

# LESSON #5:

# TURNAROUNDS

The transition passage at the end of a blues form is called a turnaround. The turnaround is usually a two-bar progression that ends on the V chord, sonically adding a period to the end of a musical statement before taking you back (or "turning you around") to the top of the form.

## Basic Turnarounds

The following examples are the last two bars of a 12-bar blues in the key of G.

### TURNAROUND 1

This is one of the most commonly used turnarounds. Notice the "kick" on the upbeat of beat 2 of the last measure.

Moderately ♩ = 120 (♩ =  $\overbrace{\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}}^3$ )

G7 C7 D7

T  
A  
B

3 3 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 3 4 5 5 5 5

### TURNAROUND 2

This is the same progression as Turnaround 1, but walks down instead.

Moderately ♩ = 120 (♩ =  $\overbrace{\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}}^3$ )

G7 C7 D7

T  
A  
B

5 5 3 3 2 2 6 6 | 5 3 4 5 5 5 5

### TURNAROUND 3

This turnaround stays on the V chord in bar 12 like the others, but uses a triplet to add momentum.

Moderately ♩ = 120 (♩ =  $\overbrace{\text{♩} \text{♩} \text{♩}}^3$ )

G7 C7 D7

T  
A  
B

3 3 2 2 3 3 4 4 | 5 5 5 5 5 5 2 5