

The Boogie Woogie Way / Day 1

Done

Boogie Woogie is a really great style of music and happens to be pretty easy to play on the guitar.

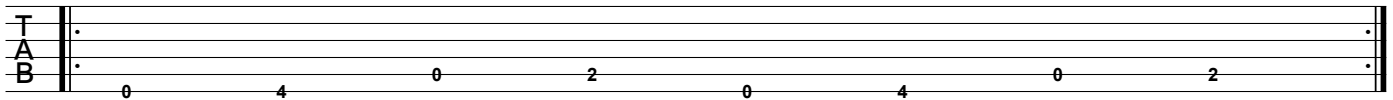
In the process we'll learn to "swing" and we'll learn some rhythmic syncopation, both of which your brain already knows if it hears it, but hopefully you'll learn to identify it and be able to play it too.

On guitar (and on piano for that matter) boogie woogie is mainly comprised of 2 different parts; the walking bass and the syncopated melody.

On the piano (where the style originated) the left hand plays the bass and the right hand plays the melody but on guitar the THUMB plays the bass and the FINGERS play the melody.

Let's get the bass started and then we'll add the melody.

Play this bass line with you thumb A BUNCH OF TIMES!



The Boogie Woogie Way / Day 2



The next step is to start adding melody notes to the walking bass line. It'll help if you've learned the lessons on fingerpicking earlier in this calendar.

The idea here is to develop autonomy between the thumb and the fingers.

Play these notes with the fingers indicated

0 0 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2

0 4 0 2 0 4 0 2 0 4 0 2

Play these notes with your Thumb-----

The Boogie Woogie Way / Day 3



Now let's tackle that "swing thing". (it's actually called swinging 8ths.)

I've added a music staff line here because it'll help to explain "swing"

There are 4 "quarter note" beats in this bar. Beats 2 and 4 are broken in half or "8th" notes.

In "Swing", the first one of these "8th" notes sounds longer than the second.

Think stripper music

1	2	3	4		
1	2	&	3	4	&
DAAA	DAH	di	DAAA	DAH	di
l o n g	l o n g	short	l o n g	l o n g	short

Play this as many times as you can, go away, come back to it etc. ...lock it in your head.

DAAA DAH di DAAA DAH di DAAA DAH di

The Boogie Woogie Way / Day 4



Now I want to turn that rhythm around and put the "swung 8th's" on the 1st beat instead of the 2nd.

Before you try playing this just try counting it out loud. First tap a beat on a table or something, on the NUMBERS only, 1-2-3-4 and then without stopping the beat count aloud "1& 2 3 4" and the 2nd bar is "1& 2 3& 4"

1 & 2 3 4 1 & 2 3 & 4

TAB

0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2

0 4 0 2 0 4 0 2

The Boogie Woogie Way / Day 5

Now using the same beat as the last lesson let's change up the walking bass line.

Done

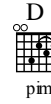
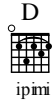
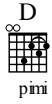
The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is a treble clef staff with a melody line. It features four measures, each labeled 'swing' with a bracket above it. The notes are: Measure 1: G4, A4, B4; Measure 2: C5, B4, A4; Measure 3: G4, F4, E4; Measure 4: D4, C4, B3. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB staff. It shows fret numbers (0, 4, 2, 4) and fingerings (T, R, M) for each note. The fret numbers are placed above the strings, and the fingerings are placed below. The sequence of fret numbers is 0, 4, 2, 4, 0, 4, 2, 4. The sequence of fingerings is T, R, M, T, R, M, T, T, R, M, T.

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The Boogie Woogie Way / Day 7

Let's get bold and adventurous here and find another easy boogie.
 Drop your low E string down to D and try this one.
 There are loads of ways to play boogies and lots of chords that you can
 make and walk your bassline underneath.

Done



Follow the fingerings above to make things easier.

	3							3							3						
T	2							2							2						
A			4							4										4	
B	0		4		0		2		4	3		2		4	0					4	
	T	R	T	I	T	R	T	I	T	R	T	I	T	R	T	I	T	R	T	I	
		M				M				M				M							

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