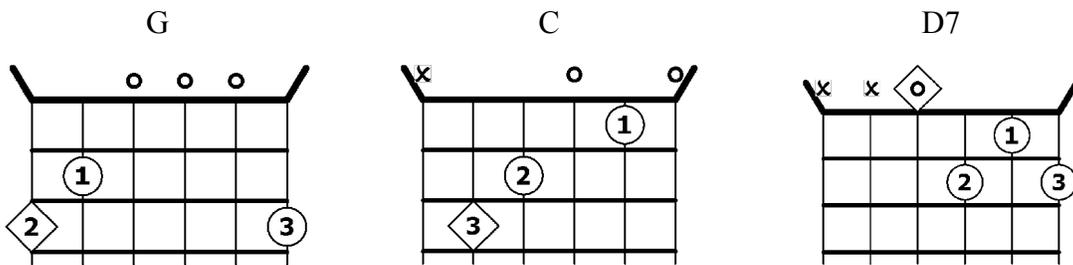


RHYTHM EXERCISES AND KEYS

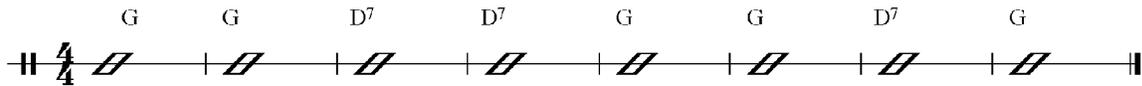
For developing good rhythm, it is essential to use the metronome. Do the following exercises using the metronome at a very slow tempo. As you get more comfortable changing the chords, you can increase the tempo of the metronome little by little. Your exercises will be the chords in the key of G, then Em, D, A, E, Am and C. For each one of these keys, the set of chords will start with five exercises that are designed to help you change from chord to chord smoothly and in time. Then, exercises 6 to 10 are very practical rhythm patterns that are used in countless songs in virtually every style of music.

Key of G

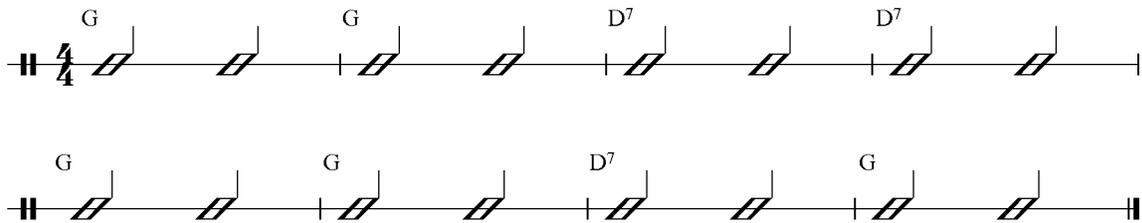


EXERCISES 1 TO 5. CHANGING FROM CHORD TO CHORD

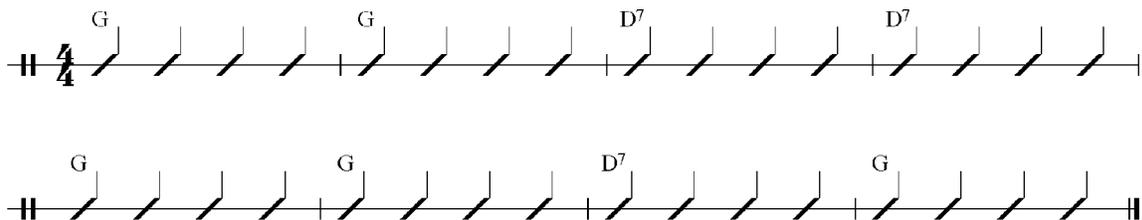
Ex.1 Whole notes. Use down pick strokes only.



Ex.2 Half notes. Use down pick strokes only.



Ex.3 Quarter notes. Use down pick strokes only.



Ex.4 Changing chords quickly and in time. Use down pick strokes only.

Ex.5 Changing chords faster. Use down pick strokes only.

EXERCISES 6 TO 10. ESSENTIAL RHYTHM PATTERNS

Ex.6 This rhythm pattern can be used for a million songs in almost any genre. When playing eighth notes, use alternating down and up pick strokes. Always use a down stroke on the downbeat. The downbeat is on the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4. Always use an up pick stroke on the upbeat. The upbeat is on the 'and' between the numbers.

Ex.7 Twelve bar blues. This is a form that is used in countless songs. There are variations of it. When the first four bars remain on G, as they do below, it is called the *twelve bar blues with the slow change*.

Ex.8 Boom chick rhythm. This is the most common rhythm in bluegrass, country and folk styles. The bass note is played on the first and third beats, while the chord is strummed on the second and fourth beats. This bass, strum, bass, strum sounds like boom, chick, boom, chick, hence the funny name. Remember that the diamond shaped quarter notes are the bass notes and you strum the remaining strings on the other quarter notes. Use down pick strokes only on this rhythm.

Ex.9 This rhythm is common in folk and traditional music but can be used in almost any style.

Ex.10 This rhythm is common in rock and pop music but can be used in almost any style.