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Blues Licks

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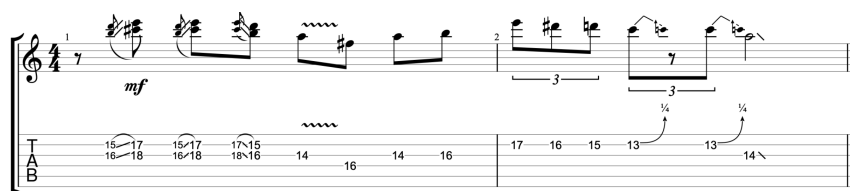
The Blues Licks Challenge

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 5** << PREVIOUS

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

Lick Five

Our final lick really dials up the major feel to the blues and focuses far more on the major pentatonic. We then switch back to the minor pentatonic right at the end of the lick, to give it that mix of major and minor, as we have been working on. Let's dive in!



So we are in the key of A blues, and are using the box 5 shape as A minor Pentatonic, and the box 1 shape as A Major Pentatonic, although we don't really touch the major.

UNIT 1

The Blues Licks

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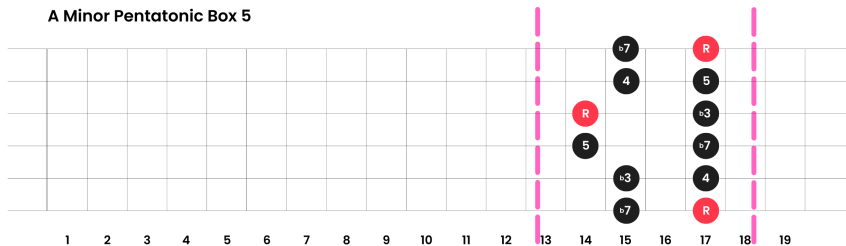
Challenge

Our aim in this challenge is to guide you through the process of taking a single blues lick, and making it work over a variety of backing tracks, in any key.

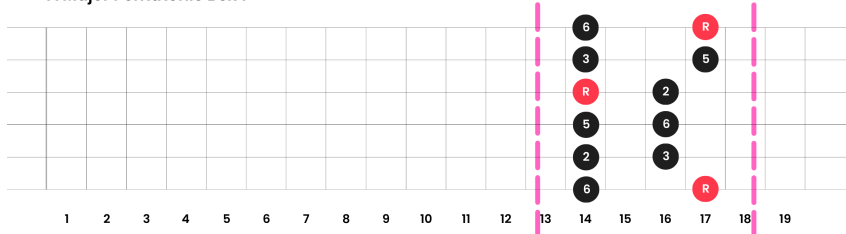
Lessons:

- Lick One
- Lick Two
- Lick Three
- Lick Four
- Lick Five

A Minor Pentatonic Box 5



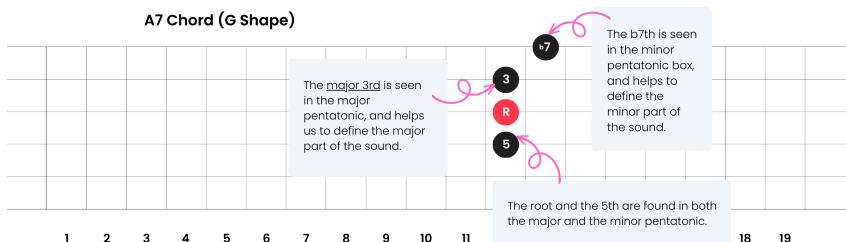
A Major Pentatonic Box 1



Matching to a chord

The next piece of the puzzle is to match this lick to a chord, so that we can easily identify it in any key. With this particular lick, using Box 5 in minor and 1 in major, we would use our G shape CAGED chord.

A7 Chord (G Shape)



The other jams...

Finally, let's take this lick and try and make it work over our other jam tracks. Remember, that the process for this is nice and simple...

1

Identify the key and play your G shape chord.

Just take a moment to play the chord over the track, and get a feel for the general groove. Is it 6/8, 4/4, upbeat, has it got a swing?

2

Identify the scale boxes with the chords.

Use your new knowledge to find the Major Pentatonic and the Minor Pentatonic boxes. This will be our grounding for the licks.

3

Try to play the lick with the track.

Now it's time to jump in and try to play the lick. Do your best to get it in some kind of time with the new jam track.

Don't forget that you should also apply the principles from the [How To Learn Licks course](#) to ensure that the lick is getting learnt properly!



“

And that's all 5 licks! As we've said along the way, be sure to take your time with all of these licks. Even if you've flown through them, now it's time to go back and work with them for longer! If you want to get them in your day-to-day playing, you need to work with them every day!

DAN HOLTON

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Congrats!

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

Another course bites the dust! Seriously though, take a few minutes to give yourself a massive pat on the back, and realize how much you have taken in over the duration of this course. It's a lot, and the ideas learned here can **see you through your entire guitar journey...** I know I still use these licks and have based my entire blues playing around them! Good luck, and keep jamming the blues.

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