

Bass Fill/Transition Examples

Malone 11/19/2021

Walking bass line - swing, shuffle, blues

$\text{♩} = 110$

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Chromatic from below - target Eb

Chromatic from above - target Bb

Pentatonic - target Bb

Enclosure - half or whole step above target note then half or whole below target note. Direction can be reversed to below then above. Target Eb

Walking bass line - swing, shuffle, blues - with fills

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Chromatic

8th note rhythmic figure

Anticipated Bb on "and of 4"

Pentatonic

Chromatic

Triplet figure over beats 3 & 4

Rock or funk - basic groove

$\text{♩} = 90$
STRAIGHT $\text{♩}'s$

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Rock or funk - with accents on upbeats

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Slight accent on upbeats give a sense of forward motion.

Rock or funk - with fills

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Enclosure - half or whole step below target note then half or whole above target note. Direction can be reversed to above then below - Target Eb

Chromatic from above - target Bb

Pentatonic

16th note figure

Octave jump on upbeat

Bossa Nova or Samba - basic groove, roots and 5ths

$\text{♩} = 110$

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Bossa Nova or Samba - with fills

B^b7 E^b7 B^b7 E^b7

Chromatic - target Eb

Syncopation on "and of 2"

Anticipated Bb on "and of 4"

Octave jump

8th note moving line on beats 3 & 4

Fills and rhythmic stuff are fun to play but they are like spices on food - too much and the flavor is lost.

Your job as a bass player is to keep time, outline the chord changes, and keep time. "Keep time" twice is not a typo.