

LICKS IN THE KEY OF E

Let's first develop the ability to play licks by playing an entire 12-Bar Blues using a 6th-string bass drone. (See exercises on page 5). In the key of E, you would be expected to have a "bag of licks" for each of the primary chords - E, A, and B. Below is an E lick that can serve as a *theme* (main idea) in a solo.

E Lick

By changing the last note in the melody, you can create a lick that leaves the listener with the sense that the progression is about to change to another chord. Follow the same right-hand picking as above.

E7 Lick

As was the case in the "Blues Primer," you can often modify or immitate the E lick when creating an A lick, or vice versa. By changing the original melody note to the 3rd fret (the note G), you have a lick that sounds good against an A or A7 chord. Again, follow the same right-hand picking as in the E lick.

A7 Lick

We next will need licks for the last line of the progression. Thus, B7, A7, and E Ending licks follow.

B7 Lick

A7 Lick

E Ending Lick

Practice all of the above licks individually until you can play each perfectly. Then try to string them together in "Blues In E" on page 9. You will find the licks in the Second Break to be more difficult. Identify and practice each lick separately. Learn to recognize licks throughout the solos in this book.