

Thriller – Michael Jackson

Warning: This one is TOUGH! The tempo is a mid-tempo, but you can use 118 or 119 to get close. It's actually 118.4. Weird huh? Other important notes to remember are that I removed the Vincent Price speaking part. Overall this is a 'different' take on the song because there is simply NO WAY to play this song as a solo guitarist and make it work without changing a few things. This version will work as a stand-alone version, but the vocals are quite challenging. I basically applied this to a more standardized 4/4 approach. Of course 'call and response' from backup vocalists are not included here because it is just entirely too difficult. Get ready for a finger workout.

Strumming Pattern: While it could vary a bit, the overall pattern should be played like this:

DDD, DU, UD, DUDU (mutes are optional and are a little confusing to explain so just try to follow along with me.)

Chords Used:

You'll notice a * beside a few chords. These denote the same chord in a different position. You may wonder why I chose the same chords in different positions, but as you pay attention to the chords both before and after the chord in a different position you'll see why. I tried to make it as easy to move around with as possible. It's still pretty tough.

Bbm : x-1-3-3-2-1
F# : 2-4-4-3-2-2
F : 1-3-3-2-1-1
Eb : x-6-8-8-x-x
Bbm* : 6-8-8-6-6-6
C# : x-4-6-6-x-x
F* : x-8-10-10-x-x (really just F5)

Intro: Bbm – F# - F

(F) Bbm F# F Bbm F# F
It's close to midnight and something evil's lurking in the dark
(F) Bbm F# F Bbm F# F
Under the moonlight, you see a sight that almost stops your heart
Eb Bbm*
You try to scream but terror takes the sound before you make it
Eb Bbm*
You start to freeze as horror looks you right between the eyes
F
You're paralyzed!
Bbm C# Eb Bbm*
'Cause this is thriller, thriller night

Eb F*
 And no one's gonna save you from the beast about to strike
 Bbm C# Eb Bbm*
 You know it's thriller, thriller night
 Eb F# Eb Bbm F# F - Bbm F# F
 You're fighting for your life inside a killer, thriller tonight
 (F) Bbm F# F Bbm F# F
 You hear the door slam and realize there's nowhere left to run
 (F) Bbm F# F Bbm F# F
 You feel the cold hand and wonder if you'll ever see the sun
 Eb Bbm*
 You close your eyes and hope that this is just imagination, girl!
 Eb Bbm*
 But all the while you hear the creature creeping up behind
 F
 You're out of time!
 Bbm C# Eb Bbm*
 'Cause this is thriller, thriller night
 Eb F*
 There ain't no second chance against the thing with forty eyes, girl
 Bbm C# Eb Bbm*
 Thriller, thriller night
 Eb F# Eb Bbm
 You're fighting for your life inside a killer, thriller tonight!
 F# F Bbm F# F Bbm
 Night creatures calling, the dead start to walk in their masquerade
 F# F Bbm F# F
 There's no escaping the jaws of the alien this time
 (...this is the end of your life!)
 (F) Bbm F# F Bbm F# F
 They're out to get you, there's demons closing in on every side
 (F) Bbm F# F Bbm F# F
 They will possess you unless you change that number on your dial
 Eb Bbm*
 Now is the time for you and I to cuddle close together, yeah
 Eb Bbm*
 All through the night I'll save you from the terror on the screen
 F
 I'll make you see!
 Bbm C# Eb Bbm*
 That this is thriller, thriller night
 Eb F*

'Cause I can thrill you more than any ghost would ever dare try

Bbm C# Eb Bbm*

Thriller, thriller night

Eb

So let me hold you tight and share a

F# Eb F# F

Killer, diller, chiller, thriller here.....

Bbm C# Eb Bbm*

'Cause this is thriller, thriller night

Eb

F*

Girl, I can thrill you more than any ghost would ever dare try

Bbm C# Eb Bbm*

Thriller, thriller night

Eb

F#

Eb

F#

F Bbm

So let me hold you tight and share a killer, thriller, ow!