

Add Licks... To Any Song!



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Key: Every single key

Tempo: Any

Chords needed: Any

Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUeqjqnZ23Y>

Today we are going to learn how to add licks and fills to any song, any song, every song. Which song? Any song.

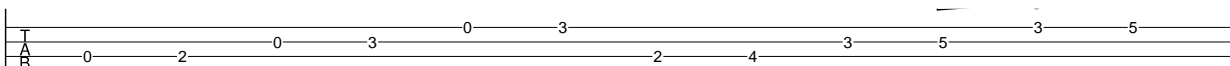
Step 1: Identify the key. Ultimately you want to be able to look at the chord progression be able to tell the key just from the chords, but that is another tutorial for another day. The easiest way to do that for now is to just google the key to the song. That information any song is out there, including the BPM.

Step 2: Practice the scale. Now that you have the key the next thing you want to do is practice the scale. If the key is E minor, you can use E minor scale or the E minor Pentatonic, if the song is in C major you can use the C major scale or the C major pentatonic. If you chose the major scale be cautious of the 4th and 7th intervals, they are dissonant and should be used only in passing unless they are a chord tone. Think of them as hot sauce, delicious in small quantities.

Step 3: Where to put the lick. The lick should be placed in parts where the melody rests. These ideas will sound bad if they are placed right over the voice. Identity good places that have empty space and fill them up, that is why they are called fills!

Alternative: Look for pentatonic that connect to certain chord shapes. Think of them as extensions and note how they the blend together.

C Major Pentatonic Shapes 1 and 2 - This is the relative major of the A minor pentatonic as well



Lick 1 - Sounds great in the key of C over a C, G, Em or Am chord

Lick 1 - C Major Pentatonic Scale Shapes 1 and 2

ukc.

Lick 2 - Sounds great in the key of G or Em over G, Em and Bm chords

Lick 2 - E Minor Pentatonic Scale Shape 4

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Lick 3 - Sounds great in the key of F or Dm over F, Dm and Bb chords

Lick 3 - F Major Scale Lick

ukc.

Lick 4 - Sounds great in the key of C over the C, Am and F chords

Lick 4 - A Major Chord Hot Spot (in the key of C)

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Lick 5 - Sounds great in the key of D over D, Bm and G chords

Lick 5 - D Major Chord Hot Spot

ukc.