

# Spicing up. Adding class, style and individuality

Snake Davis



The idea is to build up a library of stylistic techniques which you then shove in as and when you feel like. A fantastic way to do this is to study and play along with the playing/singing of musicians you admire. You shouldn't stick to your own instrument either. Alto-ist Dave Sanborn talks about how he learned phrasing from Stevie Wonders harmonica playing. I spent many hours imitating great singers like Smokey Robinson and Marvin Gaye.



1. Add bends, up and down. Up can be jaw bends or flicks (dwees)



2. Add turns. = throwaway twiddles in snake-speak



3. Add glissandos = falls or fall-offs or run-ups in snake-speak. Get whatever notes you can in, smooth as possible.



4. Add some false fingerings.



5. Add some snazzy phrasing. These are doo-daps in snake-speak



6. Add some vibrato. Incredibly important. We'll have an in-depth look at vibrato in a bit.

7. Add some growling or fluttering