



## Introducing the Charleston Rhythm #9

### Chord Melody Beyond Top Note

The first rhythm you're going to try out over, underneath the melody of Autumn Leaves is a Charleston Rhythm. Charleston Rhythm, shall I say, sorry. So it's an important push rhythm in swing music. And I'll explain later in greater details what a push rhythm is, but for now let's just look at the Charleston. So, if we look at... You're playing a dotted eighth note. Sorry, a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth. Dotted quarter, eighth. A one, two, three, four. ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ Think of it like playing two half notes. ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ But with the second note, push. So go, ♪ One, two, counting. ♪ So the second attack is pushed back an eighth note early.

So this early eighth note gives the music this rhythmic drive, and it fits quite nicely over the quarter note melody of Autumn Leaves, which is... Sorry. Et cetera. So you can displace the Charleston so that the first note starts on any beat of, or offbeat, of the bar. But for now we will only be playing Charleston starting on beat one. Again, we're only going to use guide tones, chord voicings underneath the melody to Autumn Leaves. So take a look at the exercise sheet, and read for the next lesson while listening to the video of me playing it to get a sense of how the parts fit together.

Practice it several times slowly, before attempting up to speed with me. So I suggest fingerpicking, but if you're quick and precise you can make it sound really good with a staggered pick type of thing. So again, Charleston's displacement, just to give you an idea.

This would be right on beat one. ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ What I meant by displacing is that we could use it, say, an eighth note later, still using the same rhythm.

So, starting on the end of one, it would sound like this. ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One, two, three, four. ♪ ♪ One. ♪ Et cetera. So don't bother with these displacements for now. I just wanted to give you an idea for now. Coming up is Autumn Leaves. Have fun with this, and keep me posted if you have any questions.