Grip Licks in D minor

36 original jazz and blues licks for the xharp, in xharp staff notation. Right hand, swing eighths, four bars each.

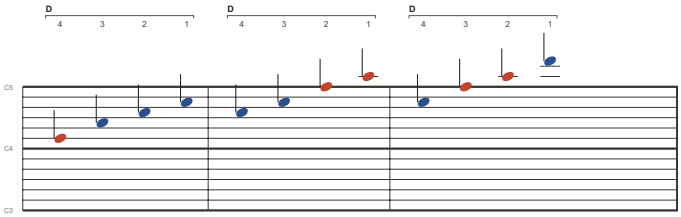
Red heads, on the lines: C D E F♯ G♯ A♯ **Blue heads, in the spaces**: F G A B C♯ D♯

The staff. Thirteen lines from C3 up to C5, one string for every step, so there are no clefs, key signatures or accidentals. The bold lines are the three Cs; C4 is middle C. Hollow heads are half notes and longer; one flag is an eighth, two a sixteenth. A dash with no head is a rest; a small hook is a short rest.

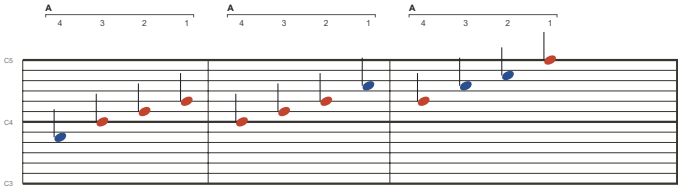
Grips. A grip is one placement of the hand on at most four strings. The bracket over the notes is one placement and its name says which grip it is. The small numbers are fingers, thumb 1 on the highest string, printed the first time each string is played.

Two shapes cover everything. The D grip is red, blue, blue, blue, red. The A grip is the same shape with the colours swapped. Slide either one by a whole step or a major third and the colours stay the same: those are the outside grips.

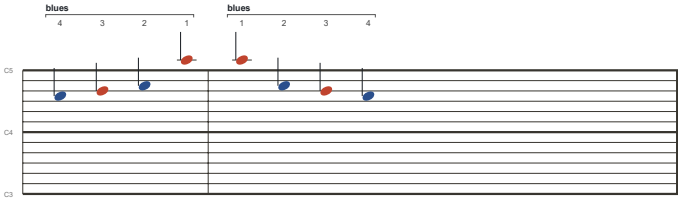
Grip: D (low, middle, high)



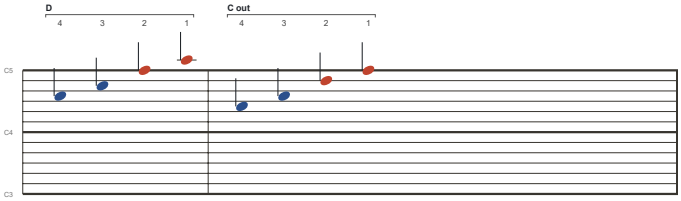
Grip: A (the D grip, colours swapped)



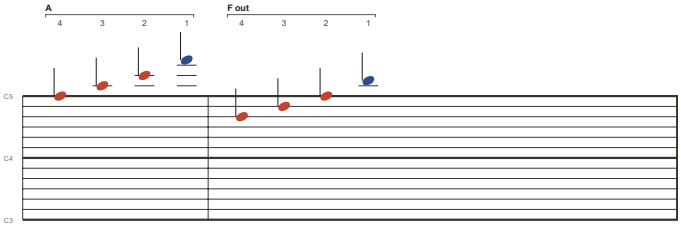
Grip: blues (three neighbours and the thumb)



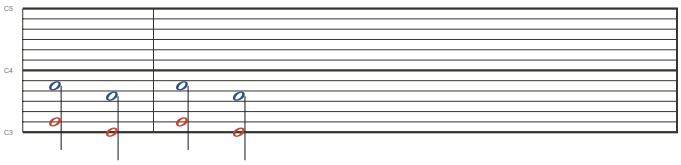
Grip: C out (D grip a whole step down)



Grip: F out (A grip a major third down)

