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Improvisation

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills



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Single Note Rhythms

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 5** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes

Interactive tab

Brain Melting 16ths

Now we dive even deeper into that bar of 4, and learn to divide it into 16th notes. Again, this pushes us even further into the rhythm side of your lead playing... The part that most people don't think about when improvising, but a part that will take you to another level.



"Even if you use this unit and these ideas to become aware that trying different rhythms on different beats makes a difference, that will be enough to see progress in your playing."

So, let's just check out that 16th note subdivision idea.

Course navigation

UNIT 1

Single Note

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Rhythms

To ensure that we build upon strong foundations with our improvisation, we need to really start at the beginning.

Lessons:

- Notes On The Neck
- Whole, Half & 1/4 Notes!
- Introducing 8th Notes
- Introducing Syncopation
- Brain Melting 16ths

UNIT 2

Developing Intervals

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UNIT 3

Major

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UNIT 4

Major To Minor

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Look how far we've come from the original bar broken down into 4th notes. You can start to see how many possibilities you have as creators!



The first exercise Thomas asks of us is relatively simple. Take the A note and divide the bar into 8th notes, then 16th notes, like this:



Let's now work with the 16th notes to create a few phrases to practice this with! Try to work through these with Thomas, as well as with the interactive tab in the **Guitar Tabs** section.



"Set some boundaries when practicing! I'm going to use a 2 bar phrase, syncopating the phrase and then swapping to on the beat... for example."

example one



example two



example three



In this example we actually start on the 2nd beat!

The Next Steps...

Record yourself! Explore and prove this concept for yourself! When it comes to improvisation, it's all about trial and error, and as we said earlier, there is no right or wrong. Just give it a go and see how it feels to you.



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