

30-Minute Lickbag



Scott McGill, fusion virtuoso and BA Hons course leader at BIMM in Bristol, continues his series of six tasty licks every month...



BEGINNER'S LICKS EXAMPLE 1: SEASICK BLUES

CD TRACK 20

This is a great electric blues riff to nail down and share with your friends at jam sessions. Reminiscent of Seasick Steve and plenty of the blues icons that preceded him, this is an E7 riff with a traditional move at the end.

Strum the sixth string with a downstroke and the top part of the chord with a down/up movement and you're ready to visit the Delta! Opt for a clean or slightly overdriven tone.

♩ = 120 E7

BEGINNER'S LICKS EXAMPLE 2: HIGH VOLTAGE ROCK RHYTHM

CD TRACK 21

Here's a thick rhythm guitar example inspired by AC/DC that will tighten up your rock rhythm playing. Make sure you mute the chords in bars 1 and

3 to let things breathe and watch the hammer-ons and pull-offs. Crank the Plexi-Marshall crunch for this one and make Malcolm and Angus proud!

♩ = 120 C D A C D D/F# A

INTERMEDIATE LICKS EXAMPLE 3: BLUES LEADS FROM THE BORDER

CD TRACK 22

This Johnny Winter inspired line will have you Texas-bound in no time! The line is based solely on the G blues scale (G, Bb, C, Db, D, F, G). Pay attention to the slides, hammer-ons, pull-offs and bends as getting this

one right is all about the feel. Dial in some vintage Fender amp overdrive for just the right tone.

♩ = 126 C G G A Bb B

INTERMEDIATE LICKS EXAMPLE 4: JAZZ CHORD SOLOING

CD TRACK 23

Here's a melodic chord/solo study in F major that can help both your jazz soloing and comping. Play the example fingerstyle or with pick and

fingers (hybrid picking) for best results. A warm, bassy clean tone with the neck pickup does the trick here.

♩ = 78

Gm7sus4 Gm7/D Gm7/F Gm7sus4 Gm9/F Gm7/F B♭m7 B♭m7/F B♭m9/A♭ B♭m7sus4 E♭13 E♭9#11

Fmaj9 E7♭5 E♭7#5 D7 Adim7 Gm9

E B G D A E

ADVANCED LICKS EXAMPLE 5: HOLDSWORTH STYLE CHORDING

CD TRACK 24

This chord study is modelled on the distinctive harmonic style of Allan Holdsworth. It dips into a number of different tonalities and string

combinations very quickly so use either a pick and fingers or fingerstyle exclusively. Use a clean chorused tone with delay.

♩ = 45

C#m11 Emaj9#11 B♭maj9+11/F Fmaj9+11 Em9(11) Cmaj9/B Bmaj9+11/F# Amaj9/G# A#m7#5 Cmaj7#5 C#/D

D♭maj9 B♭m9 Gm/maj9 E♭maj7#5 C/D♭

E B G D A E

ADVANCED LICKS EXAMPLE 6: FAST ARPEGGIO SHREDDING

CD TRACK 25

Fans of shred and advanced fusion might like to check this one out. These are three-octave arpeggios built on A major and A minor chords using

sweep picking in the style of Jason Becker. Watch that notes don't bleed into each other and make sure your hands are synchronised.

♩ = 182

A Am

E B G D A E