

Back-Up Part One



Seminar Material

'For The Good Times' in the key of 'D'

Many of you will have heard this song before, but not necessarily with steel guitar back-up

I have chosen this song to demonstrate with because it uses mainly 'scale licks' and it is not too difficult to learn to play; and when you are able to play it, it is very satisfying.

The song has been broken up into small phrases, learn and practise each phrase individually and then go on to the next, put the whole thing together bit by bit.

Listen to the recording and follow along with the tab, do this until you have the song firmly fixed in your mind, don't try to rush it, it will come together if you play it over and over again, there is no shortcut.

I have also included the chords used during the phrases and the words that lead into each phrase; this should help you to get the notes in just the right place.

If you are unsure of anything, listen to the recording again and follow through the tab at the same time.

It is not necessary to do this for every song you wish to play, this is different because you are learning my way, note for note; when you are putting together one of your own songs, you will play the phrases that you want to play and in the order you want them in.

MOST IMPORTANT: Enjoy your music, do not let it become a chore.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF 'BACK-UP' PLAYING

As the heading states, welcome to the world of back-up playing, and it is a completely different world from playing solos. The whole idea and approach is different, instead of playing the melody line, we let the singer do that while we sit there doing our best to make the singer sound even better than before. We often work between the singers' phrases, what I call 'the bits in-between'.

Most of these 'bits' or 'licks' as they are often called are made up from the scales, parts of the scales are played in between the lines of the song to link one line to another; we will go through this as the day progresses. Now, I will explain how to read this form of 'Tab' as not everyone is familiar with this particular form. A tuning guide is included with this course to show what each pedal is called and what it does.

1						1
2						2
3	3	3B	3---2	3---3B---3		3
4						4
5	3	3A	3---2	3---3A---3	3	5
6					3---3B	6
7						7
8					3	8
9						9
10						10
Ex. 1.		Ex. 2.		Ex. 3.		Ex. 4.
						Ex. 5.

- Example 1.** Pick strings 3 and 5 with the bar above the third fret.
- Example 2.** As above but add the **A** and **B** pedals before picking.
- Example 3.** Pick strings 3 and five with the bar above the third fret and slide the bar to the second fret without picking again.
- Example 4.** Pick strings 3 and 5 then add the **A** and **B** pedals without picking again, then drop both pedals, still without picking a second time.
- Example 5.** Pick string 8 on the third fret, pick string six on the same fret and add the **B** pedal, the 8th string will automatically be blocked when you pick the 6th string. Now pick string five on the same fret, blocking string six at the same time. Do not let the notes run into each other, they are separate notes for each string.

Chd: D		G		D			
1	10					1	
2	10					2	
3	10					3	
4	10	10----	10---10E	10E-----10		4	
5		10A---10	10----	10-----10A	10----10A-----10	10---	5
6					10B-----	10---	6
7							7
8							8
9							9
10							10

Cue:

Bts:

verse:

Chd: Em		A7		D			
1						1	
2						2	
3						3	
4						4	
5	10----10A	10A---10	8	10----10A	10A---10	10---5A½---5A	5
6	10B-----	10B---10	8	10B	10B	10---5B-----	6
7							7
8							8
9							9
10							10

Cue: so sad

it's over

Bts:

Chd: Em		A7		D		D7		G		
1										1
2		3	3							2
3										3
4			3						10	4
5		3A		3A	5A	5A-----8	10	10A---12A	10A	5
6					5B	5B-----8	10	10B---12B		6
7										7
8										8
9										9
10										10

Cue: life goes on

on turning

just be glad

Bts:



'D' major scale

1																	1
2																	2
3																	3
4	0C	3	5	5C	8F or 8E	10	10C	12C	15	17	17C	20F or 20E	22	22C	24C	4	
5	0C	3	5	5C	8	10	10C	12C	15	17	17C	20	22	22C	24C	5	
6	0B	3	5	5B	8	10	10B	12B	15	17	17B	20	22	22B	24B	6	
7																7	
8																8	
9																9	
10																10	

'G' major scale

1																	1
2																	2
3																	3
4	1F or 1E	3	3C	5C	8	10	10C	13F or 13E	15	15C	17C	20	22	22C	25F or 25E	4	
5	1	3	3C	5C	8	10	10C	13	15	15C	17C	20	22	22C	25	5	
6	1	3	3B	5B	8	10	10B	13	15	15B	17B	20	22	22B	25	6	
7																7	
8																8	
9																9	
10																10	

'A' major scale

1																	1
2																	2
3																	3
4	0C	3F or 3E	5	5C	7C	10	12	12C	15F or 15E	17	17C	19C	22	24	24C	4	
5	0C	3	5	5C	7C	10	12	12C	15	17	17C	19C	22	24	24C	5	
6	0B	3	5	5B	7B	10	12	12B	15	17	17B	19B	22	24	24B	6	
7																7	
8																8	
9																9	
10																10	

There are many differences when using the B and C pedals, but look closely, the differences are small and can be overcome easily.