



Hello friends,

In today's session I'll be showing you how to combine a basic bluegrass rhythm with some classic flatpicking licks. We'll begin by reviewing the 1.4.5 chord progression in G, a bluegrass style strumming pattern, and your major blues scales before combining these elements into a complete practice routine. Let's get started!

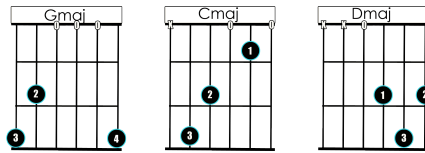
1. The 1.4.5 Progression in Gmaj

As covered in previous lessons, the numbers 1.4.5 refer to the notes in the G major scale. These three notes are the root notes for the chords in our basic bluegrass progression, Gmaj, Cmaj, and Dmaj.

G Major Scale:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G



2. Bluegrass Structure & Strumming Style

Every great lead player has a firm understanding of the rhythm section that they are playing over. This means that they know the chords, the structure of the progression, and the strumming pattern. Let's review!

Structure: G /// | /// | /// | /// | C /// | /// | G /// | /// | D /// | /// | G /// | C - G / |

Strumming Pattern: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &
B ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

3. Major Blues Scales

One of the most commonly used scales in bluegrass is the major blues scale. One popular approach to soloing is to transpose this scale over each of the three keys in the 1.4.5 progression.

Gmaj	Cmaj	Dmaj
E -----	-----	-----
B -----	-----1-	-----3-
G -----0-	-----0-2-	-----2-4-
D -----0-2-	-----0-1-2-	-----0-2-3-4-
A ---0-1-2-	---3-	-----
E ---3-	-----	-----

