

FORWARD

Have you ever wondered about those young students of, say, the violin or piano, who acquire a very high level of technical skills in a very short time? Have you noticed that guitar players, by comparison, generally do not reach that level in the same time span? Have you ever wondered why this difference exists?

One notable reason is often taken for granted. Violinists, for example, inherit a tradition of disciplined training regimens. Beginning violin studies are made up of seemingly endless exercises of steady uninterrupted eighth-notes, sixteenth-notes, or triplets, etc., which the student practices faithfully every day. Great care is taken to make each note sound perfect. It is through these disciplined and uninterrupted practice regimens that great technique is acquired. In general, those who do it, get it, and those who don't, don't.

This book is a series of programmed project lessons designed to give the improvising guitarist such a regimented program. Why the <u>impro-</u> vising guitarist? In most cases, the violin or piano student is working from music which was written by someone else. The psychology behind his studies puts him in a relatively safe place. "If you don't like it, don't blame me. Paganinni wrote it; I didn't". The improvisor, however, faces the risk of criticism not only of his technique, but of his choice of notes as well. This working condition can create a double bind effect, causing a sort of mental paralysis which quickly translates into an inability to carry out the motor skill. It is toward the resolution of this problem that this book is directed.

In addition, those guitarists who already have an established technique will find this book useful in maintaining it. Doing the project lessons as outlined in the book, 50 minutes per day, 6 days per week, will keep your chops in shape during the periods when you are not actively playing.

This program has been tested in numerous group and individual situations, and without exception has worked for those who actually followed through and did the work as it is laid out here. Read the instructions carefully. Follow the directions. Do the work and it will work for you too.

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EQUIPMENT

YOUR GUITAR

The set up of your guitar plays a very important role in the development of accuracy and strength. Speed comes as a by-product of accuracy. Without accuracy, speed is unattainable. Extremely narrow gauge strings do not create enough resistance or "return" to their center position quickly enough to permit the right hand to develope predictable accuracy, or to strengthen the left hand. So, use a medium-heavy set of strings; nothing smaller than an .012 first string, etc. The strings should be raised to a medium-high action. There are three reasons for this: (1) to eliminate buzzes, (2) to help. strengthen the left hand, and (3) to develop accuracy for the right hand.

The neck should be inspected to assure that it is straight. The frets should be dressed down, eliminating high and low spots to avoid buzzes. An acoustic-electric guitar or straight acoustic are best suited for this job... For those who play a classical guitar, your instrument will be fine taking into consideration the necessary adjustments.

On the practical side, a large percentage of us must play with very small gauge strings, with low action, solid body, etc., to meet the requirements of today's popular music. Since it is not practical to change strings every day to practice, it may become necessary to have one guitar for the gig and another one to practice on.

After adjusting your guitar, make sure that each note rings loud and clear; just like a grand piano, over the entire range of the fingerboard.

YOUR PICK

Your pick should be of medium size, and medium to heavy in thickness. Avoid very large or odd shaped picks. Standard celluloid picks are well suited to this purpose.

OTHER IMPORTANT EQUIPMENT

Also essential to the studies in this book will be: (1) a metronome, (2) a reel-to-reel or cassette tape recorder, and (3) an alarm clock or timer.

PICKING

If you will be using finger-style picking, I recommend the standard classical techniques. If you will be using a pick, a word of caution might be appropriate. Since the birth of modern electric guitar, approximately 1937, many styles of plectrum technique have emerged. Some successfully met the challenges of new music, and others became burdens as a result of inadequate or "non"-training. Since this book focuses on the total development of single-string technique for improvising, and not specifically on picking, the reader must make it a point to develop a functional picking style on his or her own. Seven pages of the Howard Roberts Guitar Book are devoted to the subject of picking and an even more in-depth study can be found in the Howard Roberts Guitar Manual Picking. I can, however, point out some things to avoid.

The right hand seems to be the greatest limiting factor for most modern-day guitar improvisors. It appears that once a style of picking has become habitual, it is very difficult to change, and frequently, total retraining is required. So, taking into consideration that there are many techniques one may use to execute a given passage, we must constantly remind ourselves that flexibility-the ability to adapt the right hand to a variety of moves-is the key to longevity. The big thing to avoid is any kind of <u>anchor system</u> that inhibits freedom of movement. Observe anchors at the elbow, at the wrist, grasping the pick-guard with the little finger, etc.; all of which may be functional for a specific sound, but should be viewed with caution when considered as the basis of an overall right hand technique. Remember: <u>Keep it</u> <u>loose!</u> - like a guy strumming a ukelele in a pineapple field. If there is any rigidness in your picking leverage system, it can stop you like a brick wall when the tempos get fast.

