

Now we're going to explore a little bit of 1960's R&B guitar work. This lick is played by a very young Jimi Hendrix, from the guitar intro of Don Covay's hit tune, Mercy, Mercy.

Jimi did session work back in 1964 when Covay recorded the tune. I always liked the part, but only recently discovered that it was Jimi Hendrix playing!

In the chart, I give you chord diagrams above the notation. These are the chords that Jimi plays off of, and as you play the intro, you should keep the chord shape in mind and hold the notes as much as possible until the next chord change occurs. You'll see that only small bits of the chords are used, so don't try to hold the entire chord. Just the notes sounded.

You can try to use this technique on any chord progression - it's best to start with one that doesn't change chords quickly or too often. Listen to Hendrix's recordings - especially the slower tunes.