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Blues Licks

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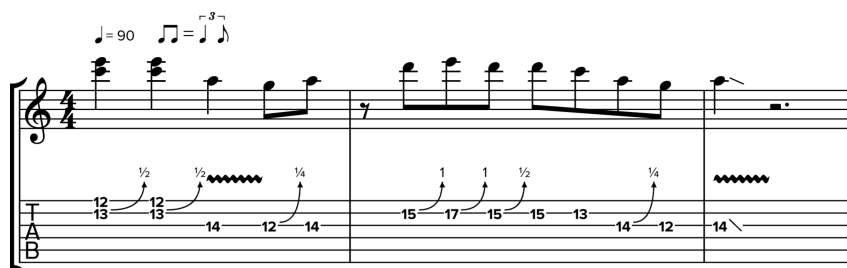
The Blues Licks Challenge

UNIT 1 • **LESSON 4** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

Lick 4

Our next lick is more deeply rooted in the minor sound. In fact, in this position, I do like to stick more with minor than major. It has an **Eric Clapton meets Chris Buck** feel to it, and I love how it's both aggressive and melodic. Let's get into it.



So we are in the key of A blues, and are using the box 4 shape as A minor Pentatonic, and the box 5 shape as A Major Pentatonic, although we don't really touch the major.

UNIT 1

The Blues Licks

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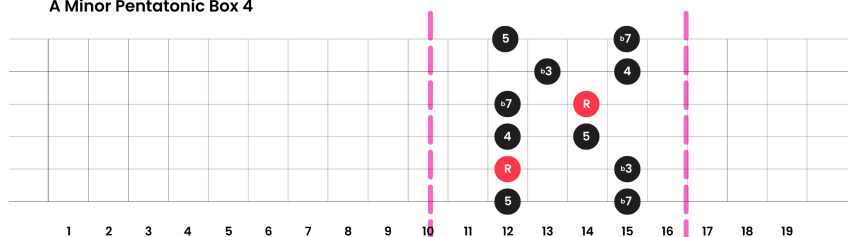
Challenge

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.

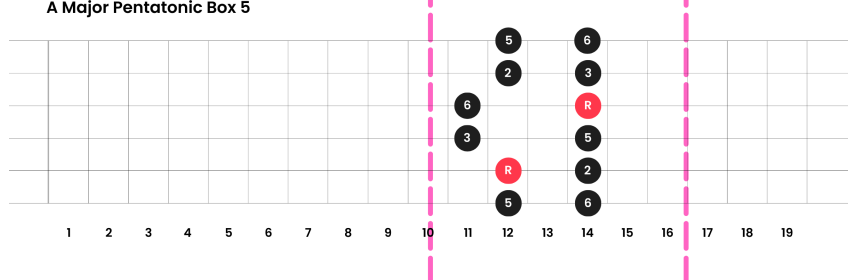
Lessons:

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

A Minor Pentatonic Box 4



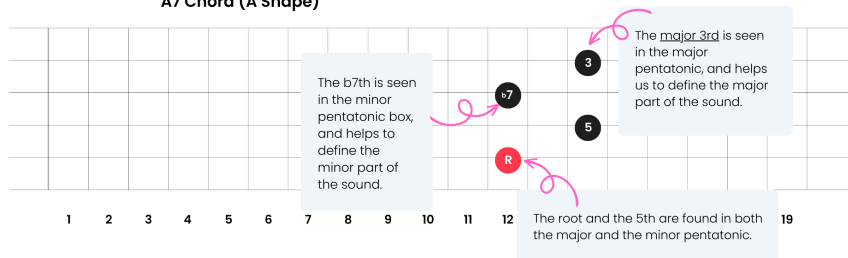
A Major Pentatonic Box 5



Matching 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 4 in minor and 5 in major, we would use our A shape CAGED chord.

A7 Chord (A 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 A 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.

–

All

done?

Click here to mark this lesson as complete.

Don't forget that you should also apply the principles

from the [How To Learn Licks course](#) to ensure that

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

the lick is getting learnt properly!

Next lesson



“

And that's our fourth lick! Please take your time with each of these licks. Don't jump into the next one until you've spent at least 3-4 weeks on this one. Do the work with it, let it sink into your day to day playing, and make sure you've tried to play it over as many blues jams as you can!

DAN HOLTON

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guitar club

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