Under any circumstances, the left and right hands must be in perfect synchronization. No Flams! If the finger attacks first and the pick follows, there will be two sounds instead of one. If the pick attacks first and the finger follows, again, two sounds instead of one. The key here is to close the gap so that the "flam" effect is unnoticeable. To do so, play tones very slowly at all points on the fingerboard. Only in this way can we hear the flam effect. If we play fast in warming up, it becomes more difficult to hear the differential of attack.

FINGERINGS

The thumb of the left hand should ride along the approximate center of the back of the neck. The fingers should operate straight up and down on the strings, like hammers in a piano, at a right angle to the fingerboard. Attacking the string at an angle will move the string from it's center position, both cutting down on accuracy and also stretching the string to sound out of tune.

The fingers should be lifted only high enough off the string to avoid string noise when moving, but not so high as to become wasted motion.

The wrist should maintain a fairly flat posture. Avoid severe arching of the left wrist as this can produce undesirable strains.

5

KEY CENTERS

The exercises comprising the main body of this book consist of selected chord progressions representing common harmonic movements. They reflect a broad cross-section of chord progressions common to the diatonic system, the kind of progression we must deal with on a daily basis. The trained improvisor would ordinarily be knowledgeable about the diatonic harmonies and relative minor for any key, and would be able to properly identify the key centers resident in a chord progression. The study of this subject falls under the general heading of diatonic harmony and theory, a complete study of which would range beyond the scope of this book. However, I will describe briefly what a key center is and how to deal with it in the sense of creating an improvised solo line.

It must be remembered here that the main purpose of this book is to build up technical facility within the attitudinal sphere of improvisation and not to give an additional load of theoretical data.

A KEY CENTER IS:

When a given major or minor scale is stacked upon itself in thirds as shown in Example 1, it creates harmony characteristic of that scale.

EXAMPLE 1

PARK ALL STREET



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NOTE: The VII Chord, Bm7b5 is also known as B[#] (B half-diminished seventh)

KEY CENTERS





Finding The Key Center for the Chord Progression Below, The Line of Reasoning is, since ...

- 1. F min 7 could belong to any one of three keys. It could be the II chord of Eb, the III chord of Bb, or the VI chord of Ab. (The possibilities are listed above the chord symbols below.)
- 2. Bb min 7 also could belong to any one of three keys: the II chord of Ab, the III chord of Gb and the VI chord of Db.
- 3. Eb 7 is a V chord (Dominant 7 type) which only appears once in any given major key, always as the V chord, and therefore, only one possibility, the V of Ab.
- 4. Ab Maj 7 could be the I chord in the key of Ab or the IV chord of Eb. The possibilities are noted.
- 5. Now we examine the entire progression to isolate whole sections in which the chords are common to one key. As in the case below, the key of Ab is evident, (shown in circles).

EXAMPLE 3



KEY CENTERS

The same thing would be true of Harmonic and Melodic Minor scales. Each type of scale generates its own scale harmonies that remain the same regardless of the key.



EXAMPLE 4 THE HARMONIZED HARMONIC MINOR SCALE (Key of A minor)

Example 4A - The Harmonized Melodic Minor Sclae (Key of A minor)



HOW TO PLAY WITHIN KEY CENTERS

Since the scale is the mother of the chords, it naturally follows that once the mother scale has been discovered for a sequence of chords, that the notes of that scale can be used to form a solo line. In all studies to follow, the key centers have been bracketed above the chord progression. Observe these key centers with care and for each new one, move your hand to a convenient fingering pattern for that particular scale and do your improvising in that region of the guitar. There are five such patterns for any given scale. And each of these five are movable up or down the neck to the selected key or, they may be connected to increase the range.

In addition to being able to logically calculate key centers from an analysis of the progression, the ability to play over changes by ear, can be viewed as the ideal end result. The project lessons offer a perfect vehicle for the development of this ability.

THE FINGERBOARD

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In the event that the layout of scales on the fingerboard are not all together clear to the reader, the following is a brief description.

There are five tone patterns for the diatonic major scale. The <u>mechanics</u> of the fingerings center around the use of a finger per fret, although in most cases it becomes necessary to reach out of position one fret either above or below the basic position with the first or fourth finger. This is no big deal.

Each pattern may be moved up or down the fingerboard for access to any key, including the open positions. When these patterns are laid end to end, they cover the entire fingerboard for any one key. The available working range can be extended by connecting one pattern to another.

All other scales can be produced through modifications of these diatonic patterns, (using the same five basic forms.) For example, the relative harmonic minor scales can be quickly learned by simply sharping the fifth scale step of the diatonic scales, which is the same as sharping the seventh of the relative minor scales.

Also, arpeggios will be easier to handle if they are played within a scale pattern that corresponds to the key center from which the chord is derived, e.g. the progression Dm7, Gm7, Cm7, F7 is a III, VI, II, V Progression in the key of Bb. Therefore, one would select one of the five patterns for that key and play the arpeggios in that pettern.

