

Easy Lead Playing with Major Harmonies

Hello friends,

And welcome to another lead guitar tutorial! In today's session I'll be showing you a beginner friendly method for creating simple lead lines using major scale harmonies on two strings. Let's get started!

Section #1 – The G Major Scale

The major scale is created using a specific sequence of whole-steps and half-steps: W, W, H, W, W, W, H. If we begin that sequence starting from the note G, then we end up with the notes G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G.

```

e | -3--5--7--8--10--12--14--15-- |
B | ----- |
G | ----- |
D | ----- |
A | ----- |
E | ----- |
  G  A  B  C  D  E  F#  G
    
```

Section #2 – Harmonized Major Scale

The notes in the major scale can be converted into a chord progression, with each scale degree designated as either major, minor or diminished. The order of chord types is as follows:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Maj, Min, Min, Maj, Maj, Min, Dim, Maj

Using the root note and 3rd of each chord in the key of G major, we create useful two string harmonies up and down the fretboard:

```

Root Note:   e | -3-----5-----7-----8-----10-----12-----14-----15-- |
              B | ----- |
Maj/Min 3rds G | -4-----5-----7-----9-----11-----12-----14-----16-- |
              D | ----- |
              A | ----- |
              E | ----- |
              Gmaj Amin Bmin Cmaj Dmaj Emin F#dim Gmaj
    
```

Section #3 – Basic Lead Line over 1.6.4.5 Progression

Once you have memorized the position of each harmony, I recommend that you practice playing over common chord progressions like the 1.6.4.5 progression in G - Gmaj, Em, Cmaj, and Dmaj.

```

      Gmaj           Em           Cmaj
e | ---3---3-3---3- | ----12----12-12----12- | ---8---8-8---8- | ----10----10-10---- |
B | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
G | /4---4-----4--- | /12----12-----12---- | /9---9-----9--- | /11----11-----11- |
D | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
A | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
E | ----- | ----- | ----- | ----- |
    
```