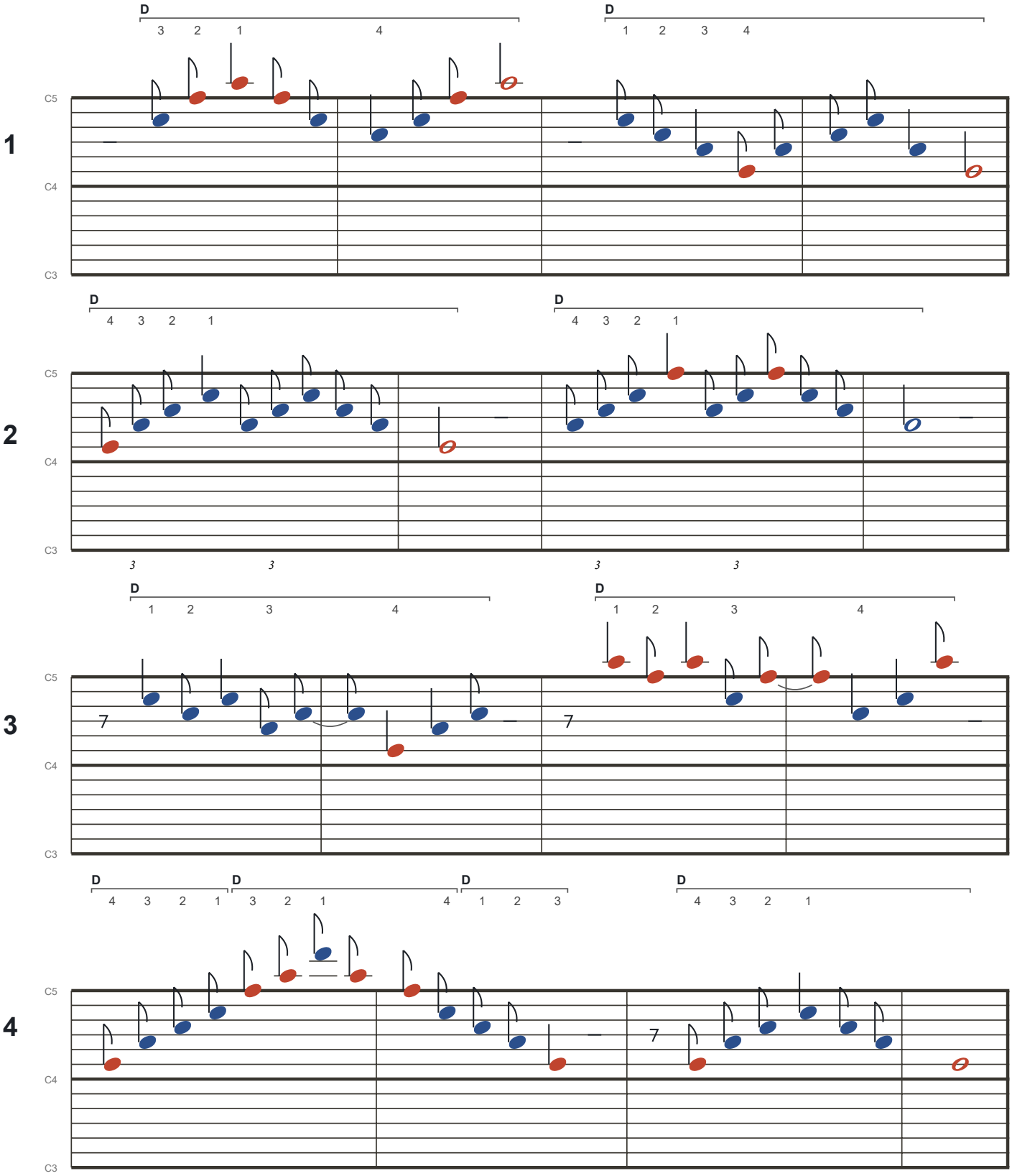


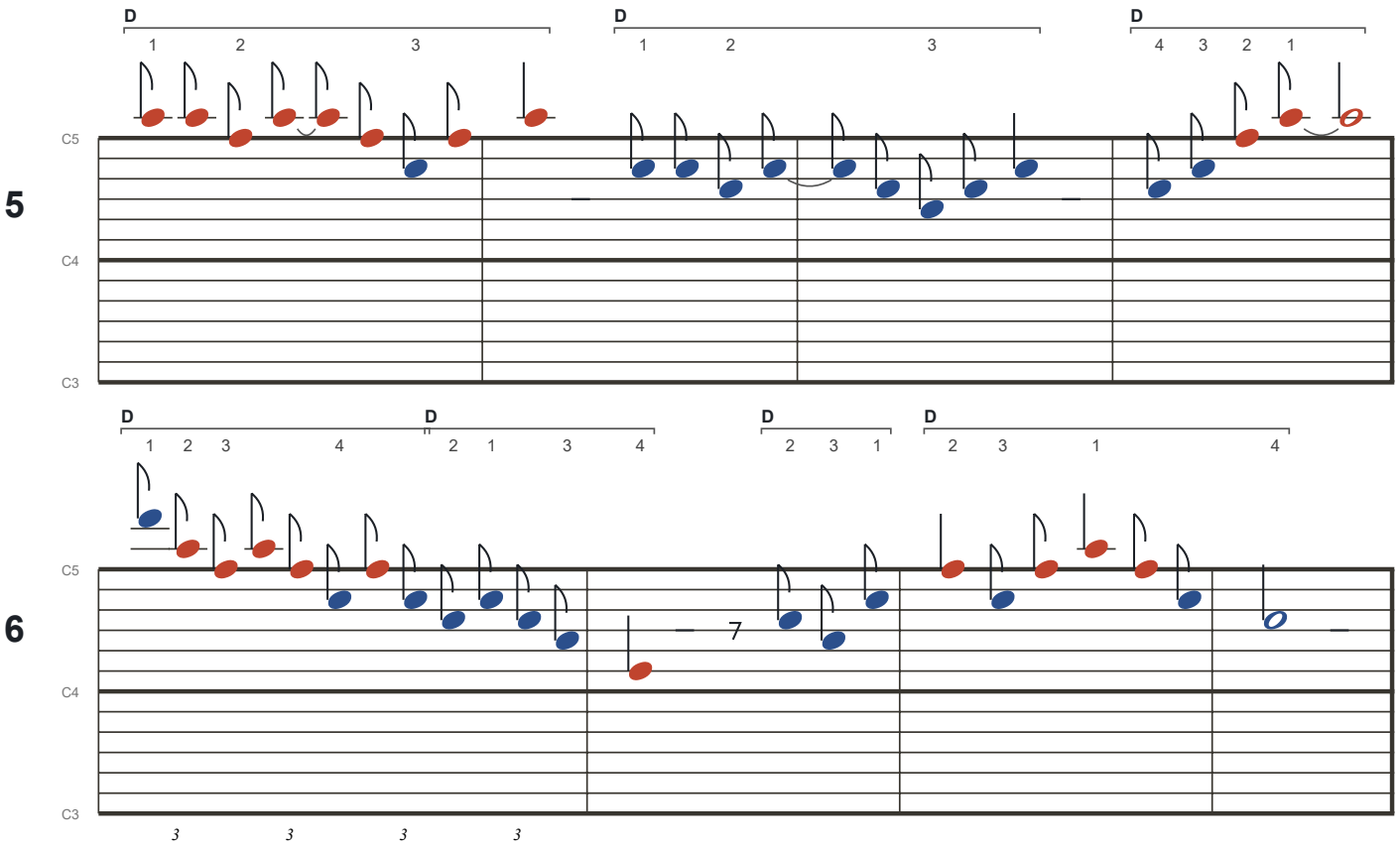
Left hand: the open fifth D-A slid down a whole step to C-G. Same shape, same colours.



1 · The D grip

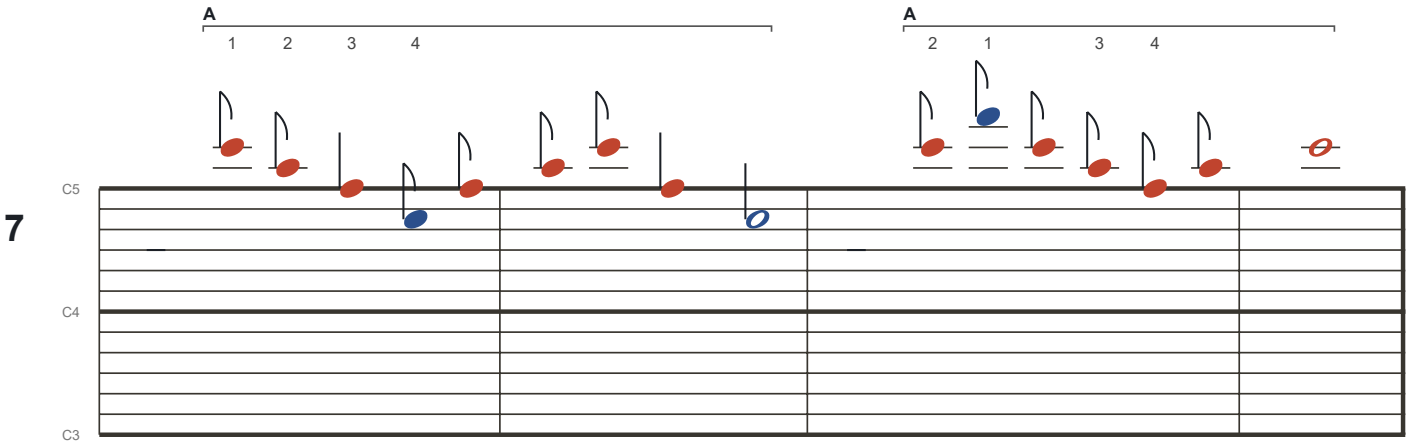
D F G A C: red, blue, blue, blue, red. Four strings at a time; the arc tells you when the hand moves.

