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Electric Blues Essentials

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills

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7th Chords & The 12 Bar

UNIT 2 • LESSON 5 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

The Track Part 3

In this lesson, we add the final pieces to the puzzle by adding the 5 chords and the turnaround section, including our augmented chord. Let's take a look at how those sections look on the tab:

We start here on bar 9 of the 12 bar, going up to the 5 chord of E.



For the V to the IV chord (5 to 4 chord) we're using a similar idea to the first time we go the IV chord. What we mean is that we're using the CAGED shapes to make something a bit more interesting sounding than just playing a single chord. Those chords look like this:

Course navigation

UNIT 1

Dirty Blues

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UNIT 2

7th Chords &

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The 12 Bar

In unit 2 we dive into the theory that makes up our blues base, the dominant 7th chords and the 12 bar format. For the dominant 7th chords we tackle the theory behind the shapes and then how to play them in 5 positions of the neck.

Lessons:

- The Theory
- Dominant 7th CAGED Chords
- The Track Part 1
- The Track Part 2
- The Track Part 3
- Changing Keys

UNIT 3

Major & Minor Scale

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UNIT 4

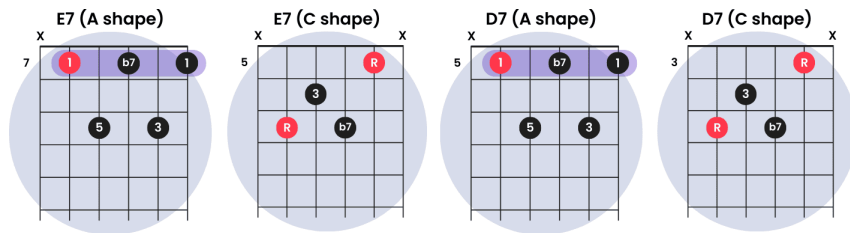
Keys & Turnarounds

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UNIT 5

"Motivational Blues"

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“

You may have noticed the cool chromatic movement from the E7 to the D7. This is a classic way to get from the 5 to 4 chord and can always be used in the blues. PS Chromatic simply means move one semitone at a time!

Dan

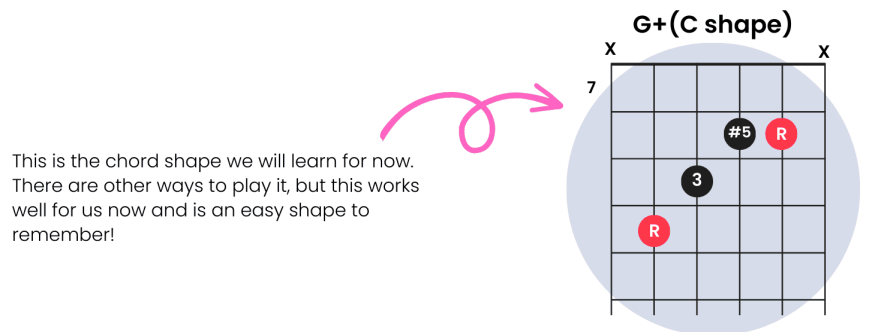
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What is augmented?

Much like the dominant chord, the purpose of an augmented chord is to add tension that needs to be resolved. The difference is how it adds tension. Whilst the dominant chord uses the flat 7th as the tension note, the augmented uses the sharp five! So the chord construction is:



The sharp five provides that tension that then is resolved when we come back to the root chord of the key. In our opinion, the augmented chord on the V of the 12 bar is always an option, and adds an extra layer of tension, perfect for the final bar of a 12 bar blues! In terms of the actual chord shapes we're using, it looks like this:



You now have the whole of the track. Take your time piecing it together, and play along with the interactive tab or the audio files to get it under your fingers. You can, however, move to the next lesson whilst you are learning this, as we'll talk about how to improvise with the new ideas we have learnt!



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