Each pattern shown here starts with the lowest available in the range of the pattern going to the highest, (not from tonic to tonic). The tonics are circled for clear visual targeting. For identification, I have arbitrarilly numbered the patterns one through five in the key of C Major, starting with the open position as number one, the progressing to the next higher pitched pattern as number two and so forth.

Each diagram is accompanied by an example in music notation, with some suggested fingerings shown above the notes, and the string numbers below in circles. Feel free to change the fingerings to anything more comfortable.

The most important thing here is to develop a strong visual imprint of the pattern itself, coupled with the tone sequence it produces (the sound) with the view that when improvising, ne fingerings may be open to change at any time.

THE FIVE FINGERING PATTERNS

Move this pattern out of the open position to other keys using the first finger as a capo.

Fingering Pattern Number One



Fingering Pattern Number Three



Fingering Pattern Number Four



Fingering Pattern Number Five



CONNECTING THE FIVE PATTERNS

There are essentially three "moves" involved in moving from one pattern to another.

- (1) Position skips, i.e. from pattern one to pattern four, done smoothly without a break in rhythmic or melodic continuity.
- (2) Stretching from one pattern to the next, ascending or descending; or
- (3) Sliding on the half steps, as demonstrated below.





In that the studies in this book are deliberately limited to rhythms of uninterrupted duple and triple time, interesting rhythmic figures or motifs cannot be used to brighten up the solo lines. Therefore, your choice of <u>melodic tone sequences</u> will become the major device for creating interesting lines. So to help form a perspective on this subject, the following is a brief outline of some basic line shaping elements for consideration. (Scales, Interval Skips, Arpeggios)

COMMON TONES

A common tone is a note that is common to two or more chords, a very simple technique but not to be overlooked, i.e. when playing non-stop eighth notes, or triplets, etc., it is not necessary to keep the line moving at all times. The line can be flattened out --- a nice relief from excessive vertical movement.

Example 5



SCALES

Create smooth rolling lines. Some of the more common scales you may use are:

The Chromatic Scale (Symetrical, consecutive $\frac{1}{2}$ steps)

Example 6



The Diatonic Major Scale (with $\frac{1}{2}$ steps between the 3rd/4th and 7th/8th scale steps indicated with lines between the notes (ϕ).



LINE SHAPING

The Relative Harmonic Minor Scale (with $\frac{1}{2}$ steps between the 2nd/3rd and 7th/8th scale steps.)





The Relative Melodic Minor Scale (with $\frac{1}{2}$ steps between the 2nd/3rd and 7th/8th scale steps ascending and reverting back to the natural minor descending. NOTE: The ascending and descending rules here are a technicality, which in the final analysis may be disregarded in favor of the existant bar harmony, e.g. the key A minor, the bar harmony is E7b9. We would more than likely use F ascending or descending.





The Diminished Scale (symetrical, consecutive whole step and half steps) most commonly used over dominant 7th chords or diminished chords.

Example 11



The Whole Tone Scale (symetrical, consecutive whole steps) most commonly used over dominant 7th chords.

Example 12



The Major Pentatonic Scale (same as diatonic major with the active tones 3rd and 7th left out). When harmonized creates inversions of a Major 6/9 chord, with little gravitational pull toward any key center "depending on the usage".

Example 13



ARPEGGIOS

Arpeggios are specifically chords, broken up into single notes. They are effective in outlining the bar harmony and offer a nice contrast to scale movement as they create smooth rolling lines, at sharper angles than scales.

Example 14



INTERVAL SKIPS

Interval skips create sharp, dramatic lines. An interval is the distance between any two notes. Large interval skips can be a valuable tool for creating interesting lines and can have a dramatic effect in breaking up the monotomy of excessive scale movement. Any sequence of interval skips, 3rds, 7ths, 9ths, etc., can easily be applied to a key center by playing scale intervals that take into account the half steps of the scale, thus, resulting in combinations of major and minor 3rds or major and minor 7ths (not, parallel 3rds, 7ths, etc.)

Example 15



A most common complaint of beginning improvisors is that their playing tends to become too scale-like. One solution to this could be to stop playing things that "sound" like scales, for example, as an exercise, don't play more than 3 or 4 scale tones in the same direction, e.g. this type of scale movement creates interval skips, small and large, thus breaking up the scale effect.

