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Joe Bonamassa

Player Studies

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Whiskey Blues

UNIT 4 • LESSON 22 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab

Lick 4

For our final lick, we are moving up to the 5 chord of D7, back to the 4 chord of C7 and then turning around the blues! The lick starts with a super cool lead up to the D root note, which includes some serious micro-bends that leave so many questions! These questions are then promptly answered and resolved by the D root note. It's all about that tension and release here. The track then works through the chords, once again utilising the triad C shape and the major and minor crossover to great effect.

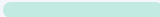
“The subtleties are key”

The main takeaway from this, or any blues solo, should be that the gold is in the subtleties. The micro bends, the relaxed feel of the lick, the dynamic way of playing. These are all 10x more important than the actual notes you play. We're confident in saying that Bonamassa could just take one of these licks, play it over the whole 12 bar, and it would still sound amazing. This is because he absolutely nails the subtle techniques and phrasing that makes it come alive.

Course navigation

UNIT 1

You Snooze

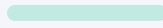
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You Blues

UNIT 2

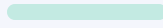
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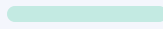
Blue Gin

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UNIT 4






Whiskey Blues

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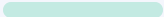
In this track we take a look at a classic 12/8 style slow blues. This style of blues is where Joe Bonamassa really flexes his blues muscles, and has produced some of the most exciting, moreish and fully loaded guitar solos we've ever heard.

Lessons:

-  **The Concepts**
-  **Lick 1**
-  **Lick 2**
-  **Lick 3**
-  **Lick 4**

UNIT 5

Stormy Blues

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