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Electric Blues Part 1

UNIT 3 • LESSON 2 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Diagrams

Dominant 7th Chords

When harmonising a scale, beyond major and minor chords, you move into the world of 7th chords. This is where you take your major or minor chord and add one further note, the 7th note in the scale. As always, we will keep the in-depth theory to the theory section of the website, but this is essentially what is happening. When you take a major chord and add a flattened 7th, you get a dominant 7th chord.

R

3

5

b7

The b7th is the key note in the chord, as that note defines the family of dominant chords.

This demonstrates clearly that the chord is based very much on a major chord (with the root, 3rd and 5th being a major chord) and then we bring in a minor element, which is the b7th. This construction creates a totally unique set of chords known as dominant chords. Let's look at the three chord shapes:

Course navigation

UNIT 1

Turn It Up To 11!

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Part 2

UNIT 3

Electric Blues

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Part 1

There is nothing more satisfying than playing through a cool blues riff and seeing people move their bodies to the groove you're laying down! This is exactly what we want to achieve on this course, and we kick off with a blues tune and 7th chords.

Lessons:

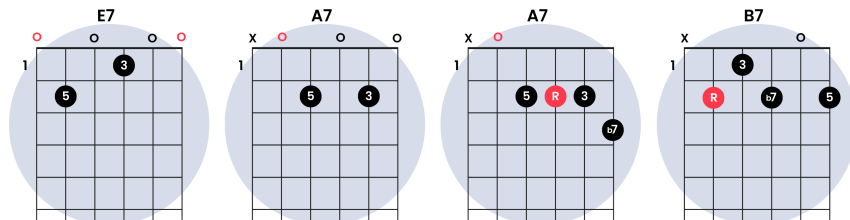
- What Is a 12 Bar?
- Dominant 7th Chords
- "Travelling Eyes"
- The Chorus 12 Bar
- The Verse 12 Bar

UNIT 4

Electric Blues

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Part 2



“

See if you can get these chords learnt and under your fingers ready for the next lesson. This will help a lot when we come to use them in the next song...

Dan

”



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