Example 16



THE PROGRAM

- A. The Program is made up of a series of project lessons, each lasting 50 minutes per day, running six consecutive days per week, with one day off. The objective is to gradually increase the tempo over the course of 20 weeks to reach a metronome setting of approximately = 126 (maintaining precision and accuracy at all times).
- B. The First Six Weeks, Project Lessons 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, 2-B, 3-A, 3-B, focus on the use of eighth notes, as representative of duple time, sixteenth notes, thirty-second notes, etc. Each project lesson is broken down into a series of steps to be carried out within specified time frames. The first lesson (1-A) deals with a common chord progression, showing the key centers bracketed above the chords. Project Lesson 1-B uses the same chord progression transposed to another key, thus requiring a change of fingering patterns, licks, etc. This also tends to stimulate fresh approaches and ideas. Lesson 2-A is a new chord progression and Lesson 3-B uses the same progression transposed to another key.
- C. The Seventh Week Review.
 - Day 1 Review Project Lesson 1-A
 - Day 2 Review Project Lesson 1-B
 - Day 3 Review Project Lesson 2-A
 - Day 4 Review Project Lesson 2-B
 - Day 5 Review Project Lesson 3-A
 - Day 6 Review Project Lesson 3-B

D. Weeks Eight Through Thirteen, Project Lessons 4-A, 4-B, 5-A, 5-B, 6-A, 6-B focus on triple time via eighth note triplets as representative of their relative divisions and sub-divisions, i.e., quarter note triplets, sixteenth note triplets, etc. As before, each project lesson is broken down into a series programmed steps with corresponding time frames. Lesson 4-A presents a new progression, with key centers bracketed above.
Project Lesson 4-B uses the same progression, transposed to another key. Lesson 5-A is a new progression and Lesson 5-B is the same progression transposed to another key.

THE PROGRAM

E. The Fourteenth Week - Review.

Day 1Review Project Lesson 4-ADay 2Review Project Lesson 4-BDay 3Review Project Lesson 5-ADay 4Review Project Lesson 5-BDay 5Review Project Lesson 6-ADay 6Review Project Lesson 6-B

F. Weeks 15, 16, 17 - Review.

Review the projecat lessons in any order to establish your present maximum tempo as a permanent reflex. The project lesson steps and time frames are to be followed as before.

G. Weeks 18, 19, 20 - Review.

Review the project lessons as before using (a) hammer-on's (b)pull-off's (c) glissandi (slides). The introduction of these techniques should cause your technique and speed to increase dramatically in that via these devices several notes can be produced with one picking stroke.

H. The Appendix in the back of the book consists of examples or models of the kind of lines intended for the project lessons and are numbered accordingly, i.e. 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, 2-B, etc.

NOTE: Think of this program as training with the Chicago Bears, as compared to joining a health spa. Trust the program. Do the work exactly as prescribed, then stand back and watch it work. You should see dramatic progress within about six weeks.

POINTERS

- A. It is true that the more you practice, the more quickly you will progress. So, after your one hour per day of controlled practice, if you feel like playing for 12 more hours, so much the better. Be in tune with your physical and psychological high's and low's and use them appropriately. When you feel like doing it, do it.
- B. Guitar players are inveterate <u>noodlers</u>, and I think that a very effective type of learning takes place while watching television and noodling. Do it when you feel like it.
- C. Sometimes it's helpful to sketch out a very simple melody line over the changes, i.e. half note, quarter notes, halves, etc. Let this line run through your head as a basic melody and play "fills" around it. This will at least get your line started with some form.
- D. A very common form for building a solo line is: QUESTION AND ANSWER. When this Q/A routine re-occurs, it is generally called a sequence.

SEQUENCE



- E. Listen to the "pre-recorded changes" and sing the solo the way would like to play it.
- F. <u>REST</u>: Lie flat on the floor. Hands flat, not crossed. Legs flat, not crossed. Close your eyes, breath deep, and say to yourself, "I will relax how."
- G. <u>REST</u>: Stand with your back up against a wall. Press each part of your body against the wall. Naturally parts of your body will not want to do this, like the small of the back, the nape of the neck, etc. But the idea is to attempt "real hard" for about 30 seconds. Do this on one of the 3-minute breaks.
- H. In this program you will reach many moments in which you hate that "same old lick" you "always play". Be aware of this point in the tune and the next time around, do something else, no stops. Yes, the tape is running, and the next time is coming right up. So welcome to the world of a hot improvisor.
- HANGUPS: Play very slowly and listen carefully for any flams. Use all up strokes. Make each note sound as loud and strong as any other. Now use all up strokes, scales, interval skips. Now use consecutive down and up strokes. Now reverse to all up (on the down beat) and down (on the up beat) strokes.
- J. The Warm-Up. At the beginning of each practice session, warm up for 5 minutes by playing notes all over the fingerboard. Play very slowly, low, high, and medium pitches, to develop a feel for string travel at a given picking area. Notes played high up on the neck have a much greater string travel than the low ones and can create coordination problems between the left and right hands. Both must attack the string simultaneously.

