

Dyads

Riff# - 057

with Common Tone

Date - 02/26

One of the best uses of dyads is with common tones. A common tone is a note that can be found in two different chords. Common tones can "hold together" a chord progression or riff due to the common tone. In today's example we have the chords D and G alternating back and forth (until the final A chord at the end.) The D chord contains the notes D-F#-A. The G chord contains the notes G-B-D. As you can see the D note is common between the two chords. This is a great note to emphasize by having it in the voicing of both chords. This D note is found on the third string seventh fret in our riff.

We will start out by using a dyad from the D chord which uses the root (D) and the fifth (A) of the chord. When the chord progression changes to the G chord we will alter our dyad to fit the new chord. The A note on the second string will now become a G note to fit the root of the G chord (G-B-D). For the second time we play the D chord we will move the G note down to the F# note on the fifth fret which is the 3rd of the D major chord (D-F#-A). For the second G chord we will return the F# note backup to the root of the G chord.

We will repeat the above for the third measure and the first half of the fourth measure. For the last A chord (A-C#-E) there are no notes common between this chord and the D and G chords. Therefore, we will use a new dyad which will be the fifth (E - third string, 9th fret) and root of the A chord. Be sure to use all down strokes to play this riff.

D G D G D G D A

Lh. fingers: 4 2 1 2 4 2 1 4

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Player Profile of the Day: AARON THIBEAUX "T-BONE" WALKER

Stage Entrance: May 28th, 1910 (Linden, Texas) - Stage Exit: March 16th, 1975 (stroke)

Nickname: "Father of Electric Blues"

Main Squeeze: 1939 Gibson ES-250

Style: blues

Trademarks: quarter-step and unison bends, sixteenth notes played against shuffle triplet rhythm, playing behind head while doing the splits,

Prime Cut: "Stormy Monday"

Did You Know: Jimi Hendrix called T-Bone Walker his childhood hero. In addition, Jimi appropriated some of Walker's stage moves into his own live act such as playing the guitar behind his head.