Open G Drone

Rhythm Ideas



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Key: G

Tempo: Varied

Chords needed: G, C, Em

Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CaQ7kVSw48o

The Harmony

We are going to replace this harmony with a riff, to show how rhythm can be more than just strumming.

The Riff

We need to know the G major scale as well, so we can to see how scales, combined with chord tones, can create awesome rhythm ideas.

The G chord comes from three notes, the G (root) B (Major $3^{\rm rd}$) and D ($5^{\rm th}$) notes.

```
G A B C D E F# G
A|--0-2-3-5-7-9--10-|
E|3-----|
C|-----|
G|0-----|
```

These three notes compose most of the arpeggio over the G chord, but we also add the A note, which is the $2^{\rm nd}$ interval, or the $9^{\rm th}$, making a Gadd9 chord that is both major in sounding, and colorful. Experiment with salting your chords with a dash of non-chord tones as well.

The C chord comes from three notes, the C (root) E (Major $3^{\rm rd}$) and G ($5^{\rm th}$) notes.

```
G A B C D E F# G
A|--0-2-3-5-7-9--10-|
E|3-----|
C|-----|
G|0-----|
```

Here we will also add the A note again, to add more color, the A note functions as the 6th, making a C6 chord, which is both colorful and bright, but slightly more interesting as well. Knowing your intervals is very powerful!

The Em chord comes from three notes, the G (root) B (b3rd) and D (5th) notes.

```
G A B C D E F# G
A|--0-2-3-5-7-9--10-|
E|3-----|
C|-----|
G|0-----|
```

Again we are adding the A chord, a common theme, and this time it is the $4^{\rm th}$ interval relative to E. Every time you hit the A note it makes the E minor an Esus4 chord, which is a really nice element.

Try this ideas over your favorite chord progressions in G!