SECTION I

LESSON 1.

The Scale-tone Seventh Chords

The harmony of popular music and jazz is based on the diatonic or major scale (Fig 1). Each of the twelve scales is a frame forming the harmonic system.

Fig. 1. Scale of C.



Diatonic harmony moves in two directions: Horizontal (Fig. 1) and Vertical (Fig. 2).

Fig. 2.



By combining these two movements using the root (one), third, fifth and seventh, we derive the scale-tone seventh chords in the key of C (Fig. 3).

Fig. 3.



Chords of less than a seventh are insufficient for jazz; chords of more than a seventh will be treated in Volume IV.