Learning The Basics Of Blues Improvisation
Basic 12 Bar Blues Progression

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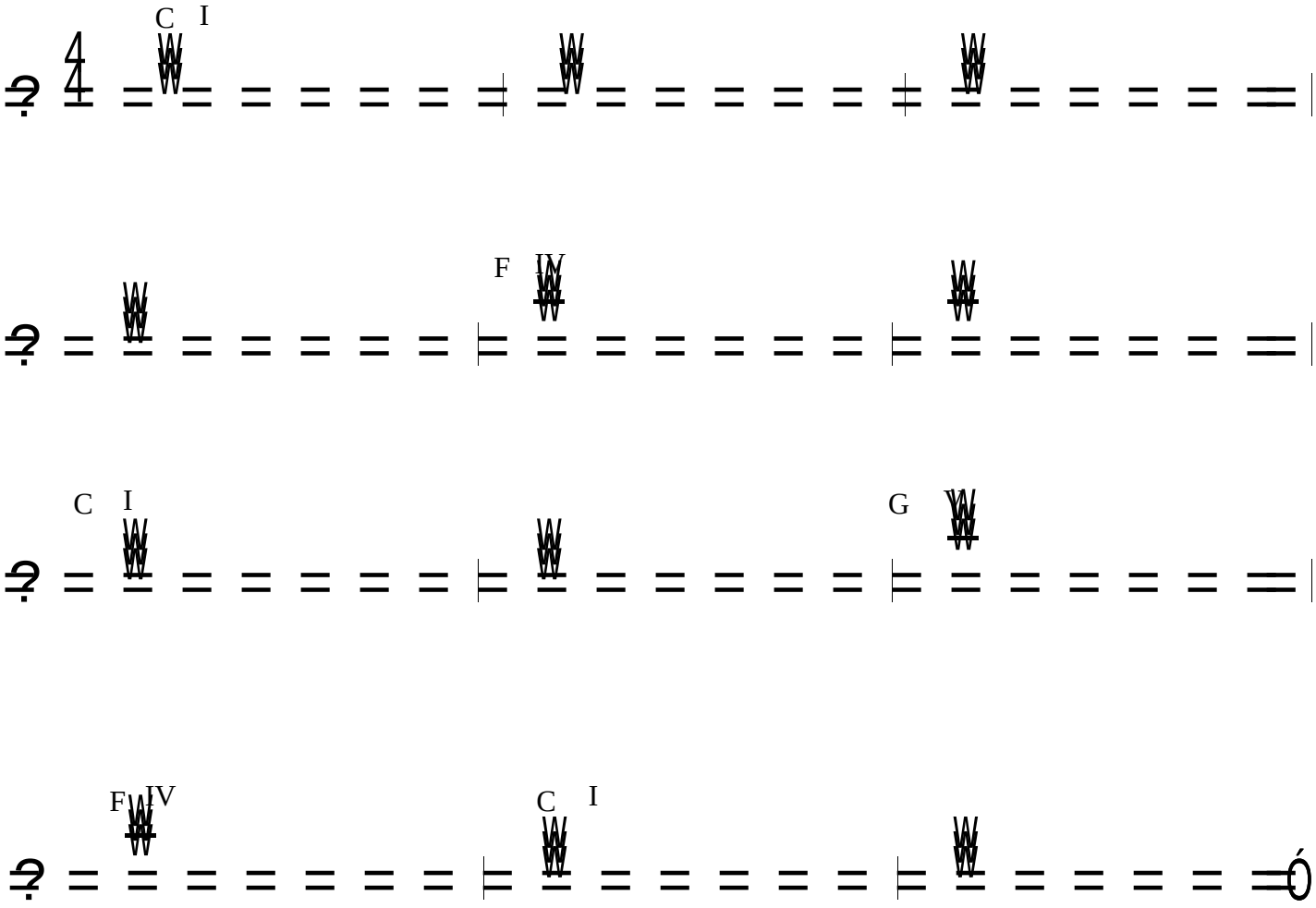

The above example shows the chord progression of a basic 12 Bar Blues pattern using major chords. This example is in the key of "C" and consists of the I chord (C), the IV chord (F) and the V chord (G). This 12 measure pattern repeats itself throughout the song. Make sure you count four beats per measure practicing this progression until it is memorised. Once you have mastered the progression in this key try the progression in other keys such as: F, G, A, Bb etc. In the key of "F" for instance the I chord would be (F), the IV chord would be (Bb) and the V chord would be (C). Generally the Blues uses dominant seventh chords instead of major chords. Please go to the next example for the pattern using the dominant seventh chords.