

**MUS 390**  
**Assignment #7 – Improvisation Motifs**

Compose a short (no more than one bar long) melodic motif/riff that can serve as the basis for an improvisation throughout the form of a 12-bar blues.

1. Put your riff in the first bar (you, of course, will decide on the pitches and rhythm)
2. Treat the riff motivically, meaning you will incorporate it throughout the 12 bars, modifying it according to the given chord(s)
  - Not every bar needs to have music written in it—silence as well as sound is essential in making music
3. Your riff and subsequent iterations should utilize mainly (but not exclusively) chord tones
4. Be creative with your riff: do not just “copy and paste it” at different pitch levels
  - add/subtract notes, stretch out or condense the rhythms, change an interval...
5. Take into account the form of the song and consider the overall arc your implementations could cover
6. Observe all standard music notation rules!
7. **Do this twice with two different ideas (once in each of the blank blues charts below)**

C7                      F7                      C7                      ♯

A blank 12-bar blues chart with a treble clef and 4/4 time signature. The first four bars are labeled with chords: C7, F7, C7, and a sharp sign (♯).

F7                      ♯                      C7                      A7

A blank bass staff for the first chart, with four bars labeled: F7, ♯, C7, and A7.

D-7                      G7                      C7                      (D-7      G7)

A blank bass staff for the first chart, with four bars labeled: D-7, G7, C7, and (D-7 G7).

C7                      F7                      C7                      ♯

A blank 12-bar blues chart with a treble clef and 4/4 time signature. The first four bars are labeled with chords: C7, F7, C7, and a sharp sign (♯).

F7                      ♯                      C7                      A7

A blank bass staff for the second chart, with four bars labeled: F7, ♯, C7, and A7.

D-7                      G7                      C7                      (D-7      G7)

A blank bass staff for the second chart, with four bars labeled: D-7, G7, C7, and (D-7 G7).