Arrangers Piano

Arranger's piano involves simple voicings on extended and altered chords.

- Three up, one down on chords with a top note in the bottom half of treble clef
- Three up, two down when the top note is in top half of clef (two down is usually root and 7th, sometimes root and fifth. Never root and 3rd!)
- Four up, one down on altered chords as needed.

Exercise: spend 15 minutes daily, four or five times a week.

- Work with tunes you've learned on your primary instrument.
- Play these "root position sax voicings" on the changes of tunes.
- Stay rubato - keep your right hand from jumping from register to register.
- Do not permit playing the melody to compromise your chord voicings.
- Add chords and inner movement to the changes; explore your harmonic ear.
- Play changes in a style, and at a tempo. Start slowly, protect the groove.