

1. *12/8 Blues* - In your music journey you will come across many tunes with a 12/8 time signature. The most prominent example that comes to my mind when thinking about a 12/8 feel is going to be a very, slow blues. When playing slow tunes, it helps to subdivide into a slightly faster division in order to feel the beat better. A slow blues that intends to sound fast yet is at a quarter note tempo of 50 or so will often have a 12/8 time signature. This allows us to subdivide the quarter note into 4 groupings of triplets and allow us to swing and get real bluesy with it.

2. *Improvisation*

a. *12/8* - When improvising over a 12/8 feel, I normally just feel the time as you would a 3/4 tune but in groupings of 4. Meaning I would be feeling "1,2,3 1,2,3 1,2,3 1,2,3". This will help you feel the groupings while keeping the 12/8 feel. There is no reason to try and count in your head to 12 but you do have to pay attention to the main grouping pulse of 4 throughout each measure otherwise you will lose track of the bars. They can go buy very, very slow.