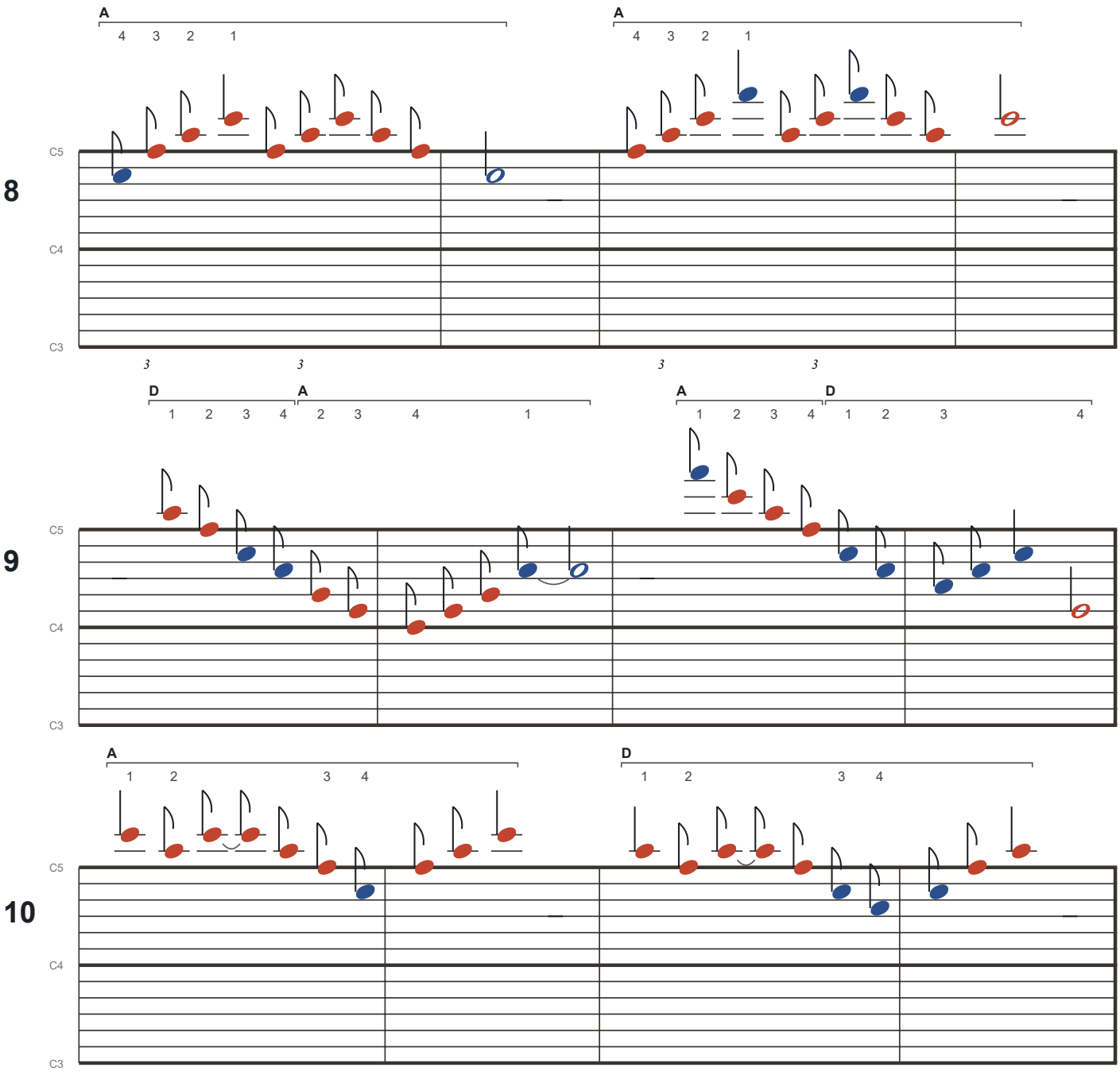


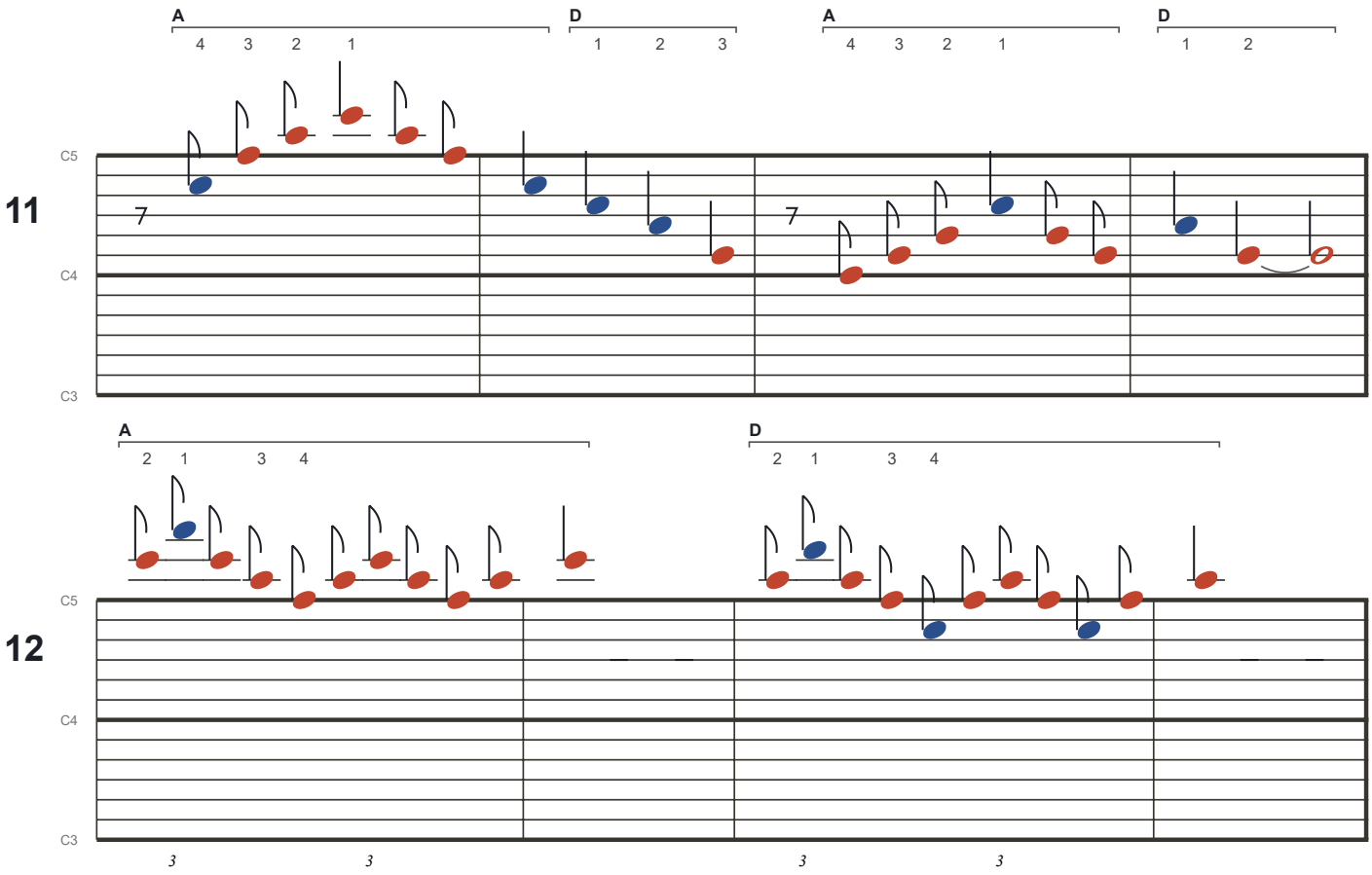


2 · The A grip

A C D E G: blue, red, red, red, blue. The D grip with every colour swapped.

