7551
1153	1553	3153	3553	5153	5553	7153	7553
1155	1555	3155	3555	5155	5555	7155	7555
1157	1557	3157	3557	5157	5557	7157	7557
1171	1571	3171	3571	5171	5571	7171	7571
1173	1573	3173	3573	5173	5573	7173	7573
1175	1575	3175	3575	5175	5575	7175	7575
1177	1577	3177	3577	5177	5577	7177	7577
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1311	1711	3311	3711	5311	5711	7311	7711
1313	1713	3313	3713	5313	5713	7313	7713
1315	1715	3315	3715	5315	5715	7315	7715
1317	1717	3317	3717	5317	5717	7317	7717
1331	1731	3331	3731	5331	5731	7331	7731
1333	1733	3333	3733	5333	5733	7333	7733
1335	1735	3335	3735	5335	5735	7335	7735
1337	1737	3337	3737	5337	5737	7337	7737
1351	1751	3351	3751	5351	5751	7351	7751
1353	1753	3353	3753	5353	5753	7353	7753
1355	1755	3355	3755	5355	5755	7355	7755
1357	1757	3357	3757	5357	5757	7357	7757
1371	1771	3371	3771	5371	5771	7371	7771
1373	1773	3373	3773	5373	5773	7373	7773
1375	1775	3375	3775	5375	5775	7375	7775
1377	1777	3377	3777	5377	5777	7377	7777