POINTERS

- K. A most common mistake is to blame the left hand when the right hand is at fault, or vice versa. Watch out for this.
- L. Get the progression off the paper and into your head as soon as possible. Memorizing the chord changes allows you to focus all of your attention on what you are playing rather than reading the music.
- M. The objectives put forth in this book are attainable only if the reader follows each step of the program without deviation from the schedule (that means no missed days, hours shortened, time frames disobeyed, key centers missed, introducing hammer-on's, pull-off's, before stated, playing dotted eighth sixteenth notes instead of eighth notes, etc., etc.) If you do it, you get it. If you don't, you don't.
- In the Growth Process, we all go through periods in which we are activating new Ν. nerve junctures, both in the brain and throughout other parts of the body. This type of growth work draws a tremendous amount of systemic energies. The overall physical feeling is like pulling a train uphill, and the psychological spin-off is the feeling that we are getting nowhere. This will persist for some period of time. We then tend to go into a natural state of rest, "a plateau." During this rest period, we tend to feel that we have the world by the tail and great progress is taking place. Actually the reverse is true. The progress was made during the uphill climb, not during the rest period. The rest period will continue for some period of time. Don't worry about it. Then the road will become very rough again, and we will begin to become aware of our weaknesses. This will last until we select the specific area to attack first. We will then begin the uphill climb again and plateau again only to meet our deficiencies face to face again. So, on and on it goes, but your practice regimen must remain constant.

Self-Questioning Progress Questioning Progress Rest Plateau Questioning Progress

POINTERS

- O. Coping With The Mental Hazards Of Developing A High Degree of Facility In Improvising. It is extremely important to correctly place the blame when things seem to be going wrong. For example, your guitar may sound out of tume, which is certainly possible. However, keep in mind that it may actually be in tune with itself, but out of tune with an air conditioner, refrigerator motor, or traffic noises from outside. When your music sounds bad to you, the natural reflex is to stop playing. So before you blame yourself for a problem, make sure that you have accounted for elements in your environment that may be superimposing a subliminal orchestration over what you are playing. Learn to ferrot out the real problems.
- P. There seems to be something about the guitar, at least for the serious performer, that creates an overload of humility. A certain amount of this is okay and selfquestioning is essential to one's progress. But do not fall into the trap, as many do, of blaming yourself when something else is wrong, as this will not cure hidden problems.
- Q. Also be aware of your bio-cycles. Every person has natural high and low points running in approximately monthly cycles. During low periods, you may feel very down and discouraged, but this must not interrupt the regularity of your practice routine, as far as the project lessons in this book are concerned. You must continue to practice with controlled discipline, no matter how you feel about things from day to day.
 - R. You will find that once you reach a given level of speed, and maintain playing at that level or faster, for approximately 21 days, on a daily basis, -- the ability acquired during that period of time will be permanently imprinted and assimilated by your nervous system. You could lay off for six months, come back and practice hard for about 2-3 weeks and it will come right back. It seems that once this ability is programmed clearly, the rest is mostly a matter of muscular strength and agility.
 - S. Practicing an hour a day 6 days a week is great, but 12 hours is better. There will be some days when you may feel like playing for long periods of time. This is great when you feel like it, but don't force it.
- T. An Accelerator -- form a group of other guitar players. Exchange solos and comping. Trade off in sequence. The group dynamics is superior to private study for a program of this sort.
 - U. Another hazard to watch out for -- when tunes are played with a specific feel, i.e. steady eighths or dotted eighths, sixteenths (shuffle) or triplets (12/8), etc., they tend to have slow, medium and fast tempos that are just right for that particular rhythm feel and any other tempos inbetween feel awkward and difficult to play on. This applies even to the most experienced players. You should expect that, during the process of building up your speed, you will encounter long periods when the tempo feels awful and, from time to time, points where the tempo is just right. Don't blame yourself -- just be aware of the real problem.

HOW TO DO PROJECT LESSONS FOR WEEKS ONE THROUGH SIX

- A. Play only eighth notes, continuous and uninterrupted. No rests. No phrasing. No hammer-on's. No pull-off's. No other ornamentation. "Nothing" but steady eighth notes.
- B. Use Alternate Picking only. No two strokes in the same direction, i.e. strive to make up strokes sound as strong as down strokes.
- C. Do not set your metronome to a desired speed and try to rise to meet it. Rather, use the metronome only to track your progress. Keep a daily record of your tempos in the boxes provided. (NOTE: Your tempo may vary slower or faster from day to day. This is to be expected.)
- D. Do each project lesson for six consecutive days, with one day off. Avoid skipping a day, for whatever reason. The effect is hazardous to progress. Regularity is essential. Follow the steps faithfully as given.
- E. The key centers bracketed in the chord progressions represent only <u>one</u> analysis of the progression. Other views may be applied as well. For example, you will encounter key center brackets in which a given chord could be viewed as a III or VI chord of one key, but indicated as a II chord of another. In these situations, one's individual preference can prevail. It's just a matter of where you want the change of tonality to occur. Also, there are almost unlimited scale and chord substitution possibilities. Feel free to use any harmonic devices at your disposal. If they're right, they will sound right and if they're wrong, you will know it immediately.
- F. The chord voicings shown in the project lessons are common guitar voivings which are intended to assure a clear understanding of the progression and, in addition, may serve as a good study in the application of "garden variety" guitar chords. However, other voicings may be used at your own discretion.
- G. The week end tempo objectives shown at the top of each project lesson are scheduled to increase by two metronome points daily. It may be good to remember that these are only objectives. Care should be taken not to sacrifice accuracy and precision in order to meet the tempo goals. These will always come in time. The tempo objective plan is symmetrical, but the learning curve is not.
- H. Play Legato. Hold each note as long as possible.
- 1. Great attention should be given to holding steady time. Do not rush or drag the tempo.

