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Bends

LEVEL 1 • Challenges

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UNIT 1

Bends Level 1

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Work on every type of bend

Lessons:

- What Is A Bend?
- Full Tone Bend
- Smaller Bends
- Unison Bends
- Control!

Bends Level 1

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 2** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

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Full Tone Bend

In our second lesson, we will look specifically at how to play a full-tone bend. This is the first bend we spoke about in the last lesson, and we'll dive into it with a great Pink Floyd-style example!

The Track

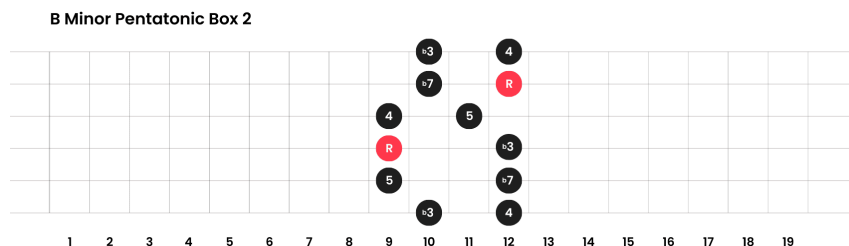
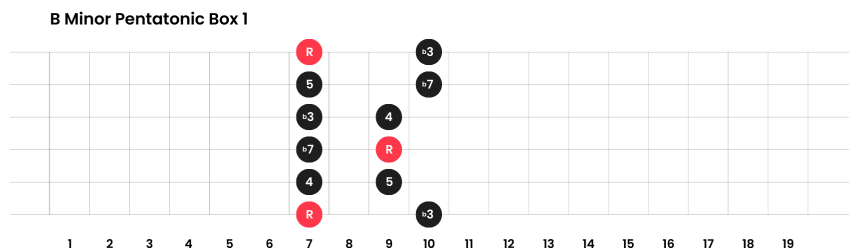
To get these full-tone bends learned properly, we'll be using this cool track to give us a chance to practice hitting the exact pitch. Using a jam track is always a great idea, as it allows your ear to get tuned in with the key of the track, and is therefore much easier to spot if your bends are sounding good! So, first up, the chords in this track are:

| Bm | Em | F#7 | F#7 |
| C | F# | C | F#7 |

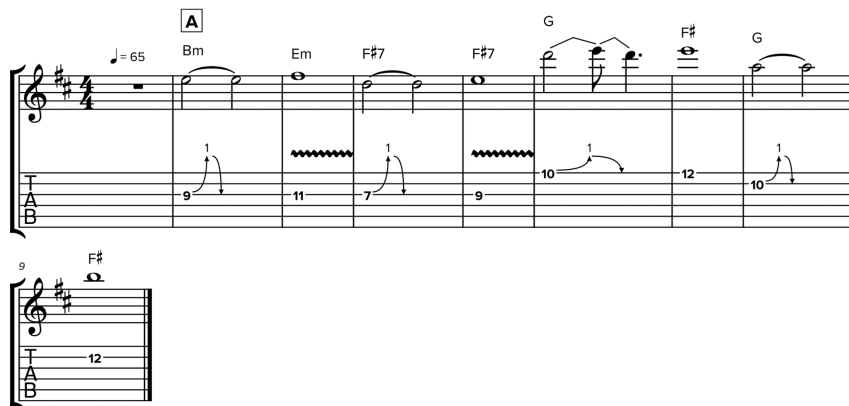


This progression repeats through the entire track!

This track is in the key of B minor, and therefore our bends are all based around the B minor scale and B minor pentatonic. So here are those two shapes to be visualising as you do this:



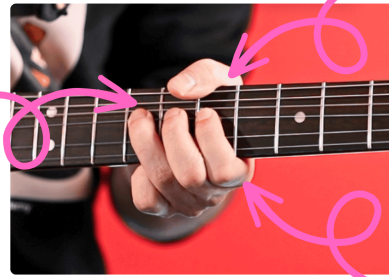
With this all in place, let's take a look at the part we're learning today:



The Technique

The main things to remember when it comes to getting the bend technique correct are first to make sure the wrist twists as you bend, and second to make sure the finger you are bending with is nice and solid. Let's take a look at that in more detail...

The main bending finger is doing most of the heavy lifting and stays stiff.



The thumb is gripping the fretboard, and you are rotating the wrist like opening a door knob.

We have all three fingers on the same string, to help support the main bending finger.

Bear this in mind as you work through the solo we're learning in this lesson!



“ So, your second challenge is to get this series of bends together, in time and in pitch with the backing track provided. Take your time with it, and be careful to watch that technique!

Franco

”



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