

THE ALTERED SCALE

One scale possibility for use over altered chords is the altered scale. You can see from Example 12 that this scale contains all the color notes of the altered chord. (Remember to think enharmonically.) (Example 12)

Example 12 - Altered scale

C7alt

R b9 #9 3 b5 or #11 #5 b7

You can envision and construct this scale in many different ways. Here are some possibilities:

- As the seventh mode of an ascending melodic minor scale

C# Melodic Minor (Ascending)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

- As a Locrian mode with its fourth degree lowered 1/2 step (When thought of this way, it is often called the Locrian b4 scale.)

C Locrian Mode C Altered Scale (Locrian b4)

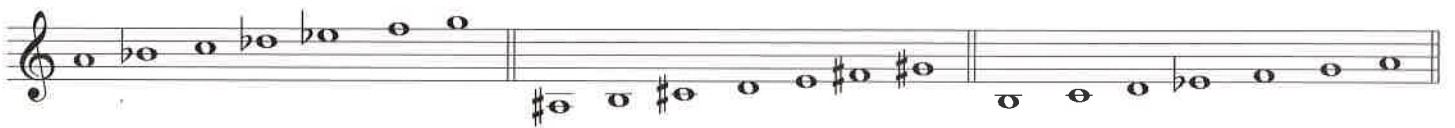
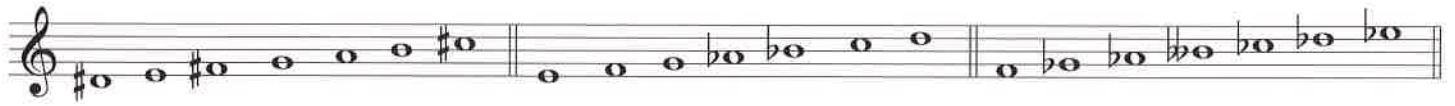
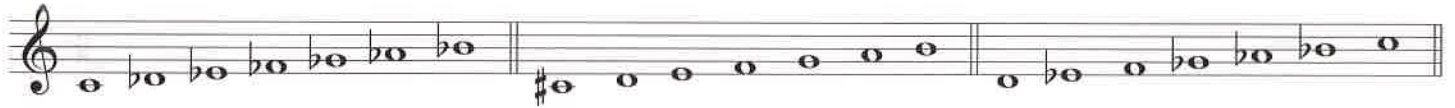
- Constructed according to the following formula of half and whole steps: 1/2, whole, 1/2; whole, whole, whole, whole. (When thought of this way it is often called the diminished/whole tone scale.)

1/2 step Whole 1/2 step Whole Whole Whole

In addition to altered, diminished/whole tone and Locrian^b4, the scale is sometimes referred to as the Super-Locrian and Ravel scale. The important thing to remember is that regardless of its name this scale has its roots in melodic minor. Consult Book 4 of this method for a thorough, in depth discussion the melodic minor scale and its application to jazz improvisation.

Assignments:

1. Memorize the following altered scales.
2. Play them at the piano and on your instrument.



Track 13 Rhythm Changes in B \flat Concert

UP TEMPO SWING $\text{♩} = 104$

B \flat G-7 C-7 F7 B \flat G-7 C-7 F7

Play 6 times

B \flat 7 Eb7 D-7 G7

1. C-7 F7

2. C-7 F7 B \flat Bridge D7 G7

C7 F7

B \flat G-7 C-7 F7 B \flat G-7

C-7 F7 B \flat 7 Eb7 D-7 G7

Tag Ending - Last Time Only

C-7 F7 D-7 G7 C-7 F7 B \flat

Track 13 Rhythm Changes in B♭ Concert

UP TEMPO SWING ♩ = 104

C A-7 D-7 G7 C A-7 D-7 G7

Play 6 times

C7 F7 E-7 A7 D-7 G7

2. Bridge D-7 G7 C E7 A7

D7 G7

C A-7 D-7 G7 C A-7

D-7 G7 C7 F7 E-7 A7

Tag Ending - Last Time Only D-7 G7 E-7 A7 D-7 G7 C

Track 13 Rhythm Changes in B♭ Concert

UP TEMPO SWING ♩ = 104

G E-7 A-7 D7 G E-7 A-7 D7

Play 6 times

G7 C7 B-7 E7 A-7 D7

2. A-7 D7 G Bridge B7 E7

A7 D7

G E-7 A-7 D7 G E-7

A-7 D7 G7 C7 B-7 E7

Tag Ending - Last Time Only A-7 D7 B-7 E7 A-7 D7 G