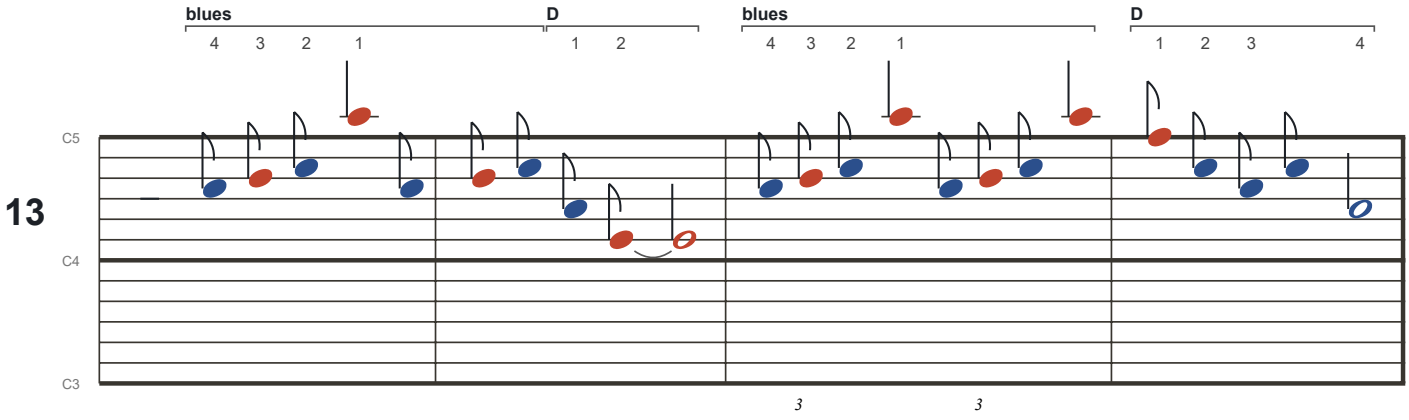


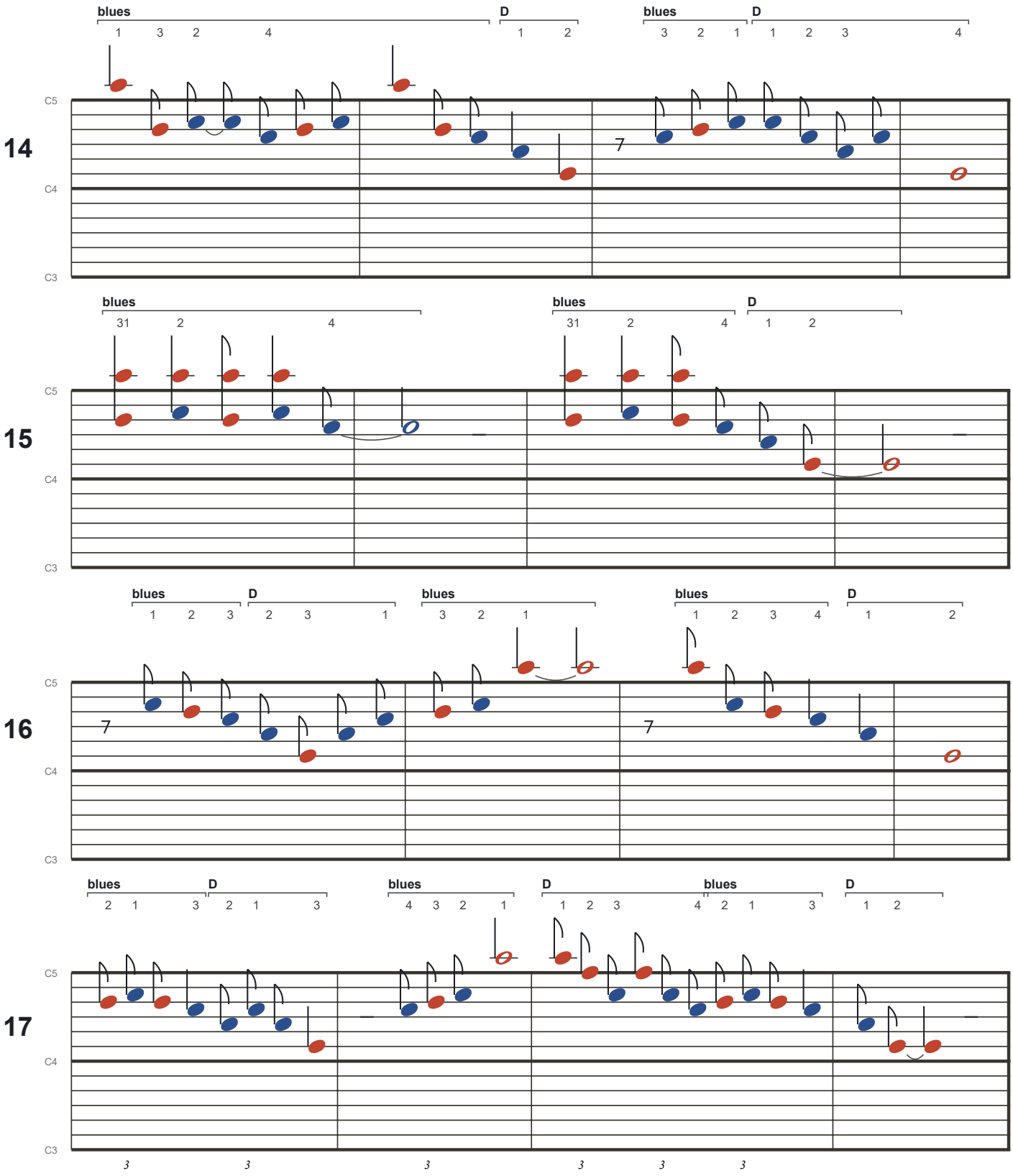

8
A
4 3 2 1
A
4 3 2 1
C5
C4
C3
3
3
3
3
9
D
1 2 3 4
A
2 3 4 1
A
1 2 3 4
D
1 2 3 4
C5
C4
C3
10
A
1 2 3 4
D
1 2 3 4
C5
C4
C3