WEEK ONE

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PROJECT LESSON 1-A

Week End Tempo Objective J = 60

PREPARATION

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- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.
- Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

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

- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression <u>non-stop</u> for 10 minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.



EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 1-A

The following is a model of the type of solo line to be improvised in this project lesson. It is source material to be used as reference only. The idea of the project lesson is for you to improvise your own line on the spot and not to memorize this example. It's fine if you want to analyse and memorize this for your own purposes but it is not the objective of the project lesson.













WEEK TWO PROJECT LESSON 1-B

Week End Tempo Objective J = 72

Table I Propaga Alexandra

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

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Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression <u>non-stop</u> for 10 minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak!Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper andinto your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 m	in Check	off each	step a	as it	is	finished.
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EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 1-B

Remember! This example and all other examples for the project lessons are <u>models</u> of the type of solo line to be improvised. The important consideration is the spontaneous invention of <u>your own</u> solo line. The point of the project lessons is to hone your technique to a level that will facilitate and not hinder the immediate reproduction of any and all of your musical ideas. Use the examples as source material and for reference, but when doing the project lessons, it's "every man for himself".













WEEK THREE PROJECT LESSON 2-A

Week End Tempo Objective / = 84

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PREPARATION

- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.
- Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

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

- Step 510 minPre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no
rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the
tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10
minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.



EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 2-A

















WEEK FOUR

PROJECT LESSON 2-B

= 96

Week End Tempo Objective

PREPARATION

- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.
- Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 510 minPre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no
rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the
tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10
minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.



EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 2-B

















WEEK FIVE

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PROJECT LESSON 3-A

= 108

Week End Tempo Objective 🥖

PREPARATION.

- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 . Tune your guitar.
- Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.

Step 12 2 min Break! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes. Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourself playing the project the way you wish you had.




EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 3-A



















WEEK SIX PROJECT LESSON 3-B

Week End Tempo Objective d = 120

PREPARATION

Step 1

Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to thislesson.

- Step 2 Tune your guitar.
- Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your <u>tempo of the day</u> - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
 - Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
 - Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
 - Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
 - Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.



EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 3-B



















HOW TO DO THE PROJECT LESSONS FOR THE SEVENTH WEEK (REVIEW)

A six day series of Project Lessons. Each day we will deal with one of the chord progression form the preceeding studies.

DAY ONE	Review Project Lesson 1-A
DAY TWO	Review Project Lesson 1-B
DAY THREE	Review Project Lesson 2-A
DAY FOUR	Review Project Lesson 2-B
DAY FIVE	Review Project Lesson 3-A
DAY SIX	Review Project Lesson 3-B

The reasons for this review are two-fold.

- A. To reinforce our memory of the chord progressions themselves and also of the devices we used to get through them.
- B. To do some clean-up work on our tempo objectives and really focus on precision.

This will help firm up our technique as it exists at this point in time.

The method of going about doing this is, as before, a matter of regular disciplined study periods as outlined. Remember, however, that it's no big deal to outline it, the big deal is doing it.

WEEK SEVEN

PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = /32

PREPARATION

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- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth notes once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression <u>non-stop</u> for 10 minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-notes to the conclusion of the prerecording.
- Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total

CONTEMPLATE

YOUR PROGRESS TO THE END OF WEEK SEVEN

YOU SHOULD FEEL A NOTICEABLE NEW CONFIDENCE AND SURENESS IN YOUR PLAYING TECHNIQUE

CONTINUED PERSISTANCE TO THE END OF THE PROGRAM, EVEN THOUGH SOMEWHAT TEDIOUS AT TIMES, WILL RESULT IN THE FULFILLMENT OF YOUR GOAL IN ONLY THIRTEEN MORE WEEKS.

GIVE YOURSELF A WELL-DESERVED PAT ON THE BACK FOR DILIGENCE, AND A SPECIAL REWARD FOR YOUR SUCCESS THUS FAR.

THEN, WITH RENEWED MOTIVATION, GO ON TO WEEK EIGHT.

HOW TO DO WEEKS EIGHT THROUGH THIRTEEN

- A. Play only eighth note triplets, continuous and uninterrupted. No rests. No Phrasing. No hammer-on's. No pull-off's. No other ornamentation.
- B. Use Alternate Picking only. No two strokes in the same direction, i.e. strive to make up strokes sound as strong as down strokes. This will cause every other set of triplets to begin with an up stroke.
- C. Warning: Do not set your metronome to a desired speed and try to rise to meet it. Rather, use the metronome only to track your progress. Keep a daily record of your tempos in the boxes provided. (NOTE: Your tempo may vary slower or faster from day to day. This is to be expected.)

