

CELEBRATION DAY SOLO PRIMER

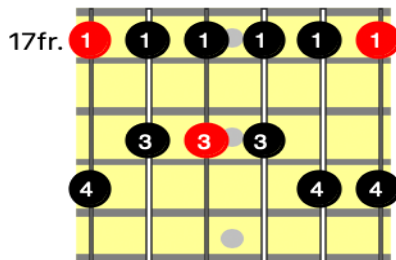
Scales Used

“Celebration Day” features a quick, powerful solo, and Page gets it all from the root-position A minor pentatonic scale at the 17th fret and the same position one octave lower at the 5th fret.

As with most solos, he does not use the entire scale position—just a portion of it. However, it is always a good idea to know the complete scale shape. Who knows? It just might come in handy!

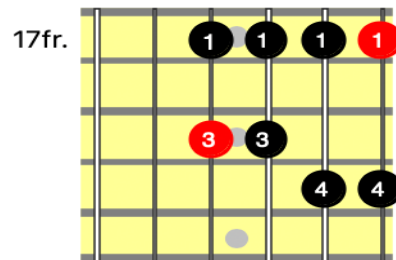
The full scale.

Fig 1.



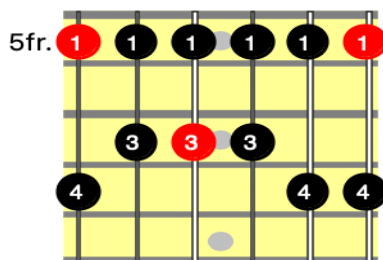
The part Page uses

Fig 2



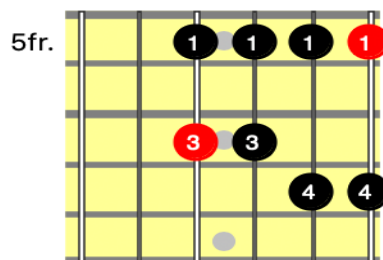
The full scale.

Fig 3.



The part Page uses

Fig 4



Essential Techniques

You cannot be tripping over your fingers trying to execute fast techniques while thinking, “Uh-oh, what lick comes next?” If you want to match Page’s speed, ease of playing, and feel in this solo, the notes and techniques have to flow naturally..

Isolating and practicing particular techniques used in a solo helps speed up the process of memorizing and playing it at tempo with flow and ease.

Techniques used in this solo are:

1. Quick In Tune Bends

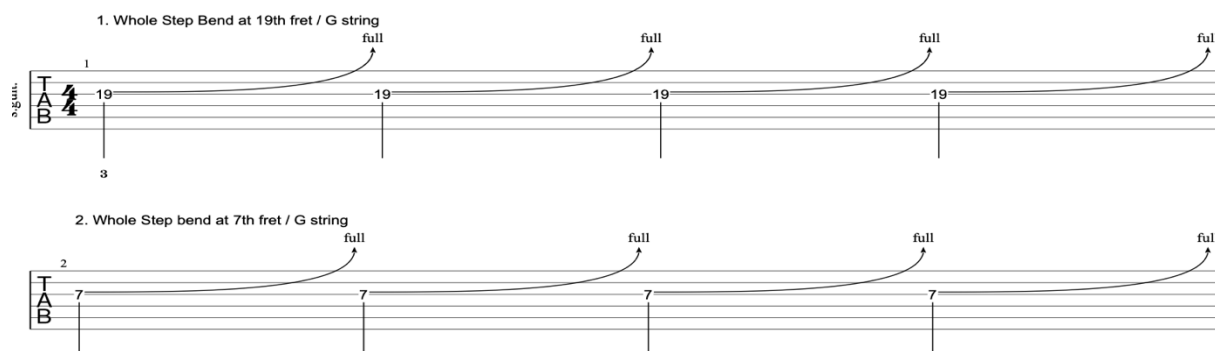
Good bending technique is essential for any rock or blues solo. For anyone beginning rock guitar or trying to improve your bending technique, these tips will help a lot.

- hook the thumb slightly over the top of the neck.
- do not rely solely on finger strength. **ALWAYS use more than one finger.**
- turn the wrist and push the string up. **Do not flatten your fingers, keep them curved while your wrist turns.**

Watch my video again and pay close attention to what my hand is doing during the bends.

I also highly recommend watching any other favorite, Page, Clapton, Hendrix, Gilmour, Slash, etc, solo and you will see exactly what I am describing.

In this solo Page is bending the G string at the 19th fret and G at the 7th fret.



Practice these slowly. Keep them even and in tune.

2. Fast Hammer- Ons / Pull - Off Sequences

Fast hammer – on pull- off sequences are a major part of Page’s solo technique.

Listen to the solos in “The Song Remains the Same”, “The Lemmon Song”, “Since I’ve Been Loving You”, “Rock and Roll” and “The Rover” to name a few, and you will hear them all over the place.

The note you are hammering on to should be as close to the same volume as the note being picked. The Same goes for a pull off, strive to keep the notes smooth, connected, and consistent in volume.

3. Hammer On Pull Off Lick at 17th fret

4. Pull Offs at 5th fret

3. Hammer On Pull Off Lick at 5th fret

Practice Before Playing the Full Solo

Getting your hands familiar with the locations of the scales and techniques used will go a long way to helping you play the solo.

These are techniques and scales that are used in countless rock solos. Isolating and practicing them will certainly help with any other tune you choose to tackle.

Good luck, ROCK ON!

Joe