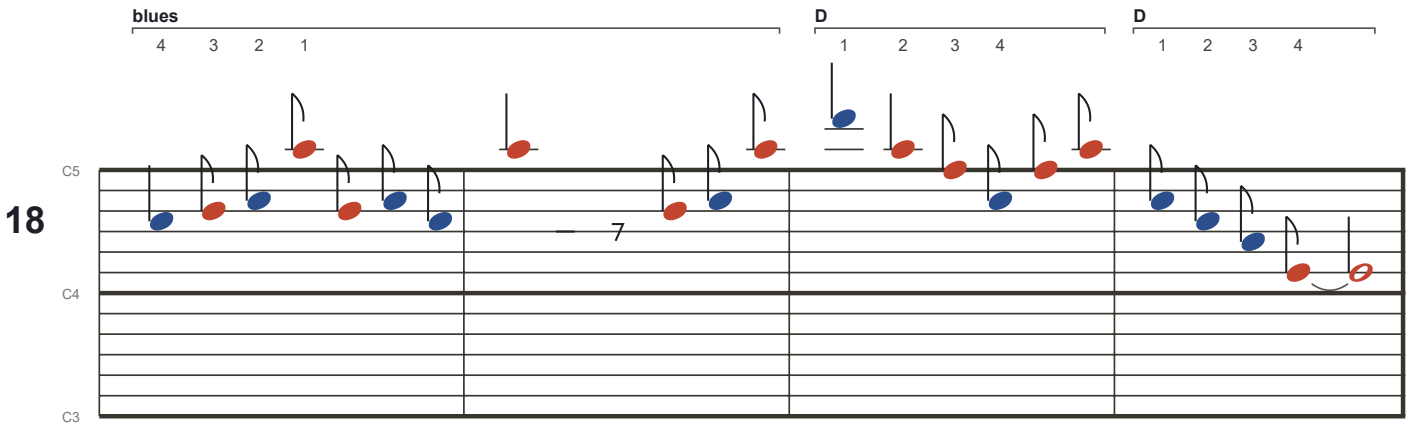


3 · The blues corner

G A flat A: blue, red, blue, three neighbouring strings across the two rows, with the thumb on D above.

