

Beginning Blues Class

Motivic Development

Motivic development means to take an idea and change it to produce more ideas, but still keep the same theme.

1. Same melody, change the rhythm
2. Same rhythm, change the melody

Starting with the simple 3 note chords, we will improvise on the rhythms. By changing the rhythms only we change the song.

We do not have a melody with the 12 bar blues, but you can invert the chords to create a theme. For now we are just going to change the rhythm patterns.

12 Bar Blues in C

Motivic Rhythm ideas

When changing rhythm patterns, I try to keep it consistent throughout the song only changing patterns 2 or 3 times at the most.

1 C

1

2 C

2

3 C

3

4 C

4

5 C

5

6 C

6

7 C

7

8 C

8

12 Bar Blues in C

Motivic Rhythm ideas using chord inversions

Idea 1

Idea 2, with inversions

Musical notation for Idea 1, measures 1-4. The piece is in 4/4 time and C major. The bass line consists of a steady eighth-note pattern: C2, D2, E2, F2, G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4. The treble line features a sequence of chords: C major (root position), C major (first inversion), C major (second inversion), and C major (third inversion).

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Idea 3, similar to idea 2

Musical notation for Idea 3, measures 5-8. The bass line continues with the same eighth-note pattern. The treble line features a sequence of chords: C major (root position), C major (first inversion), C major (second inversion), and C major (third inversion).

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Musical notation for Idea 3, measures 9-12. The bass line continues with the same eighth-note pattern. The treble line features a sequence of chords: C major (root position), C major (first inversion), C major (second inversion), and C major (third inversion).

12 Bar Blues in C

Motivic Rhythm ideas using chord inversions

System 1: Treble clef staff is empty. Bass clef staff contains a sequence of chords: C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), and F major (F-A-C).

5

System 2: Treble clef staff is empty. Bass clef staff contains a sequence of chords: C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), and F major (F-A-C).

9

System 3: Treble clef staff is empty. Bass clef staff contains a sequence of chords: C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), F major (F-A-C), C major (C-E-G), and F major (F-A-C).