

# The Pedals That Make The Tone

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## "BEAT IT" MICHAEL JACKSON

As heard on **THRILLER** (EPIC)

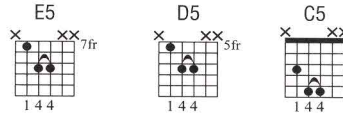
Words and Music by **Michael Jackson** \* Transcribed by **Dave Whitehill and Jeff Perrin**



Guitars are tuned down one half step (low to high, **E $\flat$  A $\flat$  D $\flat$  G $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$ ).**

Bass tuning, low to high: **E $\flat$  A $\flat$  D $\flat$  G $\flat$ .**

All pitches sound in the key of **E $\flat$  minor**, one half step lower than written.



**A** Intro (0:00) N.C.(Em) (D) (Em) (D) (Em)

(synth and drum machine)

\*Gtr. 1 (elec. w/dist.)

Gtr. 2 (elec. w/dist.)

1 **13** P.M. ---

Gtr. 1

\*doubled throughout

Bass

Bass Fig. 1

end Bass Fig. 1

(D) (Em) (D)

Gtr. 2

P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.

Gtr. 1

Bass

Bass Fig. 2

end Bass Fig. 2

**B** Verses (0:38, 1:26)

1. They told him don't you ever come around here Don't want to see your face you better disappear The  
 2. They're out to get you better leave while you can Don't want to be a boy you want to be a man You

Gtr. 1

Rhy. Fig. 3

23

\*repeat previous chord

Bass

Bass Fig. 3

fire's in their eyes and their words are really clear so beat it just beat it  
 want to stay alive better do what you can so beat it just beat it

27 end Rhy. Fig. 1

You better run you better do what you can Don't want to see no blood don't be a macho man You  
 You have to show them that you're really not scared You're playing with your life this ain't no truth or dare They'll

Gr. 1 repeats Rhy. Fig. 1 (see bar 23)  
 Gr. 2 (dist. off)

31 (repeat previous two bars)

want to be tough better do what you can so beat it but you want to be bad Just  
 kick you then they beat you then they'll tell you it's fair so beat it but you want to be bad Just

35 Gr. 1

end Bass Fig. 3

**C** Chorus (1:06, 1:54)

beat it (Beat it) Beat it (Beat it) No one wants to be defeated Showin'  
 (D) (Em) (D) (Em)

39 Gr. 1

Bass plays Bass Fig. 1 twice (see bar 15)

how funky and strong is your fight It doesn't matter who's wrong or right Just  
 (D) (Em) (D) (Em)

Gr. 2 plays Fill 1 four times (see below)

2nd time on 2nd Chorus, skip ahead to **D** Interlude  
 omit repeat on 1st Chorus (continue ahead to bar 47)

43 \*

Bass substitutes Bass Fig. 2 on repeat of 2nd Chorus (see bar 19)

\*Don't play note in parenthesis 2nd time on 2nd Chorus.

Fill 1 (1:13, 2:01, 2:15, 3:24, 3:38, 3:52, 4:06)  
 Gr. 2 (dist. off)

go back to **B** 2nd Verse

beat it (Beat it) Just beat it (Beat it) Just beat it (Beat it) Just beat it (Beat it) Just beat it (Beat it) Ooh

(D) (Em) (D)

47 Gtr. 1

Bass plays Bass Fig. 1 twice (see bar 15)

**D Interlude (2:22)**

(1.) beat it beat it beat it (E5)

(2.) beat it beat it beat it

beat it beat it beat it

Gtr. 1

Rhy. Fig. 2

51

Gtr. 1 plays Rhy. Fig. 2 four times (see bar 51)

Gtr. 3 (elec. w/dist.)

(1st time) Beat it beat it beat it

play 2nd time -  
\*w/bar -10 grad. bend

\*Depress bar prior to picking note.

55

Gtr. 2 (w/dist.) P.M. -1 P.M. -1 P.M. -1 P.M. -1

\*Note is played 2nd time only.

**E Guitar Solo (2:49)**

E5

D5

Gtr. 1 plays Rhy. Fig. 1 twice (see bar 23)

Gtr. 3 (Eddie Van Halen)

59

Bass plays Bass Fig. 3 (see bar 23)

pitch: A

\*Use pick-hand middle finger to tap harmonic at 14th fret.

E5

D5

61

Verse

63 C5 D5  
12 15 19 12 19 15 12 19 12 19 15 12 15 12 19 15 12 15 12 19 15 12 12 14 (14) 12 15 (15) (15) 12 15

65 E5 D5 w/bar -2 1/2 P.H. w/bar V  
19 22 15 12 19 22 15 12 14 (14) (14) 12 0 (0) (0) (0) 9 (9) 7 9 (9) 7 (7)

pitch: E

67 E5 D5 E5 D5  
3 5 (5) 3 0 5 (5) 3 0 5 (5) (5) 3 0 5 (5) 3 0 P.H. 2 (2) (2) 16 13 12 15 12 12 15 (15) 12 12

pitch: E

70 C5 D5  
14 (14) 12 14 (14) (14) 15 8 13 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 8 12 15 12 14 17

72 E5 D5 (Em)  
10 17 10 17 10 8 0 12 15 (12) 12 14 15 17 (17) 19 (19) 21

trem. pick

grad. bend

**F** **Outro Chorus** (3:17)

Beat it (Beat it) Beat it (Beat it) No one wants to be defeated Showin'

(D) (Em) (D) (Em)

Gr. 3 (play 1st time only)

75 21 21 21 19

pick scrape

Gr. 1

(0) 3 2 5 2 2 4 (4) 2 0 0 0 (0) 3 2 5 2 2 4 (4) 2 0 0

Bass plays Bass Fig. 1 until fade (see bar 15)

how funky and strong is your fight It doesn't matter who's wrong or right Just

(D) (Em) (D) (Em)

Gr. 2 plays Fill 1 four times (see 2nd page)

Gr. 1

79 (repeat previous four bars)

4