

Swift Guitar Lessons

Pedal Steel/ Country Style Bending

♩ = 120

Core Element #1 - 5.4.1. Progression in D

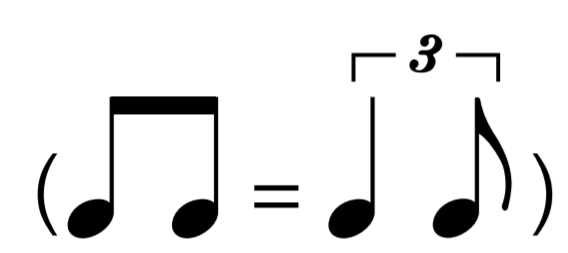
The trick to achieving the classic pedal steel sound is to bend up to tones found within the chord you are playing over. The major 3rds and roots of these barre chords, found on the B and G strings, are excellent target notes. I recommend bending the 2nd scale degree up to the major 3rd, while fretting the 5th found on the high E string.

Chord diagrams for A, G, and D in D major. The A chord is shown as a barre at the 12th fret with notes 12, (14), 14, 14, 12. The G chord is shown as a barre at the 10th fret with notes 10, (12), 12, 12, 10. The D chord is shown as a barre at the 5th fret with notes 5, (7), 7, 7, 5.

Core Element #2 - C Position Major Scales

The following scale patterns overlap with the country bending position described above. Use these soloing boxes to add additional melody to your bending and chicken pickin' phrases.

Scale patterns for A Major, G Major, and D Major. The A Major scale starts at the 12th fret, G Major at the 10th fret, and D Major at the 5th fret. Each scale is shown with a melodic line and corresponding guitar tablature.



Practice Routine - Three Sweet Bending Licks!

Now that we know how to achieve the classic pedal steel sound, let's learn how to perform over a common 5.4.1 progression using some simple, but melodic phrases!

Practice routine for Amaj and Gmaj chords. Each lick consists of a melodic line with a wavy line indicating a bend, and a guitar tablature line showing the fretting and bending process. The Amaj lick is shown over frets 5-6, and the Gmaj lick is shown over frets 7-10.

Practice routine for Dmaj chord. The lick consists of a melodic line with a wavy line indicating a bend, and a guitar tablature line showing the fretting and bending process. The Dmaj lick is shown over frets 8-9.

Backing Track

Loop this section to rehearse our country bending practice routine.

Backing track for the 5.4.1 progression (A-G-D). The track is shown in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The progression is: A (measures 10-11), G (measures 11-12), and D (measures 12-13). Each measure includes a melodic line and guitar tablature.