

ASU - Instrumentation/Arranging
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Notes from Ostrander

~jazz~ Harmony

7th and 9th chords:

- Add a 7th to any diatonic triad. The 7th always resolves down.
- Add a 9th to any diatonic triad. The interval of a m9th from the root is undesirable except in the Vb9. Certain alterations must therefore be made:
The alterations in major are as follows:
 iii9 = E G B D F#
 vii half dim 9 = B D F A C#
The alteration in minor is as follows:
 ii dim 9 = D F Ab C E nat.
- Watch out for parallel 7ths and 9ths for they are difficult to sing.
- Part Writing rules for 9th chords:
 - 1) V9 chords with a major 9th resolve only to major chords.
 - 2) The V9 functions as a dominant.
 - 3) Use wide spacing.
 - 4) The chord's 5th may be omitted.
 - 5) In resolving to I, the 9th resolves down by step to the 5th of the I chord.
 - 6) The non-dominant 9th chord functions like a non-dominant 7th chord and resolves typically to another 9th chord or 7th chord.

Chord Substitutions and Embellishments:

Used to project a more contemporary jazz style.

- 1) Add 7ths and 9ths.
- 2) Replace a chord with another chord which has two tones in common with the original. For example:
 iii for I
 vi for I
 V for vii
 ii for IV
- 3) Any chord may be preceded by its dominant (secondary dominants).
- 4) V7 may be replaced by the progression ii7 - V7.
- 5) Any V7 may be replaced by a V7 whose root is a tritone away. A V7b5 will produce smoother voice leading.
- 6) Quartal chords may be built upon the notes of the melody thereby removing functional harmony.

Voicings:

- 1) Divisi - Since a 9th chord has 5 notes, a complete chord may only be formed by dividing a voice part. If this is desired, either the soprano or the bass should be divided as they will most likely have the most singers.
- 2) Chord voicing - Harmonic clarity is best when the pitches of a chord are ordered to reinforce, as overtones, the chord root. The voicing with the clearest harmonic intent then would be Root - P5 - M3 - m7 - M9. Harmonic clarity is best reserved for cadences. Within harmonic progressions harmonic clarity varies considerably.