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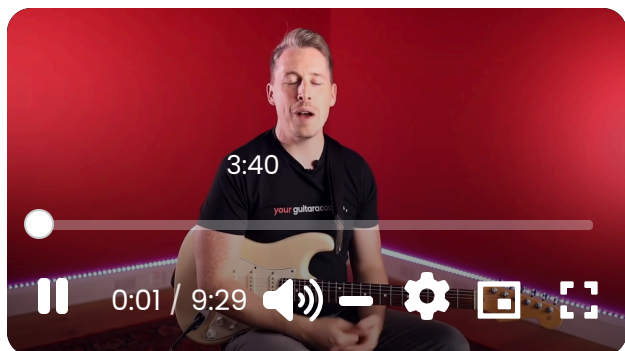
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Funk Essentials

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills

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Practice summary

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Going Down Town

UNIT 2 • LESSON 3 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

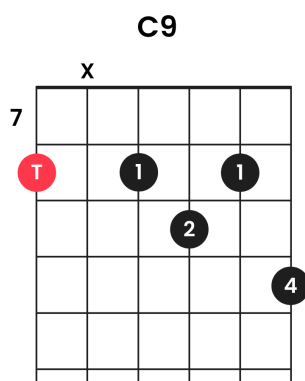
Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

The C9!

We'll now tackle the next section of the track, which is where we move to the IV chord. As mentioned before, early soul-funk like this is very much based around blues progressions, using the I, IV & V chord... BUT, without the formal 12 bar structure.

"In this track, we've looped the root chord (G9) for 8 times, but it'll often go on until James Brown tells the band to move to the IV chord! So you need to be ready!"

When we finally move to the IV chord, we'll use a different position, based on the E string root note. Here's what the chord looks like.



Root note optional.

Typically in funk music, we don't want to hit the low E string unless we are deliberately going for a thicker sound. So use this chord without the root note (red blob) for this track.

UNIT 1

16th Note Gym

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UNIT 2

Going Down Town

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In this unit we will work through our first full funk track, learning how the guitar player sits amongst the band in a "James Brown era" style groove.

Lessons:

- **The Groove**
- **Semitone Funk!**
- **The C9!**
- **The Turnaround**
- **Getting Tight**

UNIT 3

Minor 7th Mastery

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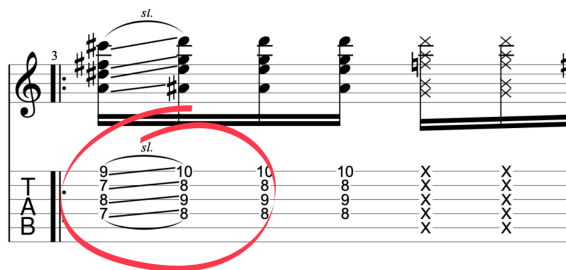
UNIT 4

Disco Funky Town

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As for the groove, it's exactly the same as the G9 chord, except you are only really hitting three top 4 strings, as you can see here:



We are not going near the E or A string, to ensure we get a nice clean, high-end sound!

Finally, we'll repeat this section 4 times before we move on, so the chord chart is like this so far:

$G^9 \mid G^9 \mid G^9 \mid G^9 \mid (x4)$

$C^9 \mid C^9 \mid C^9 \mid C^9 \mid (x2)$



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