

Essential Jazz Recordings

If you want to learn to play jazz you have to listen, listen, listen. But many times students don't have any idea what recordings to buy. So we have created this list of 108 of the most important recordings in jazz.

Most of the recordings listed are from the 40's 50's & 60's Bebop era. This is due to the strong influence this particular period of music has had on our current "Modern Jazz" scene today. We have purposely omitted a number of very early recordings because 1) many of those early recordings had very poor sound quality, 2) the artists recorded lots of material, and so they are represented by later recordings elsewhere on this list, and/or 3) the early recordings are not currently available on CD. If you have a turntable, you should start checking out yard sales and thrift stores—often you can find classic jazz recordings on vinyl for next to nothing.

For each record listed, you can see the artist name followed by the name of the album. All of these recordings are available on CD (at presstime) from "Double-Time Records." The number to the left of each listing (eg—cd #726) indicates the "Double-Time" catalog-number of that CD. Make a copy of this sheet and check off each recording as you add it to your collection. To check on prices, to order, or for a complete catalog of over 6000 jazz CD titles, contact:

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___ cd #1	CANNONBALL ADDERLEY - SOMETHIN' ELSE	___ cd #4121	KENNY DORHAM - UNA MAS
___ cd #63	HERBIE HANCOCK - MAIDEN VOYAGE	___ cd #3722	LESTER YOUNG - THE PRESIDENT PLAYS W/THE OSCAR PETERSON TRIO
___ cd #350	CLIFFORD BROWN - STUDY IN BROWN	___ cd #5436	JOE HENDERSON - IN 'N OUT
___ cd #30	JOHN COLTRANE - BLUE TRAIN	___ cd #322	JOHN COLTRANE - & JOHNNY HARTMAN
___ cd #345	CANNONBALL ADDERLEY - & COLTRANE	___ cd #56	GRANT GREEN - FEELIN' THE SPIRIT
___ cd #141	WAYNE SHORTER - SPEAK NO EVIL	___ cd #5433	NANCY WILSON - WITH C. ADDERLEY
___ cd #1126	HORACE SILVER - SONG FOR MY FATHER	___ cd #559	MILES DAVIS - COOKIN'
___ cd #694	DIZZY GILLESPIE - SONNY SIDE UP	___ cd #592	RED GARLAND - GROOVY
___ cd #458	MILES DAVIS - KIND OF BLUE	___ cd #1059	MILES DAVIS - STEAMIN' WITH MILES DAVIS
___ cd #417	JOHN COLTRANE - GIANT STEPS	___ cd #59	JOHNNY GRIFFIN - A BLOWIN' SESSION
___ cd #1716	J. J. JOHNSON - THE EMINENT, VOLUME 1	___ cd #1278	GRANT GREEN - BORN TO BE BLUE
___ cd #33	ERIC DOLPHY - OUT TO LUNCH	___ cd #318	JOHN COLTRANE - BALLADS
___ cd #340	OLIVER NELSON - BLUES & THE ABSTRACT TRUTH	___ cd #699	JOHNNY HARTMAN - I JUST DROPPED BY TO SAY HELLO
___ cd #1820	LEE MORGAN - THE SIDEWINDER	___ cd #912	CARL FONTANA - THE GREAT FONTANA
___ cd #97	HANK MOBLEY - SOUL STATION	___ cd #57	GRANT GREEN - IDLE MOMENTS
___ cd #463	MILES DAVIS - MILESTONES	___ cd #1418	ART BLAKEY - UGETSU
___ cd #3805	WES MONTGOMERY - SMOKIN AT THE HALF NOTE	___ cd #511	STANLEY TURRENTINE - SUGAR
___ cd #109	LEE MORGAN - CORNBREAD	___ cd #357	BILL EVANS - INTERMODULATION
___ cd #4571	LARRY YOUNG - UNITY	___ cd #6	ART BLAKEY - A NIGHT AT BIRDLAND VOL. 2
___ cd #601	SONNY ROLLINS - SAXOPHONE COLOSSUS	___ cd #1738	FREDDIE HUBBARD - HUB TONES
___ cd #421	JOHN COLTRANE - MAINSTREAM 1958	___ cd #77	HANK MOBLEY - THE TURNAROUND!