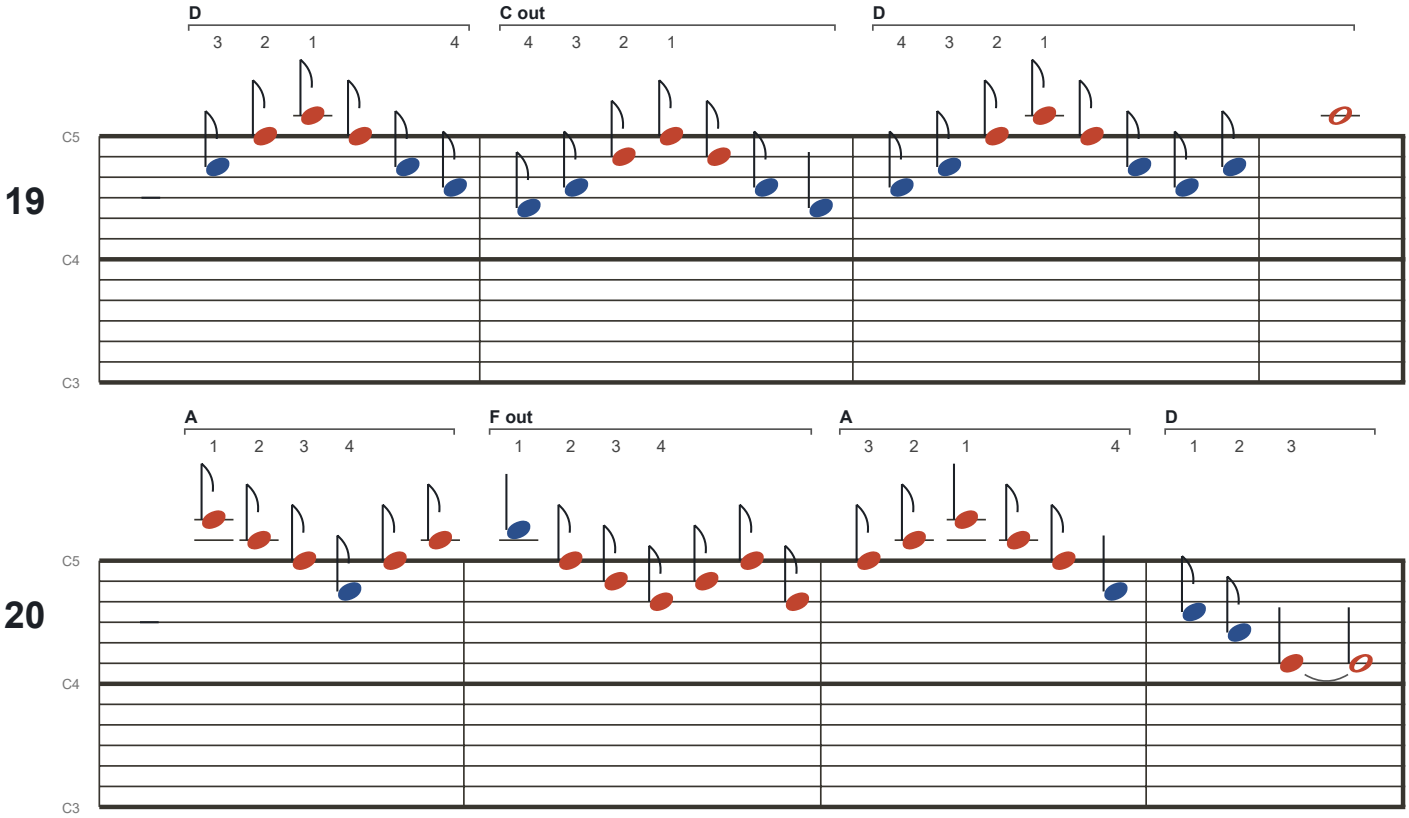


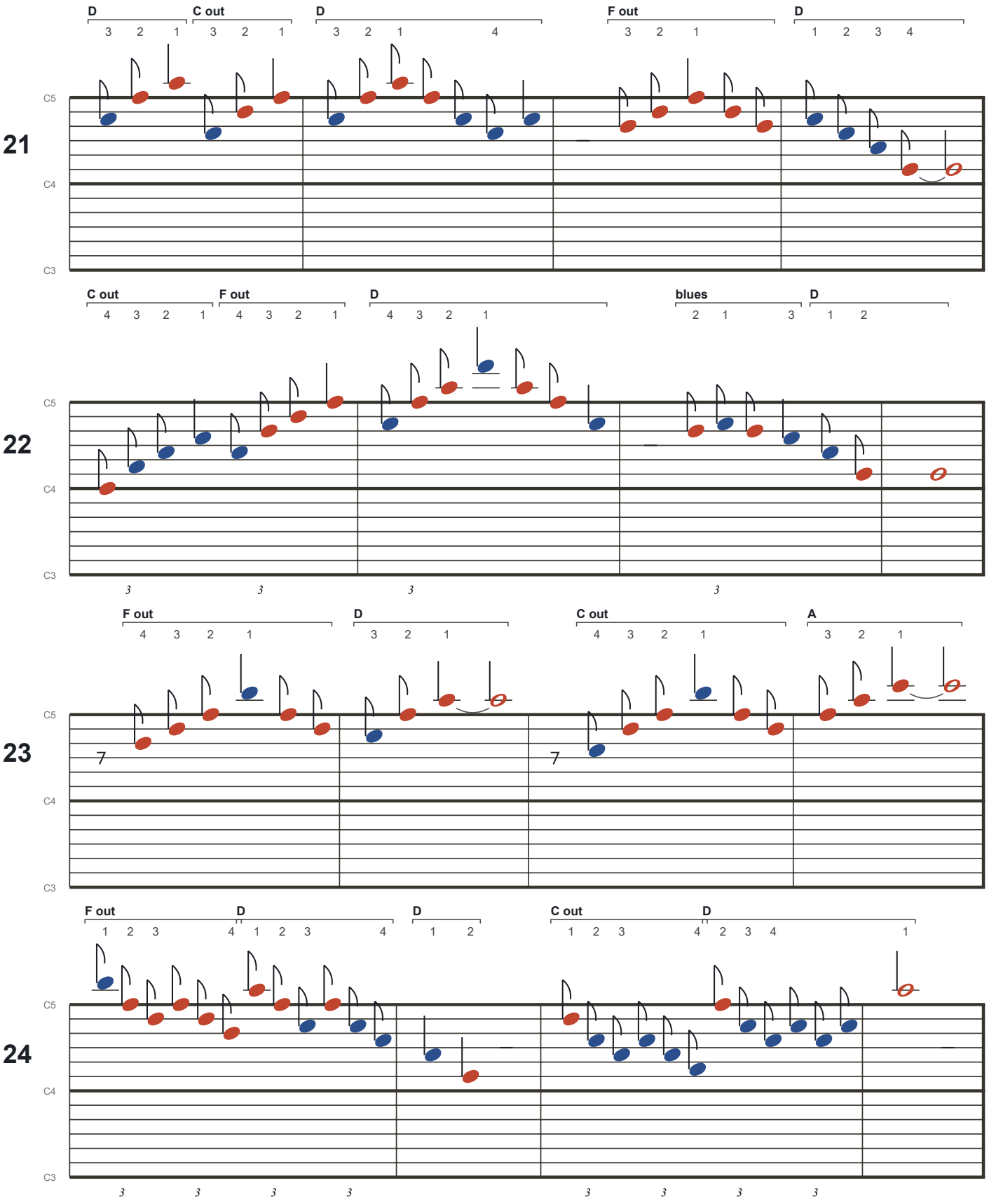

14
blues
1 3 2 4
D
1 2
blues
3 2 1
D
1 2 3 4
C5
C4
C3
7
15
blues
31 2 4
blues
31 2 4
D
1 2
16
blues
1 2 3
D
2 3 1
blues
3 2 1
blues
1 2 3 4
D
1 2
7
17
blues
2 1 3
D
2 1 3
blues
4 3 2 1
D
1 2 3
blues
4 2 1 3
D
1 2
3



4 · Outside and back

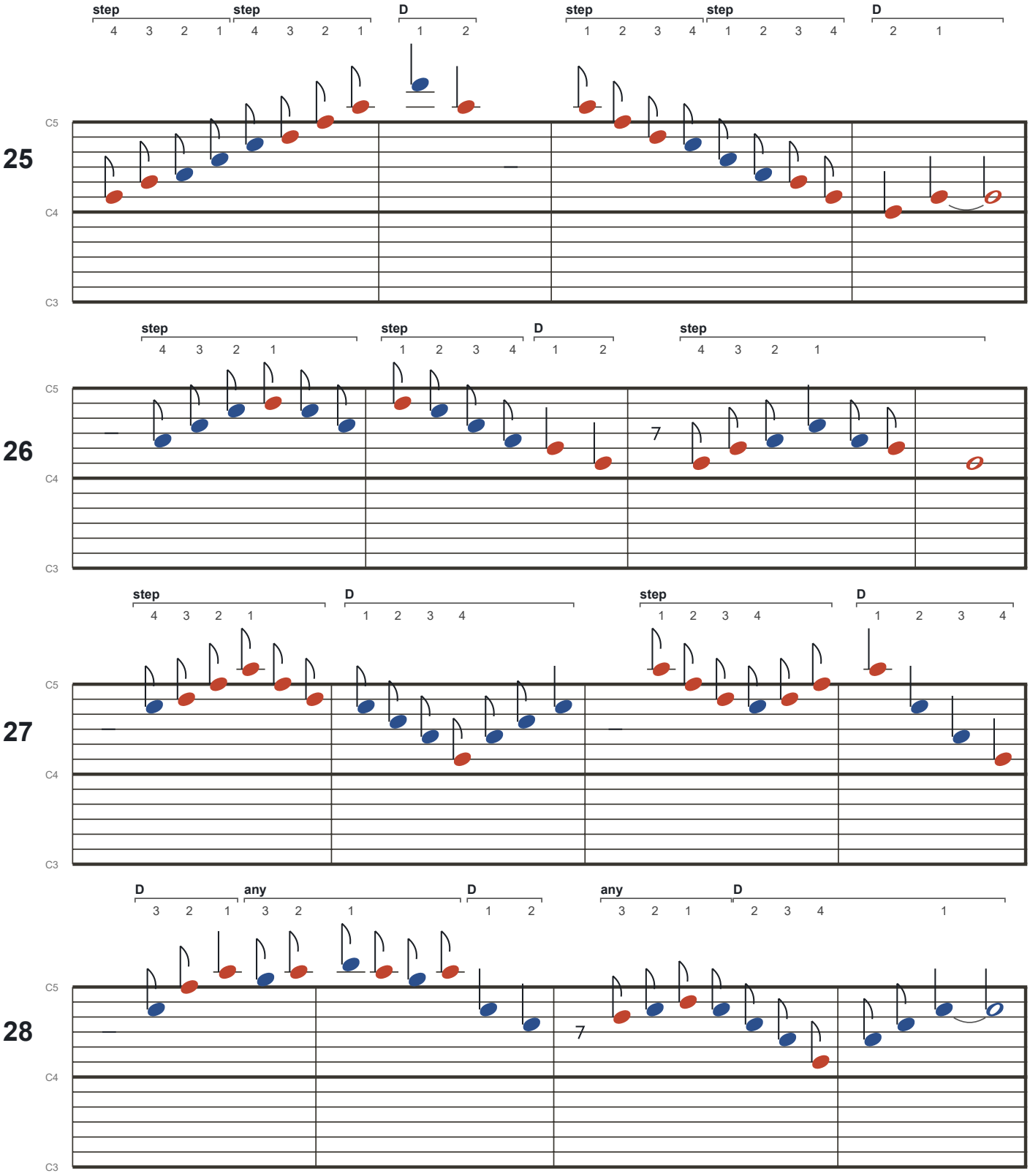
Slide the D grip down a whole step (C out) or the A grip down a major third (F out): same shape, same colours, outside the key. Then come home.

