

## Why Brian May's Solo In "Bohemian Rhapsody" Is THAT Good

with Ayla Tesler-Mabe

### Opening Lick:

Musical notation for the Opening Lick, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes a quarter note on G4, followed by a dotted quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. The tablature below shows fret numbers 8, 10, (10), 8, 11, and 8. A 'P' (palm mute) is indicated above the notes on frets 10 and 11. A 'full' pickup is indicated above the final note on fret 11.

### Second Lick:

Musical notation for the Second Lick, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes a quarter note on G4, followed by a dotted quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. The tablature below shows fret numbers 13, 15, 16, 13, 15, 16, and 16. A 'full' pickup is indicated above the final note on fret 16.

### Third Lick:

Musical notation for the Third Lick, showing a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes a quarter note on G4, followed by a dotted quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, and a quarter note on C5. The tablature below shows fret numbers 16, 17, 18, 15, 16, 18, and 18. A 'full' pickup is indicated above the final note on fret 18.

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### Fourth Lick:

Fourth Lick: Musical notation and guitar tablature. The lick consists of a series of notes with triplets and hammer-ons/pull-offs. The tablature shows fret numbers: 18, 16, 15, 16, 15, 16, 15, 18, 15, 18, 16, 15, 16, 15, 16, 15, 17, 15, 15, (15). The notation includes triplets and is marked with 'H' (hammer-on) and 'P' (pull-off) above the notes. A 'full' pickup is indicated at the start.

### Fifth Lick:

Fifth Lick: Musical notation and guitar tablature. The lick consists of a series of notes with triplets. The tablature shows fret numbers: X, 15, 17, 15, 16, 18, 15, 16, 18, 15, 17, 15, 16, 18, 15, 16, 18, 18. The notation includes triplets and is marked with 'full' at the end.

### Sixth Lick:

Sixth Lick: Musical notation and guitar tablature. The lick consists of a series of notes with triplets. The tablature shows fret numbers: (18), 15, 16, 13, 15, 16, 13, 15, 16, 16. The notation includes triplets and is marked with 'full' at the end.

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## Seventh Lick:

The Seventh Lick is written in a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals, including a double flat (bb) and a flat (b). A wavy line above the staff indicates a vibrato effect. The guitar tablature (TAB) below shows the fret numbers: 16, 10, 12, 13, 13, 14, 14, 14, 14, 14. A 'full' dynamic marking is placed above the 10th fret. The TAB is labeled 'T A B' on the left side.

## Eighth Lick:

The Eighth Lick is written in a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals, including a double flat (bb) and a flat (b). A wavy line above the staff indicates a vibrato effect. The guitar tablature (TAB) below shows the fret numbers: 6, (6), 7, 6, 9, 7. 'H' and 'P' markings are placed above and below the notes, likely indicating harmonic and pinch techniques. The TAB is labeled 'T A B' on the left side.

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### Full Solo:

The image displays a guitar score for Brian May's solo in "Bohemian Rhapsody". It is written in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score is divided into four systems, each consisting of a musical staff and a guitar tablature staff. The musical staff uses a treble clef and includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *P* (piano), and *full*. The tablature staff shows fret numbers and includes techniques like palm muting (marked with 'x'), triplets, and bends. The solo begins at measure 8 and ends at measure 21. The notation includes various articulations like slurs, accents, and vibrato, as well as specific fretting instructions like 'full' and 'H P' (harmonic/pedal point).