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Electric Blues Essentials

LEVEL 3 • Guitar Skills

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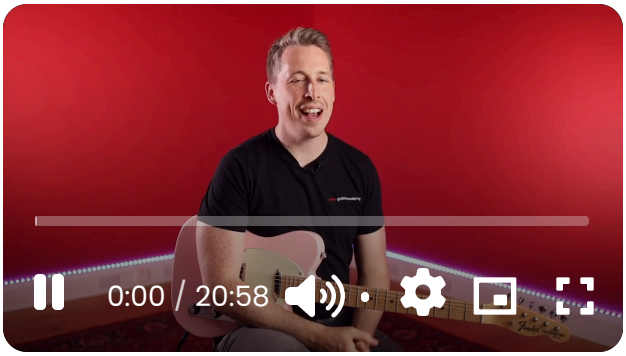

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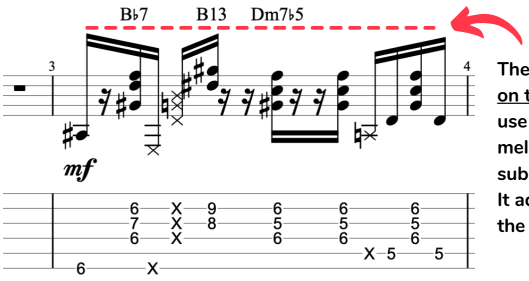
Modern Blues

UNIT 2 • LESSON 2 « PREVIOUS NEXT »

Lesson notes | Interactive tab | Diagrams

Groove and Chords

Let's now tackle the trickiest part of the whole thing, the groove with the chords! In my opinion, the groove part is a tricky skill to master, but we'll break it down very slowly. Let's focus first on the very first bar of the groove:



The bar is essentially based on the Bb7 chord, but we use the B13 and Dm7b5 as melodic options to substitute to over the Bb7. It adds some real spice to the sound!

In the video we go into a great amount of depth working through the exact placements for the hits and pops and slaps on each chord, which is harder to put into writing, so please be sure to spend a great amount of time working through the video in-depth! The key is to master the groove on this first bar, using the cool chord shapes, which you can see in the fretboard diagrams here.

Course navigation

UNIT 1
Funky Blues 0%

UNIT 2
Modern Blues 0%

In unit 2, we dial back the aggression and focus on a modern style blues, using the most modern fingerstyle techniques, with a cool new set of chords and arpeggios called the minor 7 flat 5's!

Lessons:

- **M7b5 Chord**
- **Groove and Chords**
- **The Solo**
- **Minor 7 Flat 5**
- **Solo Complete!**

UNIT 3
8 Bar Blues 0%

UNIT 4
Soul Blues 0%

Finally, let's put these chords in a chord chart so we can clearly see how they all fit together. It's worth noting that this is essentially a standard 12 bar blues, just with the addition of all of these substitute chord voicings, which is mega fun! For the purpose of the chord chart, we will just use the basic dominant 7th or 9th chords.

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