

# Basic Blues Progression

The Blues Progression is a series of chord changes over twelve bars (measures) that change chords in a predetermined pattern: using only 3 chords. (The I, IV & V chords in the key in which you are playing).

1

I chord      IV chord      I chord      V chord      I chord

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

The most basic change is called the "Rock" variation in which the IV chord is substituted for the V chord in measure 10.

I      IV      I      V      IV      I

1 3 5 7 9 11

Now we begin to add the "Blue" sound by the use of the Dominant Seventh in measure 4.

I      I7      IV      I      V      IV      I      V7

1 3 5 7 9 11

Continuing to add the "Blue" sound we add the Dominant Seven to the C chord in measure 6 and 10.

I      IV      I      I7      IV      IV7      I      I      V      IV7      I      V7

1 3 5 7 9 11 12



# Loosening Up

Same notes as No. 1, expressed Rhythmically in Triplets. This triplet rhythm gives a more authentic Blues feel than that of the sixteenths in No. 1.

## Assignment

- Practice Rhythm Exercise No. 11 on page 56 and No. 15 on page 58.

Nice and easy

2

*mp* *simile*

Use no pedal

G7 C C7

G D D

C7 G D7

8...J