

PERFORMANCE & ANALYSIS



How to play this month's songs

STAIND'S AARON LEWIS WITH FRED DURST "Outside"

In order to duplicate the acoustic guitar accompaniment on "Outside," use the technique often referred to as 16th-note pendulum strumming. It's called that because the right (picking) hand constantly moves back and forth (like a pendulum) while strumming, so that any chord falling on the first or third 16th note of each beat is strummed with a downstroke and any chord falling on the second or fourth 16thnote is strummed with an upstroke.

Here's how to practice this technique: when strumming, simply keep your right hand moving back and forth over the strings in time with the 16th-note pulse (down-up-down-up). Remember to keep the "pendulum" going in time with the 16th-note pulse, regardless of whether or not you're actually strumming every 16th note. Once you get the hang of this technique, playing in time becomes almost effortless, since your right hand will be moving like a metronome.

Whether it's intentional or not, Lewis also creates a neat harmonic effect by adding the flatted third (Bb) to the G5 power chord in the third measure, creating a Gm chord. In the fourth measure, he adds another twist to the accompaniment, briefly replacing the flatted third of Am (C) with the natural third (C#), creating an A major chord.

LED ZEPPELIN "Black Dog"

One of Led Zeppelin guitarist Jimmy Page's many attributes was his ability to create interesting solos by combining parallel major and minor pentatonic scales. In other words, when soloing, Page would often use both major and minor pentatonic scales in the same key, as in "Black Dog," where he combines both the A major pentatonic and the A minor pentatonic scales. For example, in measures 70-74, he bases his ideas on the A major pentatonic scale before settling in and playing measures 75-100 using primarily ideas in A minor pentatonic.

One of the easiest ways to broaden your horizons as an improviser is to build on what you already know. And by using the "parallel pentatonic" principle, you can instantly double the amount of licks in your arsenal. Hard to believe? Read on.

All you have to do is move any minor pentatonic scale, "box" pattern or lick you already know three frets down, and you'll get its parallel major pentatonic idea. You'll instantly get a lick that you can apply to a major chord built on the root of the scale, or you can go further by trusting your ears and combining the two

scales, as Page did on "Black Dog."

This principle works the other way around, too. You can take a major pentatonic scale, pattern or lick and move it up three frets and get its parallel minor pentatonic scale.

I've written out a few examples to help you with this concept. FIGURE 1 depicts the A major pentatonic lick Page used to kick off his solo (see letter "G") in the transcription. In FIGURE 1A, notice that all I did was to move it up three frets, and voilà-an instant great A minor pentatonic lick!

The first measure of FIGURE 2 is a classic blues-rock lick based on the A minor pentatonic scale. In FIGURE 2A, I moved the identical lick back three frets and got a great lick in A major pentatonic that will fit any blues or country application.

METALLICA "Fade to Black"

Kirk Hammett's outro solo on "Fade to Black" features some very clever harmonic twists. For example, Hammett superimposes diatonic arpeggios in the key of D (the relative major key of Bm) over the A5-G5-A5 progression beginning at measure 134. By playing a D arpeggio over the A5 chord in measures 134-135, Hammett intimates an A6sus4 sound (because in the key of A, D=fourth, F#=sixth and A=fifth). Hammett then plays an Em arpeggio over the G5 chord in measures 136-137 (suggesting a G6 sound) and an F#m arpeggio over the A5 chord in measures 138-139 (suggesting an A6 sound).

The superimposed Em and F#m arpeggios contain a couple of tricky stretches of a major third on the high E string (B-G and C#-A, respectively). The easiest way to play the Em arpeggio is to grab the B on the 19th fret with your pinkie and then pull off to the G on the 15th fret (which is held down with your index finger). Then play the E on the 17th fret of the B string with your middle finger. Use the exact fingering to execute the F#m arpeggio, only two frets higher.

During the outro solo, Hammett also uses a combination of two minor scales-B Aeolian (B C# D E F# G A) and B Phrygian (B C D E F# G A)-to improvise over the repeated B5-A5-G5-A5 chord progression. As you can see, the only difference between the two scales is in the second degree—the Aeolian contains the natural second/ninth (C#, in the key of B), while the Phrygian scale contains the lowered (or flatted) second/ninth (C). In measures 39-41, he draws ideas from the F# Phrygian scale (F# G A B C# D E), switching to F# Aeolian (F# G# A B C# D E) for the remainder of the solo.

