Muddy Waters-style 12-bar

In this lick, I've taken the techniques demonstrated in the previous examples and added a few subtle twists—"walking" bass-type lines on each chord, and an ascending, instead of a descending, turnaround riff at the end of the progression.

In bar 1, I begin with a root-fifth E5 voicing on the bottom two strings, but on beat two I add a G-to-G# walking line on the low E string to the fretted B note on the A string, sounding both strings together. This same technique is then applied to the four chord, A, and the five chord, B.

At bar 11, a new turnaround is introduced: based on notes sixths apart,

I begin with the fifth and major third on the A and G strings—B and G*, respectively—and then ascend chromatically on each beat, culminating in a D-B double-stop on beat one of bar 12. Use alternate picking, down-up-down, when playing these sixths in the eighth-note triplet rhythm. Notice also the use of hybrid picking at the end of the phrase: the pickhand ring finger plucks the high E string while the G string is picked with a downstroke.

Techniques used: palm muting, downstrokes, alternate picking, hybrid picking.





