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R & B Rhythm

Audio CD Tracks

Band	11
Play-along	12 (no guitar)

As the title implies, this is a rhythm guitar study. It is a good groove to work on and relies a lot on the use of string muting. The single note lines are strummed — that is, they are treated like chords. This is accomplished by muting strings with your fretting hand (“left” hand). Blocking the sound of the surrounding strings allows you to get more aggressive with the strumming and helps in creating the groove. This is common in funk stuff as well as with players like Jimi Hendrix.

Work on the muting and the feel, it will probably be stiff at first, but after you play it a while it will loosen up.

A good exercise for this style of muting is to hold down one note, say D on the 5th fret of the A string with your first finger. Now strum with the pick, but get only the one note. Use the side of this finger, slightly arched to block the other strings. Be sure to experiment with the angle to get the right results. Next try holding notes on other strings, for instance A on the 7th fret of the D string, and figure a way to mute the surrounding strings while strumming. All this sounds more complicated than it is, but believe me you will find many uses for this technique.

Remember in your pursuit of guitar skills to spend a fair amount of time with rhythm playing; it can often be the thing that will open up other doors for you.

R & B RHYTHM

JIM KELLY

R & B (♩ = 92)

(D^b7) D7

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, common time signature. Chords: (D^b7) D7. Rhythm: eighth notes with accents and 'x' marks. Ends with repeat signs.

(G^b7) G7

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, common time signature. Chords: (G^b7) G7. Rhythm: eighth notes with accents and 'x' marks. Ends with repeat sign.

(D^b7) D7

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, common time signature. Chords: (D^b7) D7. Rhythm: eighth notes with accents and 'x' marks. Ends with repeat sign.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, common time signature. Chords: C, G. Rhythm: quarter notes with accents and 'y' marks.

(D^b7) D7

D7

LAST X ONLY

D7

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, common time signature. Chords: (D^b7) D7, D7, D7. Rhythm: eighth notes with accents and 'x' marks. Ends with a final note.

R & B RHYTHM

R & B (♩ = 92)

JIM KELLY

(D^b7) D7

(G^b7) G7

(D^b7) D7 C

G (D^b7) D7

D7 D7 LAST X ONLY