

Gold Rush Guitar Discussion

This is a fairly straight forward tune that has been a favorite of mine for a long time. Some things to consider;

1. This is in AABB format and I recorded it with a swing rhythm.
2. We have pick-up notes in the first measure, that begin on beat 2.
3. I went nuts with indications for hammer-ons, pull-offs and slides. These are just where I might put them. It's easy to overdo it with these techniques, but it's so smooth when you get the balance right. Use these where they feel and sound the best to you. Remember to keep your right hand in the down/up down/up mode, whether you use hammers/pulls/slides or not.
4. Let your notes ring out when they can. Don't be in a big hurry to put a finger down or take a finger off. Look at measure #3. You should start that measure with your ring finger and it will stay down throughout the measure. At the moment, we're in a "G" chord. The first 3 notes of the measure are all notes that belong in a "G" chord. I want to let those ring as long as they can. It makes for a smooth, unhurried sound, and having left your ring finger down, you're already set and in place as you climb back up the strings to go to the triplet that begins measure #4.
5. The end of measure #7 into measure #8, rolls us into a really neat "floating" lick. Allow the notes to bleed into each other. Let 'em RING!!!!!!!!!!
6. As I've mentioned in other lessons, envision the chord your playing up against, as you play the melody. For example, measure #6 into #7, "see" the "G" chord you're rolling around in. Look at the first 4 notes of measure #12. "See" the "C" chord.
7. Find and learn several different versions of this and other tunes so you can begin to put your own version together.
8. Feel free to email me with questions/comments if needed, I'd love to hear from you, Rick@bluegrassbooksonline.com