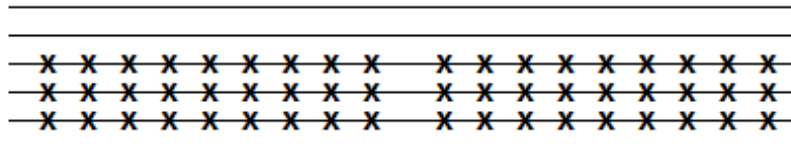


Quick Notes: "Voodoo Child (Slight Return)" by Jimi Hendrix

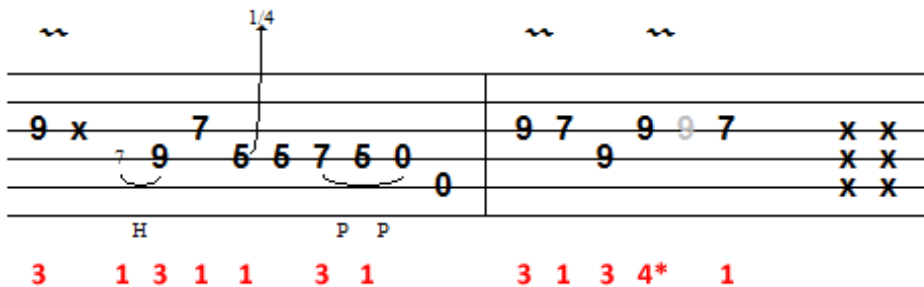
Tempo: 88 bpm

We would ALL love to play everything Hendrix played note-for-note, right? Well, that's why we aren't Hendrix (ha ha). But, when we consider the main framework of a song such as this, we can actually narrow down the basic essence of the song. In the case of "Voodoo Child" - it really revolves around one riff that has been phrased out a little. Here's the material I covered in this lesson:

The scratchy muted intro:

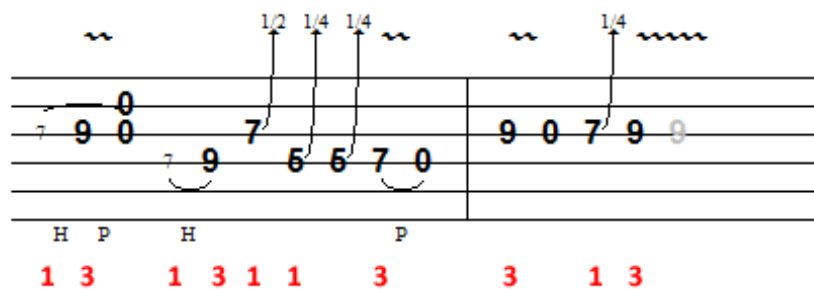


While I could've gone through specifically what he did in this part, I think that once you grab the PDF you will understand why I didn't. There are a few time changes in it, and quite a few odd little ideas that would take entirely too much time to explain – and we're not really PLAYING anything here. You can just mute your strings as seen above (or do what I did and mute the higher strings around the 12th or 13th fret) and "strum" something along the lines of: DUDUDU along with the beat that is provided. You do this for a little while and then begin the first phrase, which is found below:



The 4* above could be fingered with your 3rd finger if you wanted. That's what I did a few times because it hints back at what you start off with in terms of the phrase before it.

Here's the second phrase, which isn't much different than from above:



This one starts off with a 7th fret hammer-on, but it's quick and mostly just expressive. While you can bend the 7th fret a 1/2 step, a slightly aggressive attack on the string will likely give you that anyway.

The third phrase, as you can guess, isn't too much different either:

3 1 3 1 1 3 1 1 3 1 3 1 3 3 1

The fourth phrase is where we begin changing things up just slightly:

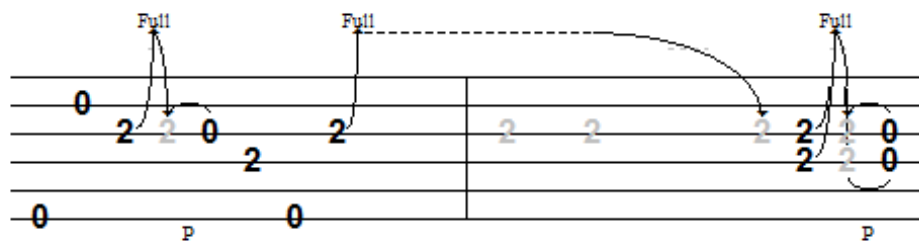
3 1 3 1 1 3 1 3 3 1 3 3* 1 2

Traditional fingerings would likely indicate the 3* as a 4th finger bend (with your 3rd backing it up) but I used my 3rd finger (with my 2nd finger backing it up) because I'm a weirdo. The final part that I included here is based on the section below which is that bluesy E realm of things and an emphasis on expression:

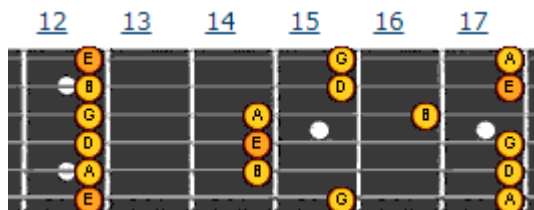
0 0 0 0 3 0 2 2 2 0 2 2 0 0 0 0

I think this is mostly self-explanatory, as you are just forming an overall “E” shape. The final measure above is a full step bend on the 14th fret (G string) and I would use my 2nd finger. After that you have a ½ step bend on the 14th fret of the D string, so stack your 3rd finger behind (and above) the 2nd finger (like an A Major/minor shape) to get that bend series down. After that you can just let the 12th fret ring a bit with your 1st finger.

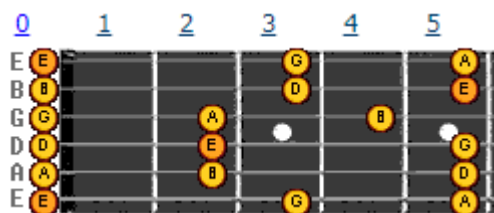
The next part I covered is this, and while it wasn't explained in the video, it's just a much longer and “held” bend like from directly above:



When it comes to doing ANYTHING else in the song itself, you are free to check out the craziness that IS Hendrix, or you can focus in on the overall area with which he played, which is below:



This snippet is the higher end of the E Pentatonic minor. You can actually play some of the “lower” end of it as well, which is shown further below:



THIS snippet is 100% identical to above, so it's a great alternative to those hard-to-reach locations. When you examine the PDF you will see this area played from time to time as well.

Final Thoughts: Have fun with this. Listen to the backing track. Take it slow. Look for those Hendrixisms and consider what you might do with them. The main idea behind everything in the intro is really just the makeup of the first phrase, so that alone should get you through as a basic template.