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# Electric Blues Essentials

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills



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## Dirty Blues

UNIT 1 • LESSON 2 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

### The Riff Part 2

As we continue the riff we not only learn how to move the blues scale shape, but also the main structure of the 12 bar blues. This is a classic move in any 12 bar blues based around a riff; We simply take the same riff and move it to the IV (4) chord, and the V (5) chord. To understand this we need two elements, the knowledge of a 12 bar structure, and the knowledge of how to move the scale shape. So, here is the 12 bar structure:

I | I | I | I |

IV | IV | I | I |

V | IV | I | I |

We love a good Roman Numeral. Just to clarify, the I is the root chord, IV is the 4 chord and V is the 5 chord.

### No idea what this means?

If you're sitting there wondering what a root, 4th and 5th chord is, then that's great! You're about

## Course navigation

### UNIT 1

## Dirty Blues

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Welcome to level one of our Electric Blues Essentials series! In this course we will be taking you through the beautiful world of electric blues guitar, covering lead, rhythm and the theory to help you play like The Greats!

Lessons:

- The Riff Part 1
- The Riff Part 2
- The Solo Part 1
- The Solo Part 2
- The Solo Part 3
- Moulding The Licks

### UNIT 2

## 7th Chords & The 12 Bar

0% v

### UNIT 3

## Major & Minor Scale

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### UNIT 4

## Keys & Turnarounds

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### UNIT 5

## "Motivational Blues"

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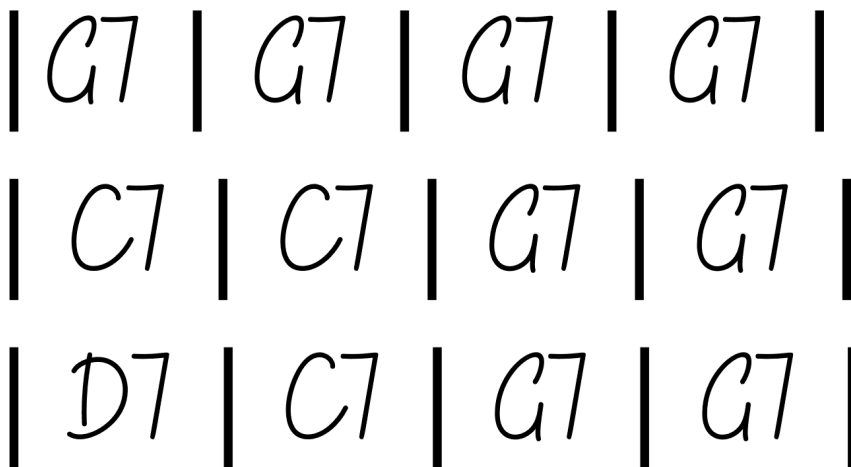
to learn something very powerful in music. Head over to our Harmony course and work through that, then come back to this!



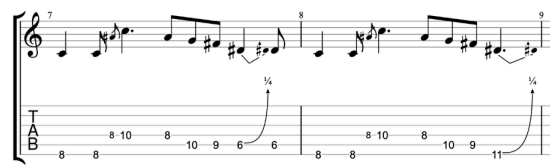
## Harmony

Guitar Skills

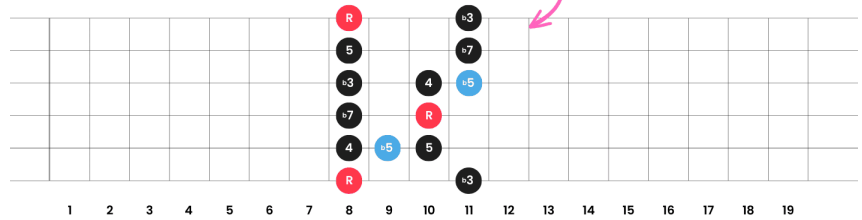
Putting that structure into the key of G blues, we get the following progression. Remember, all of these chords would be 7th chords, and we'll talk more about that later in the course, so don't worry about it for the moment! That aside, here are the chords:



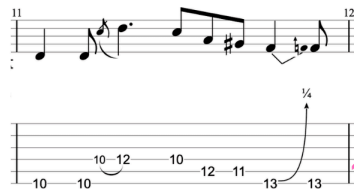
You may not quite realise it yet, but if you get this track together and deep into your learning, you will, without knowing it, start to embed the 12 bar format into your head as well. We'll cover that in depth in unit 2. For now, let's continue learning this riff, and we roll through the C blues and the D blues scale to complete it. So, when the progression goes up to the C7, we use the C blues scale, as shown here:



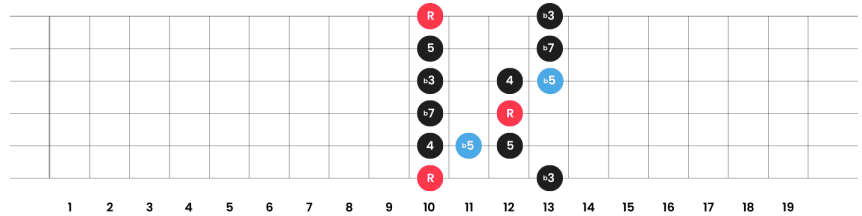
Notice how the riff is a carbon copy, except now up on the 8th fret for the C blues scale!



We then have the same concept for the D7 chord in the progression, which looks like this:



Notice how the riff is a carbon copy, except now up on the 10th fret for the D blues scale!



So it's pretty simple really. Play the G riff over the G7 chords, the C riff over the C7 chord and the D riff over the D7 chord. Now it's time for you to try and get that all together, and make sure you can play that at a steady speed before tackling the solo in the next lesson!



Focus first on getting the notes in the right

place,  
then the  
rhythm,  
and  
finally the  
subtleties  
like that  
1/4 bend  
and  
vibrato.  
This is a  
process  
that takes  
time, so  
please  
also be  
patient  
with it.

**Dan**

”



**All  
done?**

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complete.

Not quite done? Check the toolbox for more practice options.

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# guitar club

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