

String Bends

How to articulate your bends

Plus the different types

Better solo phrasing

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For this lesson we will be working with the E minor pentatonic scale, so these ideas will sound great in an E minor chord progression or an E blues, let's look at the shape we are working with.

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A|-----2-5-----|
E|----3-5-7-----|
C|-2-4-----|
G|-----|
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The most important, bending in tune. Note how we bend the 5th fret of the E string, an A note, up to sound just like the 7th fret of the E string, or the B note. Your bent note should sound just like it would had you fretted it two frets up.

Lets look at some licks.

Lick 1 - These licks don't have time because I want you to feel free to use them with the rhythm that you want. Note the bends, it says 5b7 because you want to bend the 5th fret (A note) up to the 7th note (B note) but it is all done in one pluck

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A|-----|
E|----3-5-5b7-----3-5-5b7-3-----|
C|2/4-----2/4-----4-----|
G|-----|
```

Lick 2 - The Bend and Release - In this lick note the 5b7r5 the idea is to bend up to the 7th fret but than back to the 5th in the same pluck.

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A|-----|
E|----3-5-5b7-----3-5-5b7r5-3-----|
C|2/4-----2/4-----4-----|
G|-----|
```

Licks 3 - Pre-bend lick, the idea is to bend to the 7th fret, strike the note, and than bend down. So the listener only hears the note bending down and not up.

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A|-----|
E|----3-5-pb7r5--3-5---|
C|2/4-----|
G|-----|
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