Grant Green guitar style: horn phrasing and repeated notes

Original exercises in his style, not transcriptions. Standard tuning. F blues, F minor pentatonic box at the 8th fret.

How to read the tab: dots are the string lines, numbers are frets, the top line counts eighth notes. Swing the eighths. **h** = hammer on. Box: e 8 11, B 9 11, G 8 10, D 8 10. Click on beats 2 and 4, start around 70 bpm, and only speed up when the swing still feels relaxed. Sing each phrase before you play it.

Exercise 1: horn breath

Two bars of phrase, two bars of silence. Count the rests aloud.

```
    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1
e  |.....8..11...8.....................|................................|
B  |................11...9.............|................................|
G  |............................10....|................................|
D  |................................... |................................|
                                    rest, breathe

   1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |.............8.......8.............|................................|
B  |.....9..11...................9....|................................|
G  |................................... |................................|
D  |................................... |................................|
                                    rest, breathe
```

Exercise 2: repeated note riff

High F over F7, then over Bb7. Same note, new chord. Accent 2 and 4.

```
    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1
e  |....13..13..13..13..13..13..13..13|....13..13..13..13..13..13..11..13|
B  |..................................|..................................|
G  |..................................|..................................|
D  |..................................|..................................|
     F7  > accent 2 and 4

   1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |....13..13..13..13..13..13..13..13|....13..13..13..13..11...8........|
B  |..................................|.............................9....|
G  |..................................|.....................................10|
D  |..................................|..................................|
     Bb7 same note, new chord
```

Exercise 3: three note cell

Ab hammer to A, then F. Groups of three across eight eighths.

```
    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |..................................|..................................|
B  |.....9..10.......9..10.......9..10|.........9..10.......9..10........|
G  |............10..........10........|....10..........10..........10....|
D  |..................................|..................................|
     h   h   h groups of 3
```

Exercise 4: move the motif

F, Ab, C starting on 1, the and of 1, 2, the and of 2.

```
    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1
e  |.............8.....................|.................8..............|
B  |.........9.........................|.............9..................|
G  |....10.............................|........10.......................|
D  |................................... |................................|
     on 1                                    on & of 1

   1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |.....................8............|.........................8........|
B  |................9.................|.....................9............|
G  |.............10....................|.................10.............|
D  |................................... |................................|
              on 2                                    on & of 2
```

Exercise 5: chromatic turnaround

Bars 11 and 12: Bb, A, Ab, A, then down and up to F.

```
    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |..................................|..................................|
B  |....11..10...9..10................|..................................|
G  |.....................10...9...8...7|.....................9..10........|
D  |..................................|.....8...9..10....................|
     Bb  A   Ab  A   chromatic                          E to F
```

Tone sheet (starting points, not his settings)

Guitar: hollow or semi hollow body, or any guitar on the neck pickup.
Tone knob: back a little.
Amp: clean; bass and treble down, middle up (as George Benson described).
Effects: none; a little room reverb at most.
Picking: pick nearly every note, near the neck end of the strings.

Exercise 6: full 12 bar F blues chorus (play each line of four bars on its own first)

```
    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |.....8..11...8.....................|..................................|....13..13..13..13..13..13..11..13|....13..13..13..13..11...8........|
B  |................11...9.............|..................................|..................................|.............................9....|
G  |............................10....|..................................|..................................|.....................................10|
D  |................................... |..................................|..................................|..................................|
     F7                                      Bb7                                     F7                                      F7

    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |....13..13..13..13..13..13..13..13|....13..13..13..13..11...8........|.............8....................|.................8................|
B  |..................................|..................................|.........9........................|.............9....................|
G  |..................................|..................................|....10............................|........10........................|
D  |..................................|..................................|..................................|..................................|
     Bb7                                     Bb7                                     F7                                      F7

    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &    1   &   2   &   3   &   4   &
e  |..................................|.............8....................|..................................|..................................|
B  |.....9..10.......9..10.......9..10|.....................11...9........|....11..10...9..10................|..................................|
G  |............10..........10........|....10.......................10....|.....................10...9...8...7|.....................9..10........|
D  |..................................|..................................|..................................|.....8...9..10....................|
     C7                                      Bb7                                     F7  D7                                  Gm7  C7
```

Tempo log

Date	Exercise	bpm	Swing relaxed? (yes or no)	Note

Listen to

Idle Moments (recorded 1963)
Grant's First Stand (1961)
Grantstand (1961)
Born to Be Blue (1961)
Live at the Lighthouse (1972)

Practice plan

10 minutes singing then playing phrases, 10 minutes repeated notes with the click, 10 minutes on the chorus. Rest your hands between blocks.

Free to print for personal practice