

# **Beginning Blues Class**

## **Motivic Development**

Motivic Development using the Blues Scale.

This is where your creativity comes into play.

By Combining notes of the chord with notes of the blues scale, we create a simple idea and play it with our 12 bar blues or add this idea as an improv to a song.

# Beginning Blues Class

## Motivic Development

This is a formula on developing blues scales. Major scales are the foundation to music, so start with the major scale and alter its tones to form the blues scale.

### Blues Scale Formula:

- |                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| 1. Keep the 1     | 3. Lower the 3rd ( $\frac{1}{2}$ step)            | 6. Keep the 5th                                |
| 2. Delete the 2nd | 4. Keep the 4th                                   | 7. Delete the 6th                              |
|                   | 5. Add a raised 4th<br>(raise $\frac{1}{2}$ step) | 8. Lower the 7th<br>(raise $\frac{1}{2}$ step) |

The diagram illustrates the transformation of a major scale into a blues scale. The first staff shows a major scale with notes labeled 1 through 8th. The second staff shows the resulting blues scale with modifications: 2nd is deleted, 3rd is lowered, 4th is raised, 6th is deleted, and 7th is lowered.

A + symbol next to the number means to always raise  $\frac{1}{2}$  step  
A - symbol next to the number means to always lower  $\frac{1}{2}$  step

### C Blues Scale

1      3-      4      4 +      5      7-      8

Musical notation for the C Blues Scale: C, Eb, F, F#, G, Ab, A.

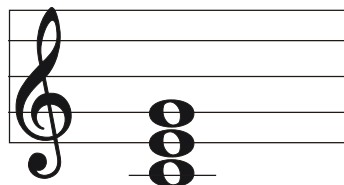
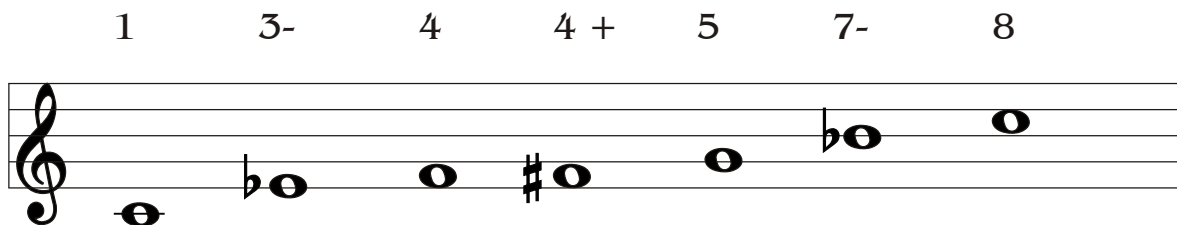
## Beginning Blues Class

# Motivic Development

Write a simple improv combining the Blues Scale with the Chord.

For this lesson we will make it simple and use the Eb off the blues scale and add it to the chord as a grace note, or play it as a single note for form a motivic idea.

### C Blues Scale



# 12 Bar Blues in C with motivic ideas

First system of musical notation (measures 1-4).

5

Second system of musical notation (measures 5-8).

9

Third system of musical notation (measures 9-12).

# Saints go Marching In

C F C C F C

1 2 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 & 4 &

G C

1 2 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 4

8 F C F C F

1 & 2 3 4 & 1 2 3 4

11 C Ending 1 C Ending 2

Ending 1 Ending 2

# Blues Class

# Saints Go Marching In

1 C F C

1 2 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 & 4 &

4 C G C

1 & 2 & 3 4 1 2 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

7 F C F

1 & 2 & 3 4 1 & 2 & 3 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

10 C F C

Ending 1