

Blues Workout

Digital patterns are melodic patterns based on scale tones. The numerical value refers to the scale degree. For example: In the key of C, 1 is C, 2 is D, 3 is E etc. Below are examples of 8-note cells.

1 2 3 4 5 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 7 6 5 1 5 3 2 1 2 3 5

The following C blues progression uses digital pattern, 1-2-3-4-5-7-6-5. Memorize all three digital patterns and experiment with each on blues progressions in all keys.

C Maj7 FMaj7#11 CMaj7

FMaj7#11 CMaj7

D min7 G7 CMaj7

"Change Running" refers to outlining and arpeggiating the chord tones of each chord in a chord progression.

In the following C blues progression, arpeggiated chords are extended to the 7th. Notice that all chords are diatonic to the key of C.

C Maj7 FMaj7 CMaj7

FMaj7 CMaj7

D min7 G7 CMaj7

After memorizing the previous exercise, experiment with inversions of the seventh chords.

C Maj7 F Maj7 C Maj7

F Maj7 C Maj7

D min7 G7 C Maj7

C Maj7 F Maj7 C Maj7

F Maj7 C Maj7

D min7 G7 C Maj7

