

Beginner Blues Composition guidelines

For reference here are the guidelines:

- (for Blues): use the minor pent scale determined by the I chord
 - for example: E Blues --> I chord = E7, use E minor pent
- all quarter notes or higher must be a chord tone
 - for E7: bend, slide, or hammer-on G --> G#
- start at least 25% of your measures with an 8th note rest
- end at least 25% of your measures on the "& of 3"

lyrics: make a statement ("I got home too late last night") in measures 1 & 2, use a fill for 3 & 4

lyrics: make the same statement in measures 5 & 6, use a different fill in 7 & 8

lyrics: state a conclusion ("It was so late the dog house was even closed") in 9 & 10

Turnaround: use one you know without thinking in 11 & 12

solo: make up a lick/theme for measures 1 & 2

solo: repeat the lick in 3 & 4, change it just a bit

solo: learn a few IV chord licks and use one in 5 & 6

solo: repeat your theme in 7 & 8

solo: learn a few V chord licks and use one in 9

solo: use one of your IV chord licks in 10

Turnaround: use the same one you used for the lyrics