

# Blues Licks, Lesson 4: The 'Clapton' lick

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This lick will work over the E7, A7 or B7 chords in our 12 bar blues in E. It is based on the E blues scale, but has an added 6th, C#. This works as the 6th of an E chord, the major 3rd of an A chord, or the 9th of a B chord, so it adds some nice colour to our regular pentatonic licks.

Musical notation for the 'Clapton' lick in E major. The treble clef staff shows a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of quarter notes: E4, G#4, A4, B4, C#5, A4, G#4, E4. The first four notes are grouped with a '3' below them. The last two notes are also grouped with a '3' below them. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers: 7, 6, 5, 8 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 5, 8 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 5, 6, 5, 5, 6, 5.

Here it is transposed up an octave.

Musical notation for the 'Clapton' lick transposed up an octave. The treble clef staff is marked with '8va' and a '2' above the staff. The melody is the same as the first example but shifted up. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers: 19, 18, 17, 20 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 17, 20 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 17, 18, 17, 17, 18, 17.

Here is the original lick shifted up two frets, use this over the B7 chord. It is based on the E minor pentatonic scale, but has an added C and C# (b9 and 9 of a B chord) plus a D# (major 3rd of the B chord).

Musical notation for the 'Clapton' lick shifted up two frets. The treble clef staff shows a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody consists of quarter notes: E5, G#5, A5, B5, C#6, A5, G#5, E5. The first four notes are grouped with a '3' below them. The last two notes are also grouped with a '3' below them. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers: 9, 8, 7, 10 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 7, 10 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 7, 8, 7, 7, 8, 7.

And the same lick transposed up an octave. Do you have enough frets?

Musical notation for the 'Clapton' lick transposed up an octave. The treble clef staff is marked with '8va' and a '4' above the staff. The melody is the same as the third example but shifted up. The bass clef staff shows fret numbers: 21, 20, 19, 22 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 19, 22 (with a 1/4 note up-bow), 19, 20, 19, 19, 20, 19.