___ cd #172	MCCOY TYNER - THE REAL MCCOY	___ cd #3683	BUD POWELL - THE GENIUS OF
___ cd #316	JOHN COLTRANE - A LOVE SUPREME	___ cd #2450	LEE KONITZ - SUBCONSCIOUS-LEE
___ cd #3065	JOHNNY SMITH - MOONLIGHT IN VERMONT	___ cd #3612	STAN GETZ - STAN GETZ & BILL EVANS
___ cd #3838	PAUL CHAMBERS - CHAMBERS MUSIC	___ cd #588	MILT JACKSON - BAGS MEETS WES
___ cd #2556	JUNE CHRISTY - SOMETHING COOL	___ cd #154	JIMMY SMITH - BACK AT THE CHICKEN SHACK
___ cd #2434	DIZZY GILLESPIE - JAZZ AT MASSEY HALL	___ cd #596	SONNY ROLLINS - PLUS FOUR
___ cd #5	ART BLAKEY - A NIGHT AT BIRDLAND VOL. 1	___ cd #5903	JUNE CHRISTY - THE MISTY MISS CHRISTY
___ cd #915	DIZZY GILLESPIE - DUETS	___ cd #1753	JOE HENDERSON - INNER URGE
___ cd #45	BILL EVANS - UNDERCURRENT	___ cd #44	DUKE ELLINGTON - MONEY JUNGLE
___ cd #3523	GENE AMMONS - BOSS TENORS	___ cd #80	WOODY HERMAN - KEEPER OF THE FLAME
___ cd #606	KENNY BURRELL - & JOHN COLTRANE	___ cd #1443	CHET BAKER - PLAYBOYS
___ cd #460	MILES DAVIS - 'ROUND ABOUT MIDNIGHT	___ cd #5336	BOBBY HUTCHERSON - OBLIQUE
___ cd #471	ERROLL GARNER - CONCERT BY THE SEA	___ cd #2607	BUD POWELL - THE AMAZING - VOL 1
___ cd #578	MILES DAVIS - RELAXIN' WITH MILES	___ cd #4384	OSCAR PETERSON - PLAYS COUNT BASIE
___ cd #538	WES MONTGOMERY - INCREDIBLE JAZZ GUITAR	___ cd #3745	CLIFFORD BROWN - BROWN/ROACH INC.
___ cd #67	JOE HENDERSON - PAGE ONE	___ cd #3455	STAN KENTON - DUET
___ cd #2377	FRANK ROSOLINO - FREE FOR ALL	___ cd #68	JOE HENDERSON - MODE FOR JOE
___ cd #557	WES MONTGOMERY - FULL HOUSE	___ cd #149	HORACE SILVER - BLOWIN' THE BLUES AWAY
___ cd #2562	ART FARMER - MODERN ART	___ cd #678	CLIFFORD BROWN - MORE STUDY IN BROWN
___ cd #4527	CARL FONTANA - 5 STAR ED	___ cd #27	SONNY CLARK - LEAPIN' AND LOPIN'
___ cd #558	SONNY ROLLINS - TENOR MADNESS	___ cd #3516	BLUE MITCHELL - THE THING TO DO
___ cd #7	ART BLAKEY - MOANIN'	___ cd #4286	JOHNNY GRIFFIN - INTRODUCING
___ cd #541	THELONIOUS MONK - WITH JOHN COLTRANE	___ cd #1944	SONNY STITT - CONSTELLATION
___ cd #31	CHICK COREA - NOW HE SINGS, NOW HE SOBS	___ cd #942	SLIDE HAMPTON - WORLD OF TROMBONES
___ cd #5112	FREDDIE HUBBARD - OPEN SESAME	___ cd #4181	FREDDIE HUBBARD - READY FOR FREDDIE
___ cd #560	BILL EVANS - SUNDAY AT VILLAGE VANGUARD	___ cd #5600	MILES DAVIS - MY FUNNY VALENTINE
___ cd #3806	CHARLIE PARKER - NOW'S THE TIME	___ cd #3748	CHICK COREA - LIGHT AS A FEATHER
___ cd #3605	STAN GETZ - FOR MUSICIAN'S ONLY	___ cd #62	HERBIE HANCOCK - EMPYREAN ISLES
___ cd #750	DIZZY GILLESPIE - GROOVIN' HIGH	___ cd #1336	SONNY ROLLINS - NEWK'S TIME
___ cd #2570	DEXTER GORDON - BALLADS	___ cd #1952	HORACE SILVER - CAPE VERDEAN BLUES
___ cd #726	CHARLIE PARKER - BIRD & DIZ	___ cd #4318	HERBIE HANCOCK - THE PRISONER
___ cd #3019	JOE HENDERSON - LUSH LIFE, STRAYHORN MUSIC	___ cd #4242	MILES DAVIS - SEVEN STEPS TO HEAVEN
___ cd #484	FREDDIE HUBBARD - RED CLAY		
___ cd #583	BILL EVANS - WALTZ FOR DEBBY		