

Blues By the Step

E Flat Instruments

Randy Hunter

F Concert Blues Scale

Actual progression from "I'll Be Back."

D⁷ G⁷ D⁷

G⁷ D⁷ F[#]m⁷(b⁵) B⁷(b⁹)

Em⁷ A⁷ D⁷ B⁷(b⁹) Em⁷ A⁷

Step 1

Simplified progression

D⁷(I) G⁷(IV) D⁷

G⁷ D⁷

A⁷(V) D⁷

This exercise may be performed in the upper register if you prefer.

Example 1

D7(I) G7(IV) A7(V)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Let's consider the tones written as whole notes to be "caution tones." By caution, I mean that they are suitable as passing tones but not as emphasis tones.

Step 2 All notes may be played in any range.

D7 G7 D7

G7 D7

A7 D7

Step 3

D7 G7 D7

G7 D7

A7 D7

Example 2

D7 G7 A7

If you examine example 2, you will see that the tones we've used when stacked in thirds (with the omission of the 11ths, which we previously labeled "caution tones") form complete chords. Be aware that rhythm players often voice 7th chords to include both the 9th and 13th (seen in the scale as the 6th) tones of the scale.