

Lesson

49

Learn some more dominant 7th chords

It's time to increase your chord vocabulary to include some more chords from the dominant 7th family. These chords are used in all styles of music but especially in blues, rock and country music.



Remember to use the process for learning new chords:

- Grab chord one string at a time...
 - What string?*
 - What finger?*
 - What fret?*
- Double-check technique...
 - Thumb behind the neck*
 - Fingers are arched*
 - Fingertips are snug behind the frets*
- Strum through chord...
 - One string at a time, to hear that each note is ringing clearly (make sure you strum the correct number of strings)*
- Make adjustments, if necessary...
 - Make sure there's enough clearance between the backs of your fingers and strings that are supposed to be ringing*

Learn to play two chord progressions that use dominant 7th chords

When you learn a new chord, it is a good idea to use it in a musical example or song right away so that your brain, ears and fingers get the chord down in a practical manner.

Here are two chord progressions that give you a chance to utilize the new dominant 7th chords from the previous lesson.

Chord progressions in 4/4 time:

Bar 1: E7 (020100) | Bar 2: B7 (x21304)

Rhythm: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

This next progression utilizes all down strums, which is actually a common way to strum and it creates a different “feel” for the steady 8th-note rhythm. There is also an accent on beats 2 and 4 of each bar.

Chord progressions in 4/4 time:

Bar 1: G7 (320001) | Bar 2: C7 (x32410) | Bar 3: G7 (320001) | Bar 4: D7 (xx0213)

Rhythm: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &