



Three Iconic Rock Guitar Riffs - 1950's

Hello friends, in today's session I'll be sharing with you three rock and roll riffs that serve as excellent warmups. These riffs were chosen for their iconic status, ease of playing, and practice benefits. Let's get started!

Riff #1 - Richie Valens "La Bamba" (Key of C)

This intro riff from 1958 shows how basic chords can be implied with a catchy melody.

	G	C	F	G		C	F	G
E	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
B	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
G	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
D	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
A	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
E	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	& 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Riff #2 - Eddie Cochran "Summertime Blues" (Key of E)

Recorded in March of 1958, this intro riff is an example of how a basic progression can be embellished with percussive "muted strums." Be sure to practice this riff slowly, while tapping your foot and counting.

	E		A	B	E
E	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
B	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
G	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
D	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
A	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
E	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

	E	A	B	E
E	-----	-----	-----	-----
B	-----	-----	-----	-----
G	-----	-----	-----	-----
D	-----	-----	-----	-----
A	-----	-----	-----	-----
E	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Riff #3 - The Everly Brothers "Bye Bye Love" (Key of A)

Recorded in March of 1957, this riff was the world's introduction to The Everly Brothers and is another example of how basic progressions can be made more memorable with the right rhythm and percussive techniques.

	A
E	-----
B	-----
G	-----
D	-----
A	-----
E	-----
	1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &