

#10DayBluesChallenge

Day 2 – Add Some Swing



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Key: D

Tempo: Any

Chords needed: D7, G7, A7

Video Tutorial:

First thing is first, let's have a look at the progression and then we can break the strum pattern down.

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
D7 | D7 | D7 | D7 |
D D D D | D D D D | D D D D | D D D D |

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G7 | G7 | D7 | D7 |
D D D D | D D D D | D D D D | D D D D |

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
A7 | G7 | D7 | A7 |
D D D D | D D D D | D D D D | D D D D |

Take a second a look at the progression, what similarities do you see? If printed feel free to use this space to write notes comparing this 12 bar to yesterday's lesson. Music at its core is geometrical patterns that are transmitted in sound wave format. If you see the patterns your playing will improve dramatically!

Let's look at the strum pattern

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
D D U U D U

- Things to notice right away. All beats are down strums all off beats (&) are up strums
- There is no strum on the 3rd beat

This pattern is what I call old faithful. Just play it over a D7 vamp (vamp meaning just one chord, when you use it in a sentence you sound cool too! Haha)

Okay, feeling good? Let's apply it to the 12 bar loop.

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
D7 | D7 | D7 | D7 |
D D U U D U | D D U U D U | D D U U D U | D D U U D U |

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
G7 | G7 | D7 | D7 |
D D U U D U | D D U U D U | D D U U D U | D D U U D U |

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |
A7 | G7 | D7 | A7 |
D D U U D U | D D U U D U | D D U U D U | D D U U D U |

So now we start to let our mind explore the idea of what rhythm is. We have soon to forms or ways to occupy one bar of the blues. But it can also be fingerpicking, arpeggios, riffs, as the 10 day continues we will look at new ways for us to jump in and change the way that looks.

BONUS CHALLENGE!

Create your own strum pattern, or set of strum patterns. You can place a Down strum on any number and an up on any &, sometimes it is fun to put them on paper and then strum them after. Feel free to explore that idea and have fun. Write your strum pattern in the space below and try it in the 12 bar!

1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & | 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & |



Ten Thumbs