

- ★ 6.) **ADD THE FILL-IN ROLLS.** You should have a fairly smooth arrangement at this point. The Fill-In Rolls are used to give your arrangement character, and also to fill in the gaps or pauses at the ends of phrases, (i.e. where a singer might take a breath). Fill-In Rolls really give a song the "Bluegrass Sound"!

NOTE: 1.) Fill-In Rolls can be substituted for any measure of a song. (Too many fill-in rolls may garble the song, however, and you may lose the melody.)
 2.) Substitute Fill-In Rolls according to chords. i.e. when playing a C chord, you must use C chord Fill-In Rolls.
 3.) When replacing a Standard Roll, you MUST substitute the correct number of notes, or beats. You can even make up your own rolls, as long as each roll has 8 counts.

SUGGESTIONS FOR USING FILL-IN ROLLS:

- 1.) BEGINNING: Choose a beginning to your arrangement from the page of Fill-In Rolls labeled "Beginnings". These are usually pick up notes which lead you into the song.
- 2.) PAUSES: a.) Use fill-in rolls for chords at the end of the melody lines, or phrases, i.e. where the vocalist takes a breath;
 b.) Where you have substituted standard rolls for the primary roll in your arrangement, use fill-in rolls for the same chord, instead.
- 3.) ENDINGS: Fill-in Rolls are frequently used for the final chords of a verse or chorus to a song, (i.e. for the final D chord & G chord in songs which are played in the key of G.) These rolls add a driving force to the close of the verse. (To end your arrangement, refer to the examples of fill-in rolls labeled "Fill-In Rolls-Endings".)

EXAMPLE: "WORRIED MAN BLUES" (USING FILL-IN ROLLS)

Beginning lick:

M T

C

Pause: Fill-in roll

T M T I M I T M SL

D

Ending fill-in roll

G Fill-in roll

T-SL I M T M I T-P M I M T I-M SL I T M T

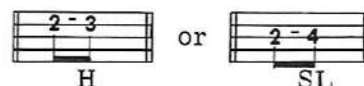
NOTE: WHEN USING Fill-In Rolls, you may lose the melody somewhat, if not entirely. This is fine. The melody will surround these rolls in the standard rolls, and for this reason, the song will sound like it should.

NOTE: Notice that many of the Fill-In Rolls include left-hand techniques such as hammers, slides, and pull-offs. This is the primary reason that these rolls can only be used for specific chords. If the left hand techniques were omitted from the Fill-In Rolls, most of these rolls would be reduced to standard roll patterns.

7.) **ADDING LEFT HAND TECHNIQUES: HAMMERS, SLIDES, PULL-OFFS, ETC.**
Left hand techniques can be added to an arrangement for the sake of embellishment. This is not a necessary step to improvising, but it often gives the song a little more polish.

NOTE: To decide WHICH technique to use: (These are merely general guidelines.)
(The last note of each example is the melody note.)

HAMMER OR SLIDE to a higher pitched note:



PULL OFF or PUSH OFF in order to sound a lower tone:



EXAMPLE: "WORRIED MAN BLUES" (USING STANDARD ROLLS, FILL-IN ROLLS, AND LEFT HAND TECHNIQUES)

The musical score for "Worried Man Blues" is presented in four staves, each corresponding to a different chord: G, C, G, and D. The notation includes various guitar techniques indicated by letters and numbers. Staff G (G major) shows techniques like T-H, T-SL, T-P, M, T, I, M, T, I, M. Staff C (C major) shows T-H, T-H, T-H, I, T, M, T, I, SL. Staff G (G major) shows T, I, SL, T-SL, T-P. Staff D (D major) shows T-H, T-SL, T-P, I, M, T, I, SL, I, T, M, T.