

LICK OF THE WEEK

Albert King *The Sky is Crying*

This week's lick is a study in string bends. Taken from Albert King's rendition of the Elmore James classic, "The Sky is Crying," it features Albert's masterful string bending technique. While it may be difficult to read, if you listen closely to the audio, and use the score as a guide, you shouldn't have too much trouble.

The lick starts off with notes from the V (Ab7) chord and moves on to the Db pentatonic minor scale, in patterns 1, 2 and 3. King moved along the fingerboard, as do most great guitarists, so you have to look to see which pattern you are in. It's fairly obvious if you take your time and look closely. The fingerings I give are my own. You should feel free to change any of them if it suits you.

This is from Albert's 1986 release, *The Best of Albert King* (Fantasy #DIDX 564). It's a great album, with Albert at his finest. Lots of great, extended solos.

Enjoy.
JG