

"Quick Change"

Luis Arizpe

Guitar

17 IV7 ("QUICK CHANGE") 17

IV7 17

I7 IV7 I7 I7 "TURN AROUND"

Probably the second most-common 12 Bar Blues progression is something called the "quick change". If you ever find yourself on the band stand with some old blues guys and they're calling out a "quick change", this is what they mean.

Remember that the 12 Bars of a Blues progression should be thought of as 3 sections of 4 measures each. The "quick change" refers to the first section of 4 measures; specifically, the second measure. So, what you see at the top is that in bar #2 of the 12 bars, the progression moves up to the IV7 chord for one bar only. This serves to break up the monotony of banging away at just the I7 chord for four bars.

This "quick change" can be used in all blues forms from slow Delta Blues to the swinging uptemps of Chicago Blues, from the wailing guitars of Texas Blues to the stompin' Country Blues. It's a very handy way of keeping things interesting during those first four bars.

You should also take note, as of right now, that any and all of these chords can be substituted by the Dominant 9th chords. They're interchangeable and to name one implies the other.