FIGURES 3 and 4 depict the B Aeolian and B Phrygian scales, respectively. Both modes are shown in two octaves, with their intervallic for mulas indicated between the staff and tablature

Is one of these scales more "correct" than the other to use over this progression? Noeach scale has its own distinct tonal flavor. Let your ears dictate which is more pleasing you. Or better yet, combine them, as Hammer does in his solo. To give you another example of his approach, I've written out a lick combining both scales in FIGURE 5.

VAN HALEN "Mean Street"

Eddie Van Halen approaches the intro "Mean Street" as if he playing a percussion instrument, not a guitar, crafting a syncopaled conga-like part. At first listen, this part sounds impossible to play, but if you break down, it's definitely doable. The trick is hearing Van Halen's idiosyncratic rhythms the way he does and interpreting them into a cohesive. grooving part.

The intro has three distinct elements: the right-hand index finger tap, the left-hand muted slap and the right-hand thumb tap. suggest you break down the part into one beat figures, master each one, and then pull them together.

Initially, it can be pretty hard to coordinate at the gave in 19 three tapping elements, so try tackling two depart with your them first. To get the coordination down between ondex finger on the your right-hand index finger and your left-hand gh E string (ni slapping down, practice FIGURE 6A until you and you tap with mastered it. Now you're ready to move on to FIG and on the high A URE 6B, where you'll alternate the right-hand the high E strin thumb tap with the index finger tap.

Make sure you tap the B and high E string ring, both hands at the 12th fret with the fleshy pad of your me fret. You rep right-hand index finger, as it's imperative the locess on the G you sound both notes cleanly (you might have rings, which finis to bend your finger back a little at the knucker lick. le while you're tapping).

Slap the three lowest strings at around the slo are played exathird fret with at least three fingers of your let time way but begin hand. It's imperative that you don't actual ourth, in E. The fret any notes, as you don't want any pitches cocess is repeated, sound. Instead, slap the strings (as if you were one fret as you n hitting a conga drum) and immediately mussich lower string." them afterward.

In the sixth and seventh measures, Var loads' solo features Halen displays another one of his signature per jaw-dropping mo techniques: touch harmonics. Here's how measures 55-56, he play them: while fretting a note on a string blistering hammer-o lightly touch a higher fret on the same string lick on the high E with your right-hand index or middle finger. ings that features di

It's very much a "feel" thing, and it require etches of a perfect a lot of practice to get it right, so don't worry -G and A-D, respecti

ou can't get it me string direc y release it o Playing with a elp too. Practi URE 7, then m

DZZY OSBOU migh Again"

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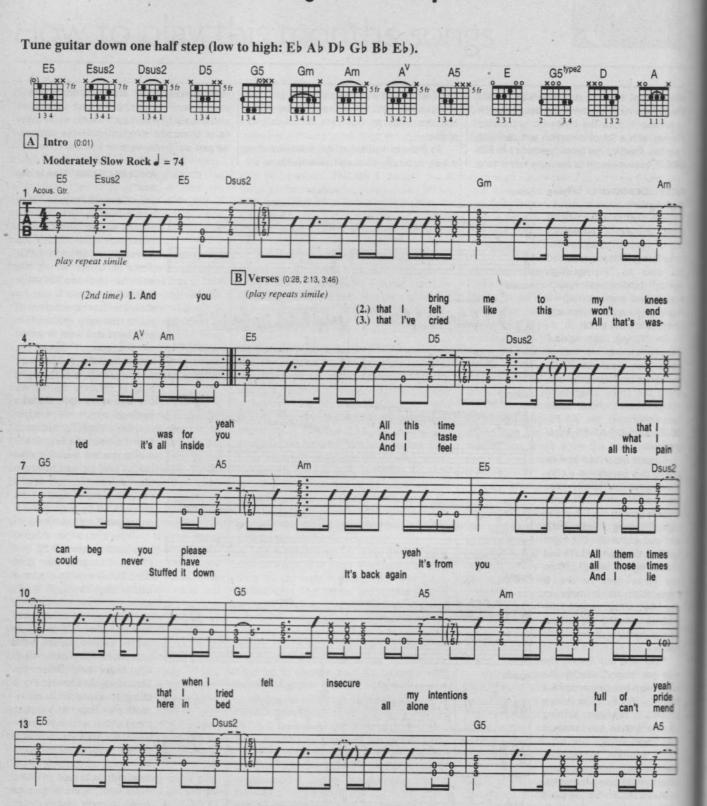
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OUTSIDE Staind's Aaron Lewis with Fred Durst

WORDS AND MUSIC BY Aaron Lewis TRANSCRIBED BY Andy Aledort

NEW FORMAT

Bass lines are included in the guitar transcriptions



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