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### Strumming



The strumming pattern that we will be using is short and simple, but it gives this progression a nice feel. You may wish to use a metronome for this exercise to tighten up the changes. If you are a beginner put it on a slow speed of around 60BPM.

The basic strumming pattern is “Down, Down, Down, Down, Down, Down, Down-Up”. Practice that a few times and get a feel for it. Play this pattern once for A, C, D, E, F & G chords. Make sure the gap between each chord change is short and sharp - if not slow down the speed to assist. Try increasing the metronome speed by increasing it up 10 BPM at a time. Try getting to 120BPM keeping the changes correct.

Once you are proficient at this try “Down, Down, Down, Up - Down, Down, Down, Up” for each chord. Again make sure the changes are in time. Again start off slow (60BPM) and gradually increase the speed by 10BPM each time until you get to 120BPM.

Practice this pattern slowly at first if you need to. Try to make the pattern as smooth as possible. You may have some trouble changing chords and strumming at the same time but if you practice practice practice you will get better in no time.

*Homework - Try making up your own patterns in multiples of 4 (e.g. Up, Down, Down, Down) to see what you come up with. Also try playing the chords in a different order to come up with your own composition.*