

CHORD RIFFS - MACK THE KNIFE

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Use different inversions of each chord and repeated rhythm to add interest to your solos and/or rhythm playing. Here's 2 sets of chords - you could include a 3rd set (CAGFD). Where possible, these inversions have the same high note to create a better melody.

SET 1 C⁶ D_m⁷ G⁷ G⁷(SUS⁴) A_m⁷ A⁰

SET 2 C⁶ D_m⁷ D_m⁹ G⁷ G⁹ G¹³ C⁶ C⁰

Here's a simple 2 bar swing phrase to try. You can vary the phrase using the same ideas we used in the Autumn Leaves - Messing with the Melody exercise. Once you've got the idea try it on other Jazz or Blues songs.

USE CHORD SET 1 . . . SET 2

MACK THE KNIFE C⁶ C⁶ D_m⁷ D_m⁷ D_m⁹

D_m⁷ G⁷(SUS⁴) G¹³ C⁶ C⁶

A_m⁷ A⁰ C⁰ D_m⁷ D_m⁷ D_m⁹

D_m⁷ G⁷(SUS⁴) G¹³ C⁶ C^{#0} D_m⁷ G¹³