

My Top 10 Slap Bass Riffs #1

♩ = 200

play 3x

0 0 5 0 7 0 0 5 0 7 0 0 5 0 7 0 0 5 0 7

7

0 0 5 0 7 0 0 5 0 7 0 0 12 12 13

'Nobody Weird Like Me' by Red Hot Chili Peppers

This frantic, up-tempo slap line is played during the Intro and Verse sections of this track, which appeared on the 1989 Red Hot Chili Peppers album *Mothers Milk*. This is a great example of the hyperactive slap playing that Flea was known for in the band's early years.

This riff is a great example of a line which sounds incredibly difficult to play, but which is actually simpler than it might seem. Throughout this part you'll be slapping the open D-string, and popping the C and D notes on the G-string. This is done with a triplet rhythm, and the key to mastering the line is getting the thumb to 'bounce' off of the D-string in between the popped notes - this is demonstrated in the video.

In the final bar of the line (just before the drums enter), Flea moves up the neck and pops the G, then hammers-on to the A^b. This means that you'll have the sound of the A^b against the open D, which is a tritone, or diminished fifth interval. This is a very colourful sound, and works perfectly here.

It's likely that Flea used a Music Man bass on this track, and so I did the same for the video lesson. The bass that I used was a Music Man Sterling SUB bass, a wallet-friendly alternative the more expensive Stingray models. Although it's a more-affordable instrument, it still retains that distinctive Music Man tone.