

# LILA'S BLUES TECH CHECK: THE BLUES AND IMPROVISATION

Tech Check: The blues are one of the best vehicles for teaching beginners to improvise. Begin by providing the chords, either on guitar or use the play along tracks on my website ([www.savagefiddler.com](http://www.savagefiddler.com)) to get a sense of what it feels like to play a long root note while the chords change. Then, on #2, you can begin to change the rhythms and move a repeating motif to the different open strings. Look carefully, in Lila's Blues as in many beginning string blues, each measure starts on an open string. This is a great way to reinforce open strings and also learn the introductory tools of improvisation.

D (I)      D (I)      D (I)      D<sup>7</sup> (I)      G(IV)      G(IV)      D (I)

D (I)    A (V)    G(IV)    D (I)    D (I)    2. Now try using these rhythms instead of the whole notes.

## LILA'S BLUES LEAD

NOTE: Fingering will begin to be given only as numbers, or as note names. Students are encouraged to think about reading notes and practice this skill by writing in whichever works best for you. In this case, the numbers will only be given once as they are the same in every measure.

0 1 0H2 0...