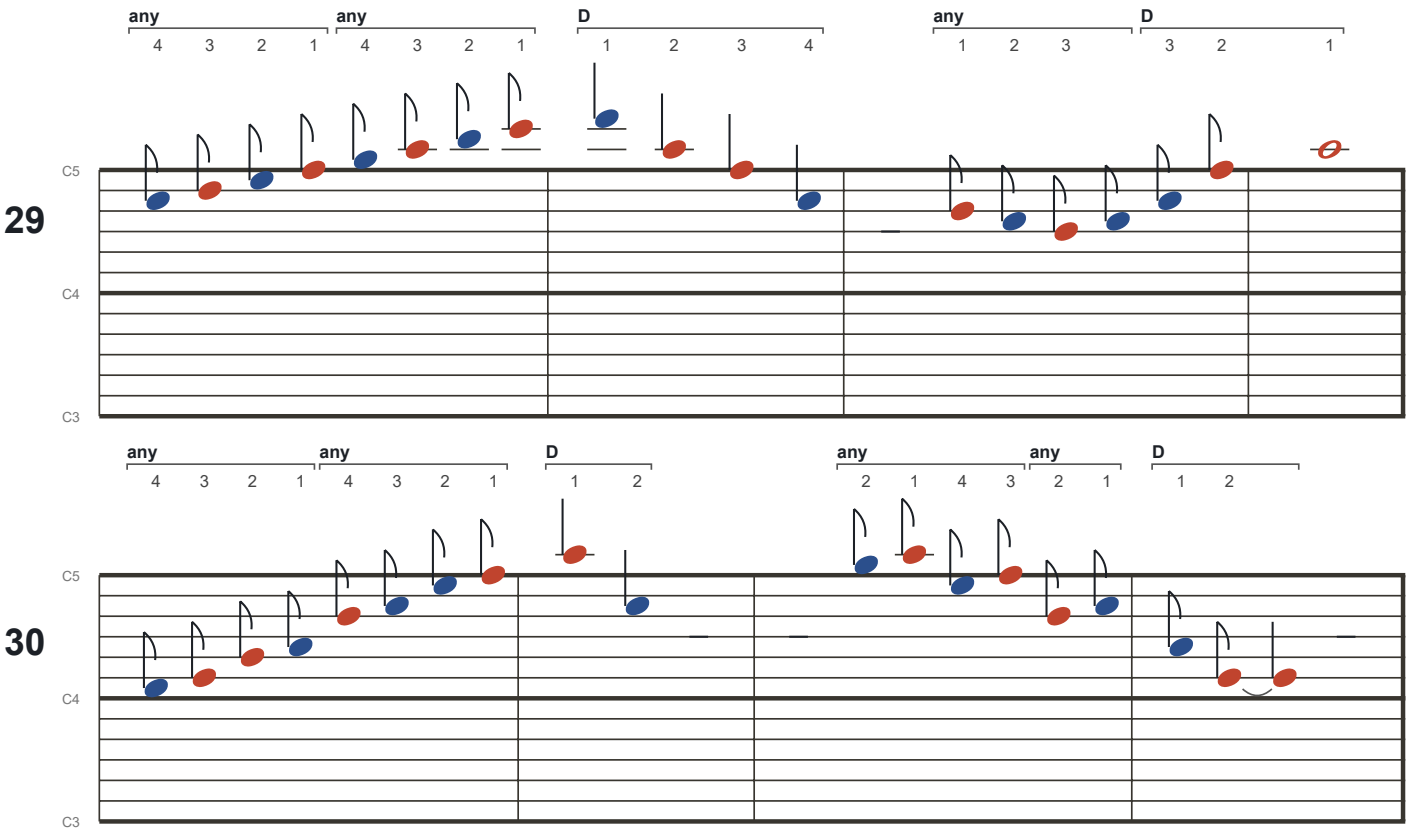



21
D
3 2 1
C out
3 2 1
D
3 2 1 4
F out
3 2 1
D
1 2 3 4
C5
C4
C3
22
C out
4 3 2 1
F out
4 3 2 1
D
4 3 2 1
blues
2 1 3
D
1 2
3 3 3 3
23
F out
4 3 2 1
D
3 2 1
C out
4 3 2 1
A
3 2 1
7 7
24
F out
1 2 3 4
D
1 2 3 4
D
1 2
C out
1 2 3 4
D
2 3 4 1
3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

5 · Steps and the any-note rule

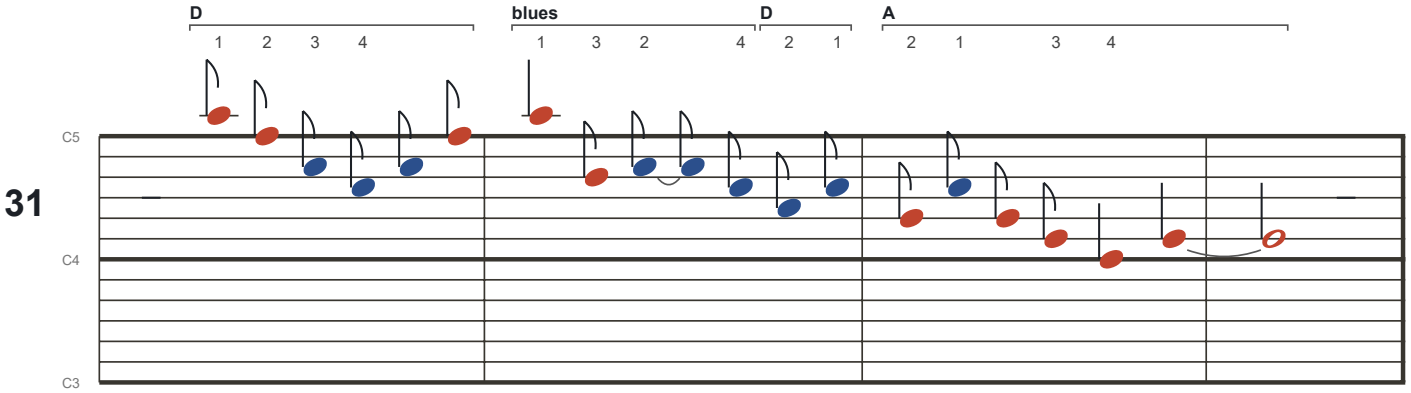
Scale steps fill the gaps in a grip; a half step into a grip note can come from any string.

