

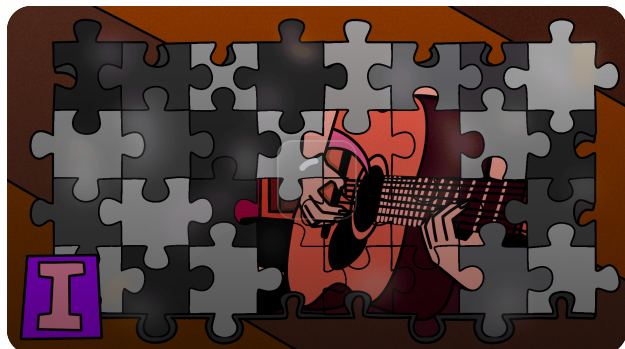
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Fingerstyle Arrangement

LEVEL 1 • Challenges

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Fingerstyle Arrangement 1

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 5** << PREVIOUS

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

Creating with G

Now it's time to apply the same kind of steps we worked with in the last lesson, except now in G major using the chords and scales in that key. We'll once again follow the process on the spot and really work to try something different to the last track!

Choosing chords

Thomas's first step is to choose the chords that he would like to use in his mini demo piece. He's using the chords G, Bm, Am & D for this example, which in terms of our numbering would look like this:



So we have the 1, 3, 2 & 5 chords in the key of G major.



Once again, as

UNIT 1

Fingerstyle

 0%

Arrangement 1

Focus on the creative side of fingerstyle, and learn how Thomas builds his fingerstyle arrangements!

Lessons:

- The Chords
- C Major Scale
- G Major Scale
- Creating with C
- Creating with G



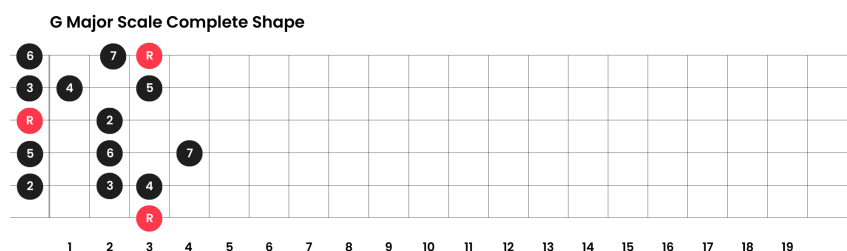
you could see in the video, this first part of the process is simply an exercise and quite random! Your ear can start to guide you with this as well.

Thomas



Adding the scale harmony

Remember that we are using the G major scale shape now around the movement of the chords, so let's have that in front of us whilst we're watching Thomas guide the process.



The magic in this lesson is really watching, over and over again, Thomas doing this process on camera. So please take the time to watch this a good few

times, and if you are interested, here is his final piece:

The image shows a musical score for a guitar piece. It consists of two systems of notation. The first system has three measures. The second system has two measures. The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure of the first system shows a D major chord (F#4, A4, C#5) and a scale box (F#4, A4, C#5, E5, G5, A5, C#5, E5). The second measure of the first system shows a D major chord (F#4, A4, C#5) and a scale box (F#4, A4, C#5, E5, G5, A5, C#5, E5). The third measure of the first system shows a D major chord (F#4, A4, C#5) and a scale box (F#4, A4, C#5, E5, G5, A5, C#5, E5). The first measure of the second system shows a D major chord (F#4, A4, C#5) and a scale box (F#4, A4, C#5, E5, G5, A5, C#5, E5). The second measure of the second system shows a D major chord (F#4, A4, C#5) and a scale box (F#4, A4, C#5, E5, G5, A5, C#5, E5).

Notice how the chord provides the key melody note itself, whilst the scale box helps us **join the musical dots** to create the interwoven melodies between the chords! Pretty cool process, and loads of fun to try for yourself.



“ You don’t have to use the notes of the chord for the melody. In this example, over the D major, we’re letting the melody note from the scale guide the chord, instead of

the other
way
round.

Thomas



Thinking full stops

One final point; as you loop round a chord progression, you can use the root note of the key (G in this case) to add this full stop effect to the end of the melody. If you don't want it to feel complete yet, move away from that full stop root note!



And there we have it for our Level 1 Fingerstyle Arrangement Challenge! I really hope you enjoyed it, but the real learning now comes from the doing. Set yourself a target to write something each week in this style and

see how you
get on!

Thomas



More examples!

If you haven't already looked at our Fingerstyle courses, I highly recommend you start that journey or revisit them. Every song Thomas writes in these courses follows this process, and so now you will be able to use those as further practice to develop your own arrangement. Of course, you'll also get the instruction you need for the picking hand alongside this, which will help massively!

Acoustic Fingerstyle Level 1

Guitar Skills

Acoustic Fingerstyle Level 2

Guitar Skills

Acoustic Fingerstyle Level 3

Guitar Skills



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