

Get **20% off** annual membership before your trial ends – **Only 2 days left**

[Back to all courses](#)

How To Learn Licks

Challenges

✓ Recently viewed



 Theatre mode

 Backing tracks

Practice summary

+ Add

You haven't logged any practice time for this lesson yet. There's no time like the present to [start](#)

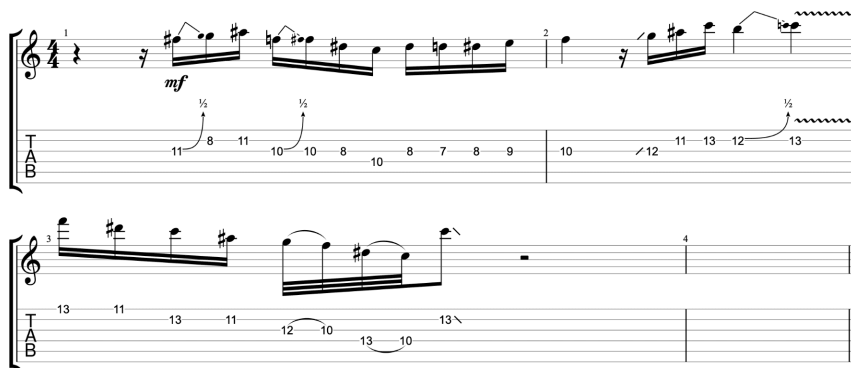
How To Learn Licks

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 1** NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

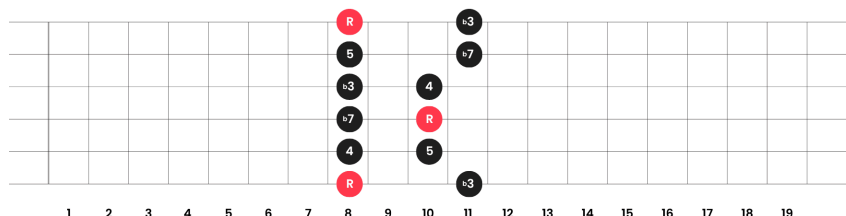
The Lick

Of course, the first step is to actually learn the lick you will be playing. I have chosen a super fun lick that is based around the pentatonic scale, but also contains some other cool ideas. I've played the lick over a C minor backing track, but we will mess around with that later down the line! For now, here's the lick as we'll learn it.



The key & scales

C Minor Pentatonic Box 1



UNIT 1

How To Learn

0%



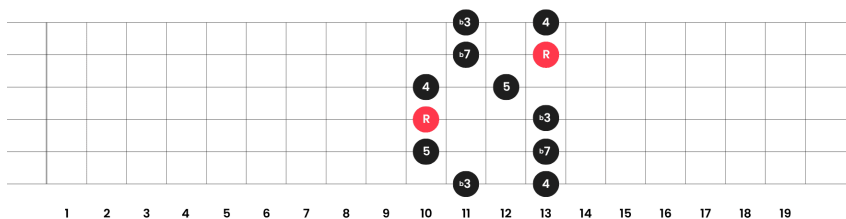
Licks

Dan takes you through the process of properly learning a lick. Once you understand and have experience working through this process, you can apply it to every single guitar lick or phrase that you learn, no matter how long or short!

Lessons:

- The Lick
- Speed
- Key Changes
- Pulling Apart
- Jamming

C Minor Pentatonic Box 2

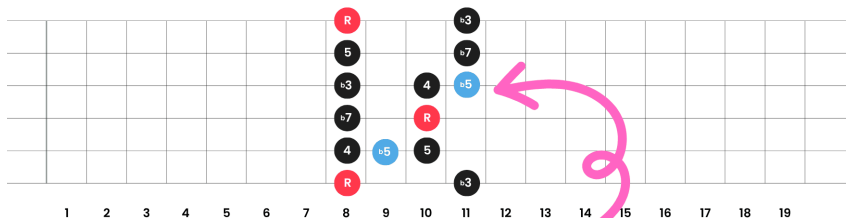


It's important to try to find the core foundation of the lick – a lot of the time there will be a simple scale or two at the bottom of it. We can then start to build upon that with some more quirky notes, as we'll go through now.

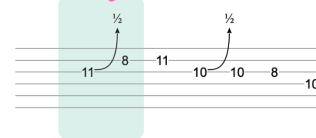
The cool notes!

Let's now take the "out" notes of the pentatonic scale and see what we are doing. We'll start with the very first note of the piece...

The blues note



The very first note is actually from the blues scale, is this is a really easy way to instantly add a bit of interest to your solo.



You are bending up a $\frac{1}{2}$ tone, to the 5th, so it's a very subtle change, but I think a very nice change! it's important to highlight these theoretical elements if we are going to learn the lick properly. We also have a chromatic run to talk about:

The chromatic line

We are using two notes from the pentatonic shape, and 2 from outside (the 2nd and b4th).

A chromatic line is a really cool way to add a bit more spice to a pentatonic part. We are using two notes from the pentatonic shape, and 2 from outside (the 2nd and b4th). The most important thing to remember when using a chromatic line is to finish the line on a "safe" note, and the 4th is nice and safe as it's in the pentatonic box.

The "out note" bend

We are using two notes from the pentatonic shape, and 2 from outside (the 2nd and b4th).

This trick is a big favourite of mine. The note I want to hear is the root note, but by bending from an **"out" note (7th) to the "in" note**, we create a slightly quirky sound once again. It's yet another little way to spice up the pentatonic soloing.



And
finally... I



“

have
thrown in
a cheeky
quick run
right at
the end of
this lick! It
uses all
pull offs,
but this
really is
the icing
on the
cake for
the lick.
We'll be
working
on speed
training
for this
later in the
course. If
it's just too
fast, and
way
above
your level,
really
don't
worry, I'll
give you
an
alternative
way to
play it in
the video!

Dan

”



**All
done?**

Click here to mark this lesson as complete.

Not quite done? Check the toolbox for more practice options.

Next lesson

guitar club

Made with ❤️ by Your Guitar Academy © 2025



COURSES

Guitar Skills
Player Studies
Theory Lab
Challenges
Masterclasses

TOOLS

Scale Builder
Practice History

PRICING

Subscriptions
Prepaid

BLOG

Latest Posts
All Posts

ACCOUNT

Settings
Manage subscription
Order history
Logout

COMPANY

Terms & Conditions
Privacy Policy
Cookie Preferences

GET IN TOUCH

contact@guitarclub.io

Currency: £GBP \$USD