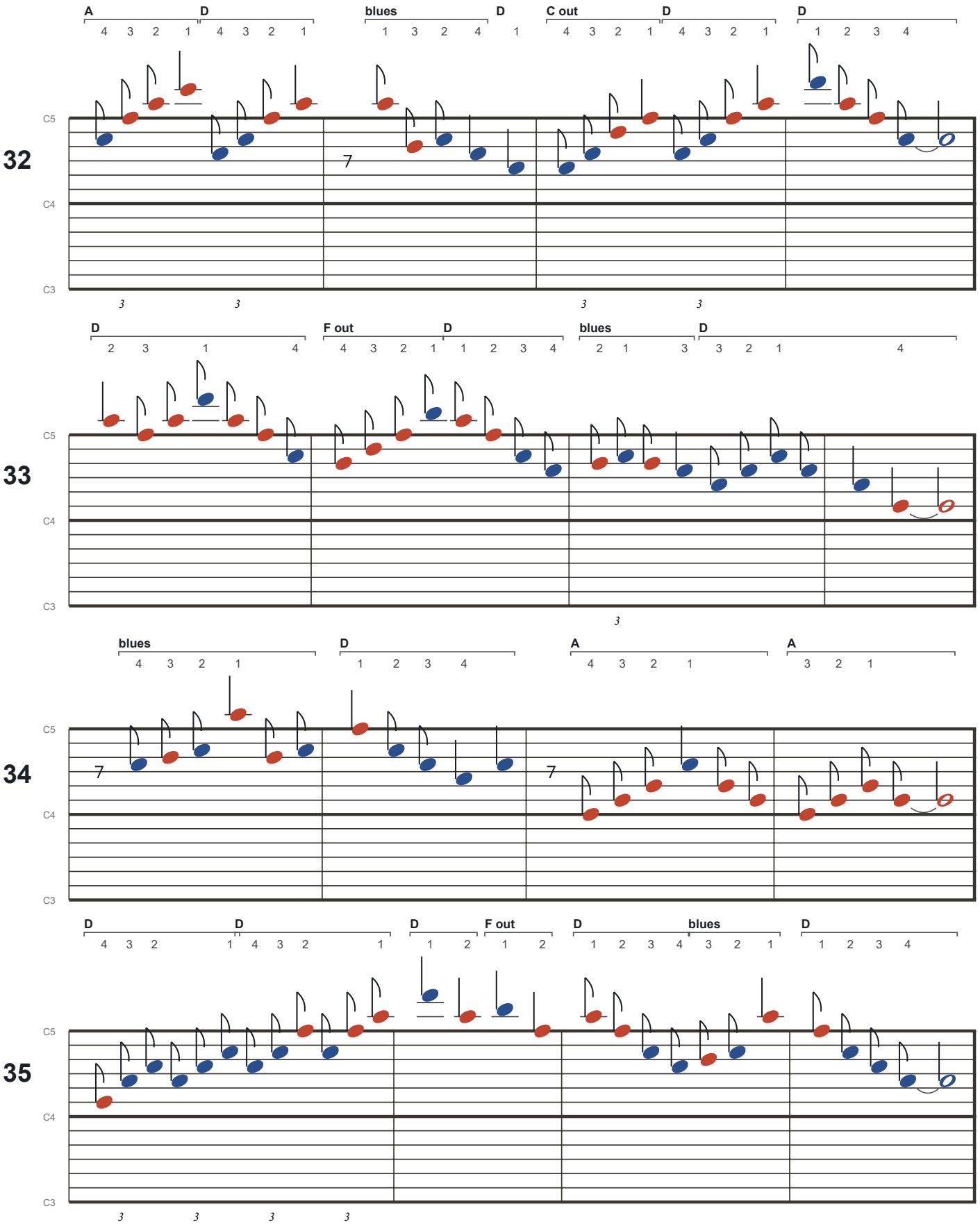


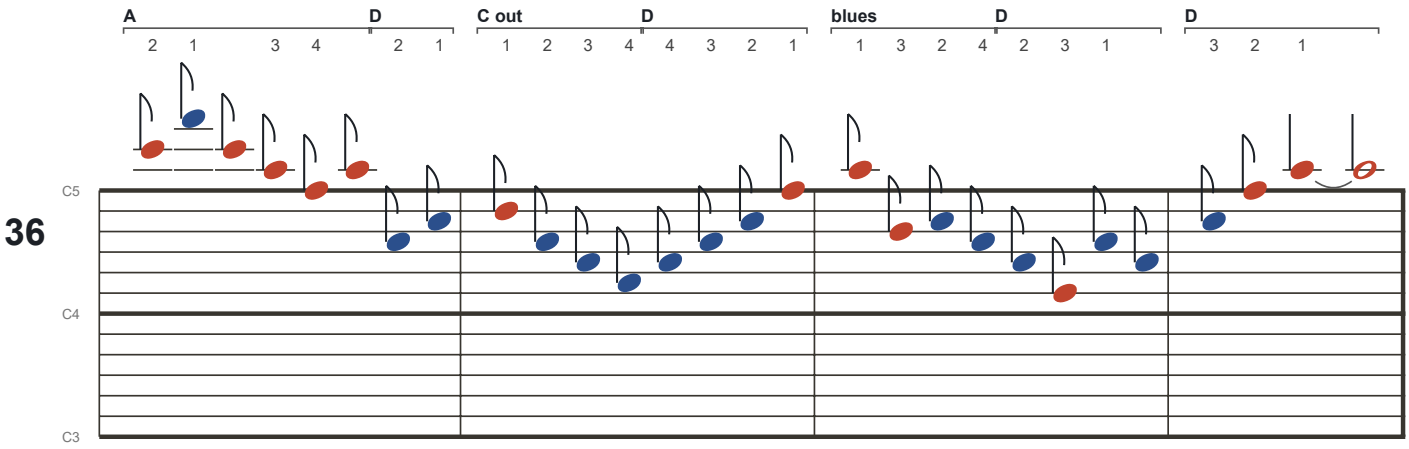


6 · Putting it together

All the grips in one line. Sing the lick first, then find the placements.




32
A
D
blues
D
C out
D
D
33
D
F out
D
blues
D
34
blues
D
A
A
35
D
D
D
F out
D
blues
D
C5
C4
C3



36