

Arpeggios and Scale Elements

In this stretched out non-award-winning solo, an attempt was made to keep the original melody vaguely intact. The scale passages to a greater extent, are still born from arpeggiated ideas but buried with connective tissue. Quite obviously, a liberal dose of rhythmic and melodic invention has been added.

With a Swing

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a swing feel. It consists of four systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The first system has four measures with chords C, C7, F, and C. The second system has four measures with chords G7, C, G7, and C, ending with 'Fine'. The third system has four measures with chords C, G7, C, and G7. The fourth system has four measures with chords C, G7, C, and G7, ending with 'D.C. al Fine'. The melody is highly rhythmic and contains many triplets and slurs.

Does a solo have to have this many notes? The answer to this is "NO!" However, the guitar being a percussive instrument, (notes decay immediately after being struck) is not particularly good at carrying notes for any great length of time. Perhaps partly due to this, players tend to stuff a lot of notes into solos to fill up dead air.

The solos in this book are mostly of the "stuffed full of stuff" variety. Judicious editing would generally improve the majority of the solos.