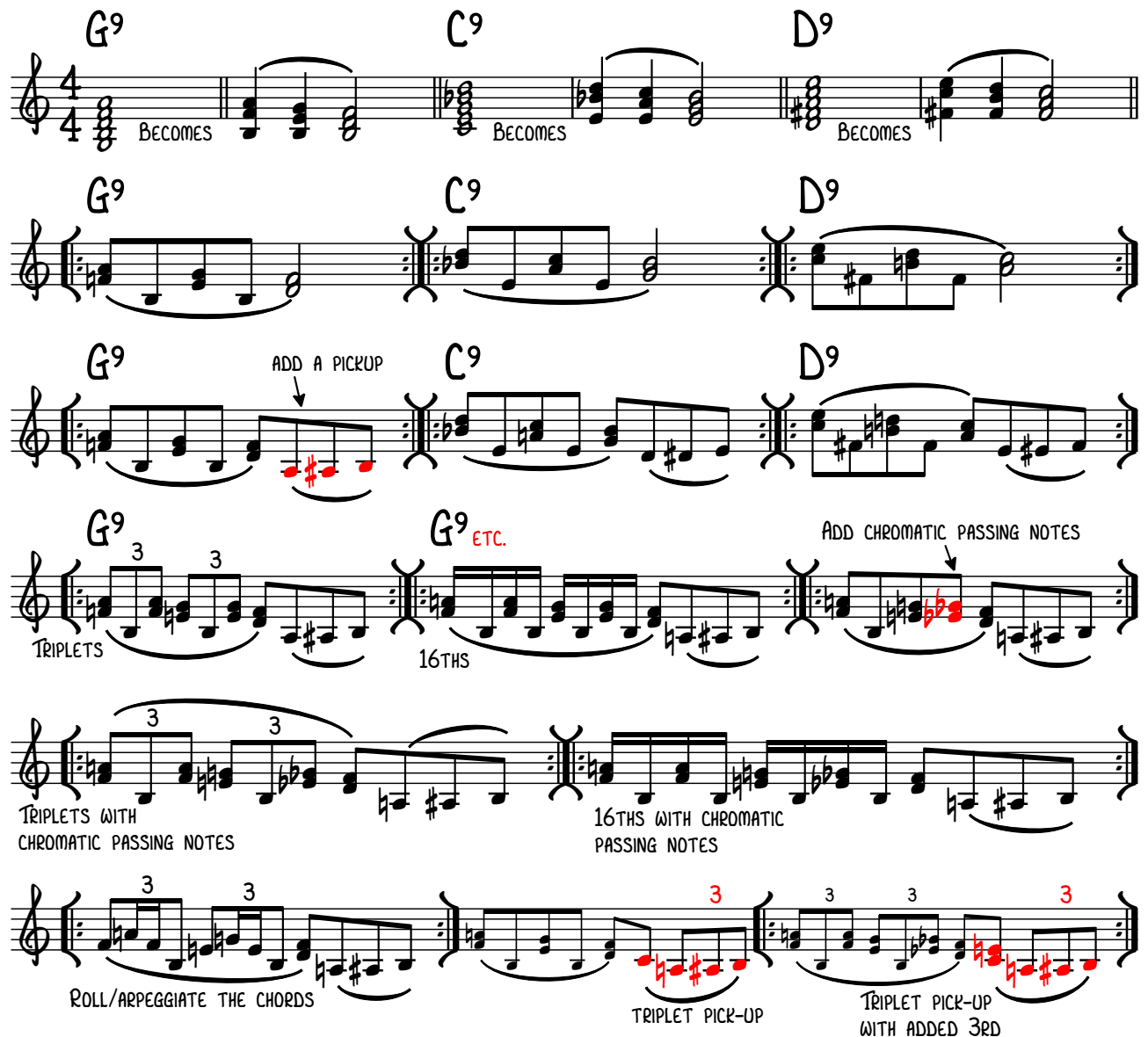


STYLISTIC & CREATIVE IDEAS FOR YOUR BLUES SHUFFLE

LESSON 1: EXPLORING THE 'PINETOP SMITH' RIFF

Here are the main variations of the riff that we look at in Lesson 1. This is a classic riff first documented in Pinetop Smith's seminal 1928 recording 'Pinetop's Boogie Woogie'. After the first couple of examples, I have only written it on the chord of G – it will be good practice for you to work out the notes on the chords of C & D. In fact, I recommend trying to work out all these variations in EVERY key!

- Perhaps go around the cycle of fifths
- Or try playing them over 12 Bar Blues in other keys – begin with closer keys like C, F & D and then through more remote keys Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, A, E, B.
- Perhaps try a different key each day, or move onto a new one once you've got it under your fingers in one key?



G⁹ **C⁹** **D⁹**
 BECOMES BECOMES BECOMES

G⁹ **C⁹** **D⁹**

G⁹ **C⁹** **D⁹**
 ADD A PICKUP

G⁹ **G⁹ ETC.** **D⁹**
 TRIPLETS 16THS ADD CHROMATIC PASSING NOTES

G⁹ **G⁹ ETC.** **D⁹**
 TRIPLETS WITH CHROMATIC PASSING NOTES 16THS WITH CHROMATIC PASSING NOTES

G⁹ **G⁹ ETC.** **D⁹**
 ROLL/ARPEGGIATE THE CHORDS TRIPLET PICK-UP TRIPLET PICK-UP WITH ADDED 3RD