

# How To Mix Blues Rhythm And Lead Playing

by Griff Hamlin  
Blues Guitar Unleashed

Example 1 - I only TABbed this out for the sake of completeness.  
It's not an example I cover thoroughly in the video, it's just a demonstration of the concept.

Example 1, first system. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G7, C7, G7, C7. TAB: T, A, B lines with fret numbers (5-5-3-3, 3-3, 5-5, 3-3, 5-5, 7, 6-8, 6, 6, 8-6-8-6, 5-5-3-3, 5-5, 3-3).

Example 1, second system. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G7, D7. TAB: T, A, B lines with fret numbers (5-5-3-3, 5-5, 6, 3, 6, 5-6, 5-3, 5-3, 7-7-5-5, 7-7, 5-5).

Example 1, third system. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. Chord: C7. TAB: T, A, B lines with fret numbers (5-5-3-3, 5-5, 5-7, 6, 5-3, 5-3-3, 5-3, 5-3, 5).

## Example 2

Example 2. Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. TAB: T, A, B lines with fret numbers (7, 5, (5), 5-3, 5-3, 7, 5, 3, 5-5).

Example 3

System 1: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G7, C7, G7, C7. Bass line: 3-3, 5-5-3-3, 5-5-3-3, 5-5, 5-3-5, 3, 7-5-3, 5, 3-3, 5-5.

System 2: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G7, D7. Bass line: 5-5-3-3, 5-5, 5-3-5, 7-3 (3), 5-3-5, 7-7-5-5, 5-5, 7-7.

System 3: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: C7, G7. Bass line: 5-5-3-3, 5-5, 5-3-5, 3, 7-5-3, 5.

Playthrough Example at about 9:35 into the video.  
It's not labeled but it is the main demonstration.

G<sup>7</sup>

The first system of music shows a G<sup>7</sup> chord in the key of D major. The treble clef staff contains a melodic line with eighth notes and a slur over the final two notes. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and a fretboard diagram for the right hand with fingerings 4-3, 4-3, 8-6-8, 6-(6), 8-6-8.

C<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>

The second system features a C<sup>7</sup> chord in the first measure and a G<sup>7</sup> chord in the third measure. The treble clef staff has a melodic line with eighth notes and a slur. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and a fretboard diagram with fingerings 3-2, 3-2, 3-2, 3-2, 8, 6, 8-6-8-8. A 'full' pickup is indicated above the 8th fret.

D<sup>7</sup> C<sup>7</sup> G<sup>7</sup>

The third system features a D<sup>7</sup> chord in the first measure, a C<sup>7</sup> chord in the second measure, and a G<sup>7</sup> chord in the third measure. The treble clef staff has a melodic line with eighth notes and a slur. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and a fretboard diagram with fingerings 5-4, 5-4, 3-2, 3-2, 8, 6, (6), 8-6, 7-5-3, 5-5. A 'full' pickup is indicated above the 8th fret.

G<sup>7</sup>

The fourth system features a G<sup>7</sup> chord in the first measure. The treble clef staff has a melodic line with eighth notes and a slur. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and a fretboard diagram with fingerings 4-3, 4-3, 4-3, 4-3, 8, 6-8-6-6, 8-7-6-8-(8)-6.

Example 1: Musical notation for a C7 chord in the first measure and a G7 chord in the second measure. The notation includes a treble clef staff with eighth notes and a bass staff with fret numbers and rhythmic markings.

Example 2: Musical notation for D7, C7, and G7 chords. The notation includes a treble clef staff with eighth notes and triplets, and a bass staff with fret numbers and rhythmic markings.

Example 4 - Notice how now, we are taking care of beat 1 by playing the bass note here. That's kind of what beat 1 is for... to let the bass player (or you if you're playing solo) take care of setting up the root of the chord on beat 1.

So perhaps more than "stay off beat 1" you need to be aware of the purpose of beat 1 so that you can use it when you play alone, and leave it for the rest of the band when you play in a group.

Example 3: Musical notation for a G7 chord. The notation includes a treble clef staff with eighth notes and a bass staff with fret numbers and rhythmic markings.