

Comping Study 1 – Freddie Green

The first chord study uses three-note shell chords and a famous rhythm used by guitarist Freddie Green.

Shell chords are three-note shapes that contain the root, 3rd, and 7th of the underlying chord.

They are played either as R-3-7 or R-7-3, depending on the shape you want and the string set you're playing on.

These chords get the sound of the tune in your ears, and outline the harmony with easy to play shapes.

This makes them a solid place to start with this tune, any tune, or jazz comping in general.

As well, there's a steady quarter-note rhythm that was made famous by Count Basie's guitarist Freddie Green.

Start by learning the chords and rhythm as is, then when you're ready, accent the 2nd and 4th chords of each bar.

This adds a strong swing feel to your Freddie Green style comping, locking you in with the band even though you only play one rhythm.

After you've memorized these shapes, begin to alter the rhythm, add them to the melody, and add them to your soloing.

This integrates these shapes further in your every aspect of your jazz guitar playing.

Audio Example 10

Cmaj7 **E7**

T	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
A	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
B	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8								

A7 **Dm7**

T	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
A	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5								

E7 **Am7**

T	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
A	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
B	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

D7 **Dm7** **G7**

T	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10
A	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	9	9	9	9
B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10

Cmaj7 **E7**

T	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
A	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
B	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

A7 **Dm7**

T	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
A	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
B	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Fmaj7 **Fm7** **E7** **A7**

T	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6
A	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
B	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	5	5	5	5

Dm7 **G7** **Cmaj7** **Dm7** **G7**

T	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10
A	3	3	3	3	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	9	9
B	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10