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D. Do each project lesson for six consecutive days, with one day off. Avoid skipping a day, for whatever reason. The effect is very hazardous to progress. Regularity is essential. Now, follow the steps faithfully as given.

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WEEK EIGHT

PROJECT LESSON 4-A

Week End Tempo Objective 🥒 = 96

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your <u>tempo of the day</u> - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak!Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper andinto your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.

- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.



EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 4-A





































WEEK NINE

PROJECT LESSON 4-B

Week End Tempo Objective d = 104

PREPARATION

- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your <u>tempo of the day</u> - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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Step 510 minPre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained - no
rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the
tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10
minutes.

- Step 62 minBreak! Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper andinto your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 4-B





































WEEK TEN

PROJECT LESSON 5-A

Week End Tempo Objective d = 1/2

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained - no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression <u>non-stop</u> for 10 minutes.

- Step 62 minBreak!Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper andinto your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 12 2 min Break! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes. Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourself playing the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.









EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 5-A

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In the Growth Process, we all go through periods in which we are activating new nerve junctures, both in the brain and throughout other parts of the body. This type of growth work draws a tremendous amount of systemic energies. The overall physical feeling is like pulling a train uphill, and the psychological spin-off is the feeling that we are getting nowhere. This will persist for some period of time. We then tend to go into a natural state of rest, a "plateau". During this rest period, we tend to feel that we have the world by the tail and great progress is taking place. Actually, the reverse is The progress was made durtrue. ing the uphill climb, not during the rest period. The rest period will continue for some period of time. Don't worry about it. Then the road will become very rough again, and we will begin to become aware of our weaknesses. This will last until we select the specific area to attack first. We will then begin the same uphill climb again and plateau again only to meet our deficiences face to face again. So, on and on it goes, but your practice regimen must remain constant.

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WEEK ELEVEN

PROJECT LESSON 5-B

Week End Tempo Objective d = 120

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step :: Warm up, Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROCRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOC OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Dav 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak!Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the key
centers and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper and
into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.

- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.







EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 5-B



REMINDERS

At the beginning of each practice session, warm up for 5 minutes by playing notes all over the fingerboard. Play very slowly, low, high, and medium pitches, to develop a feel for string travel at a given picking area. Notes played high up on the neck have a much greater string travel than the low ones and can create coordination problems between the left and right hands. Both must attack the string simultaneously.

In this program, you will reach many moments in which you hate that "same old lick" you "always play". Be aware of this point in the tune and the next time around, do something else, no stops. Yes, the tape is running, and the next time is coming right up. So welcome to the world of a hot improvisor.

WEEK TWELVE

PROJECT LESSON 6-A

Week End Tempo Objective J = 128

PREPARATION

- Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.
- Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your <u>tempo of the day</u> - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
- Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 12 2 min Break! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes. Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourself playing the project the way you wish you had.









SKAUPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 6-A





WEEK THIRTEEN PROJECT LESSON 6-B

Week End Tempo Objective d = 136

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min

Play eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your <u>tempo of the day</u> - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained - no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.

- Step 62 minBreak! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine.
Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key
centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and
into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
 - Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
 - Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 12 2 min Break! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes. Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourself playing the project the way you wish you had.













EXAMPLE FOR PROJECT LESSON 6-B





HOW TO DO PROJECT LESSONS FOR THE FOURTEENTH WEEK (REVIEW)

A six day series of Project Lessons. Each day we will deal with one of the chord progressions from the preceeding studies.

DAY TWO DAY THREE DAY FOUR	Review Project Lesson 4-A Review Project Lesson 4-B Review Project Lesson 5-A Review Project Lesson 5-B Review Project Lesson 5-B
	Review Project Lesson 6-A Review Project Lesson 6-B

- Play only eighth note triplets, continuous and uninterrupted.
 No rests. No phrasing. No hammer-on's. No pull-off's. No other ornamentation. "Nothing" but steady eighth note triplets.
- B. Use Alternate Picking only. No two strokes in the same direction, i.e. strive to make up strokes sound as strong as down strokes.
- C. Warning: Do <u>not</u> set your metronome to a desired speed and try to rise to meet it. Rather, use the metronome only to track your progress. Kee a daily record of your tempos in the boxes provided. (NOTE: Your tempo may vary slower or faster from day to day. This is to be expected.)
- D. Avoid skipping a day, for whatever reason. The effect is very hazardous to progress. Regularity is essential. No, follow the steps faithfully as given.

WEEK FOURTEEN PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = 144

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 42 minPlay eighth-note triplets once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play
through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo
in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

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

Step 510 minPre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained - no
rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the
tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10
minutes.

