

Basic Blues Rhythm in E, Entire 12 Bars

In this lick, the three previous four-bar sections of the 12-bar blues progression have been put together to illustrate the entire 12-bar form.

This type of 12-bar blues rhythm pattern utilizes what is known as a “quick four,” in that the initial bar of the one chord, E, is followed immediately with a bar of the four chord, A, followed by two more bars

of E, before the return to the four chord in bar 5.

Throughout the example, adhere to downstrokes where indicated, switching to alternate (down-up) picking for the turnaround figure in bar 11.

Techniques used: palm muting, downstrokes. alternate picking.

Moderately Slow ♩ = 90

□ = downstroke ∇ = upstroke

1

E5 E6 E5 E6 A5 A6 A5 A6

P.M. _____

2 2 4 4 2 2 4 4 2 2 4 4

sim.

3

E5 E6 E5 E6 E5 E6 E5 E6

P.M. _____

2 2 4 4 2 2 4 4 2 2 4 4

5

A5 A6 A5 A6 A5 A6 A5 A6

P.M. _____

2 2 4 4 2 2 4 4 2 2 4 4

7

E5 E6 E5 E6 E5 E6 E5 E6

P.M.

2 0 2 0 4 0 4 2 2 0 2 4 4 0 2 0 2 0 4 0

9

B7 A5 A6 A5 A6

let ring P.M.

2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 2 0 2 4 4 2 2 0 4 4 0

□ □ □ □ □ □ ∇ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

11

(E7) (B7) (E7)

let ring

0 5 5 4 4 3 3 2 2 0 2 4 2 2 4 2 4 0

□ □ ∇ □ □ ∇ □ □ ∇ □ □ ∇ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □