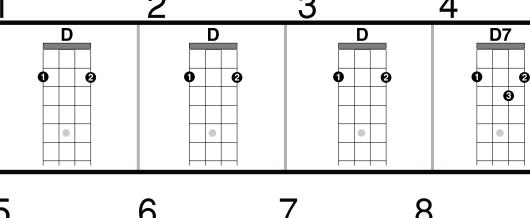
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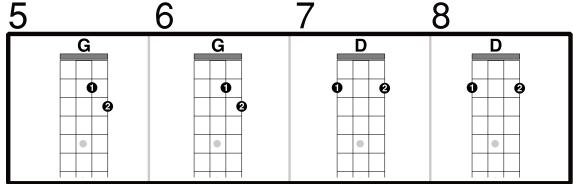
Styles & Genres

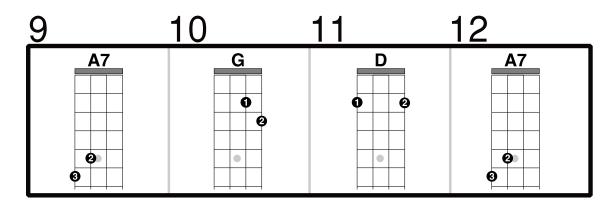


American Music: Blues 1: 12-Bar Blues

TWELVE-BAR BLUES is a popular form of music, especially with guitarists; it's quite 2 3 4 Ι Ι 17 Ι easy to learn, and great fun! It follows a certain formula based on twelve "units" (or bars) and is 6 7 8 quite recognisable when heard. A basic form of this IV Ι Ι IV formula can be expressed like this: **I** is the root note of the key you're in, so if you're 10 11 12 playing the blues in "D", the chord is D major. V7 **V7** IV Ι **IV** is the fourth note of the scale - 4th note in the D scale is G, so the chord is G major. **v** is the fifth note of the scale - A, so the chord 2 3 4 D **D7** played is A. (The V chord is very often played in its D D "7th" form, so you would play a A7.) Therefore, applying the formula to the D scale, you 6 7 8 G would get this: G D D There are lots of slight variations to the formula, but that's basically it. Try the following sequence 12 10 11 A7 A7 playing four strums for each unit: G D 2 3 4 D7 D D D Ŵ Ø Ø Ø Ó 0







Twelve-Bar Blues