- Step 62 minBreak!Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper and
into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
 - Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.
 - Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth-note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourself,playing the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.

HOW TO DO PROJECT LESSONS FOR WEEKS FIFTEEN, SIXTEEN AND SEVENTEEN

(21 DAY REVIEW)

Up to now, our goal has been to gradually rach a tempo of d = /44 with clean execution by the end of the fourteenth week. Whether you have or have not attained this tempo, write down the present maximum metronome setting (the setting at which you can play through the project lessons free of mistakes).

Now, using combinations of duple and triple time (see Ex. 14), go back and review Project Lessons 1-A through 6-B. Do not allow your tempo to become slower than your present maximum metronome setting, but if your tempo increases during this period, it's just fine.



Following is a 21 day "gestation" period aimed toward affixing your present maximum technique as a permanent reflex capability, a point at which one may go without playing for long periods of time, but with about two to three weeks of practice, regain the full technique.

The following here is a suggested schedule (you may change the order at will).

WEEK FIFTEEN	Day One Day Two Day Three Day Four Day Five Day Six	Review Project Lesson 1-A Review Project Lesson 1-B Review Project Lesson 2-A Review Project Lesson 2-B Review Project Lesson 3-A Review Project Lesson 3-B
WEEK SIXTEEN	Day One Day Two Day Three Day Four Day Five (1993) Day Six	Review Project Lesson 4-A Review Project Lesson 4-B Review Project Lesson 5-A Review Project Lesson 5-B Review Project Lesson 6-A Review Project Lesson 6-B
WEEK SEVENTEEN	Day One Day Two Day Three Day Four Day Five Day Six	Review Project Lesson 1-A Review Project Lesson 4-A Review Project Lesson 2-A Review Project Lesson 5-A Review Project Lesson 3-A Review Project Lesson 6-A

WEEK FIFTEEN

PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = 152

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard.Objective:To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left
hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 42 minPlay combinations of eighth notes and eighth note triplets once
through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the
speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes.
Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
		<u> </u>			<u> </u>	

- Step 510 minPre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no
rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the
tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10
minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak!Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper andinto your head".

Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.

Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets to the conclusion of the recording.

Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eye:Breathe deeply and rhythmically. Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.

WEEK SIXTEEN

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PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = 160

PREPARATION

Step 1

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- Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.
- Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 42 minPlay combinations of eighth notes and eighth note triplets once
through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the
speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes.
Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
L	1					

- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key
centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and
into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
 - Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
 - Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets to the conclusion of the recording.
 - Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

- Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.
- Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.

WEEK EIGHTEEN

PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = 176

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left bands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play combinations of eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides once through the progression to establish your <u>tempo of the day</u> - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINCS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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•	1					
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- Step 510 minPre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no
rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the
tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10
minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key
centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and
into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.

Step 910 minPlay uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using
hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides to the conclusion of the
pre-recording.

Step 10 2 min Sreak Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.

WEEK NINETEEN

PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = /84

PREPARATION

Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Step 3 Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

Step 4 2 min Play combinations of eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 62 minBreak! Set the guitar down.Stand up and rewind the machine.Focus your attention on the chord progression.Know the keycenters and memorize the progression."Get it off the paper andinto your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.
- Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides to the conclusion of the pre-recording.
- Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

Total 50 min Check off each step as it is finished.

WEEK TWENTY PROJECT LESSON REVIEW

Week End Tempo Objective d = 192

PREPARATION

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Step 1 Clear your work area of all things not pertaining to this lesson.

Step 2 Tune your guitar.

Warm up. Play notes slowly at all parts of the fingerboard. Objective: To eliminate any "flams" between the right and left hands.

50 MINUTE PROGRAM

2 min

Step 4

Step 3

Play combinations of eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides once through the progression to establish your tempo of the day - the speed at which you can play through the piece without mistakes. Mark down the day's tempo in the appropriate box below.

LOG OF DAILY METRONOME SETTINGS

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
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- Step 5 10 min Pre-record yourself playing the chord changes (sustained no rhythms), with the metronome nearby so that it will sound on the tape like a click track. Repeat the progression non-stop for 10 minutes.
- Step 6 2 min Break! Set the guitar down. Stand up and rewind the machine. Focus your attention on the chord progression. Know the key centers and memorize the progression. "Get it off the paper and into your head".
- Step 7 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides over the progression as it is played back, to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 8 2 min Break! Set the guitar down, stand up and stretch, etc.

Step 9 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 10 2 min Break! Rest away from the guitar. Lie down, etc.

Step 11 10 min Play uninterrupted eighth notes and eighth note triplets using hammer-on's, pull-off's and slides to the conclusion of the pre-recording.

Step 122 minBreak! Lie down. Relax all parts of the body. Close your eyes.Breathe deeply and rhythmically.Practice visualizing yourselfplaying the project the way you wish you had.

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