
1 *The Basics*

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SHARPS, FLATS AND ENHARMONICS

\flat = flat	Note is lowered by one fret, 1/2 step
\sharp = sharp	Note is raised by one fret, 1/2 step
\natural = natural	Used to cancel a previous sharp or flat instruction

The Chromatic Scale	All 12 notes
The Ascending Chromatic Scale	A A \sharp B C C \sharp D D \sharp E F F \sharp G G \sharp A
The Descending Chromatic Scale	A A \flat G G \flat F E E \flat D D \flat C B B \flat A
Enharmonic Equivalents	Same note with two names
Example:	(A \sharp & B \flat) (C \sharp & D \flat) (D \sharp & E \flat) (F \sharp & G \flat) (G \sharp & A \flat) (B \sharp & C) (B & C \flat) (F & E \sharp)

Exercises

Practice drawing and saying the alphabet A through G forwards, backwards, and every other letter.

Using workbook pages 129 through 136, draw and recite chromatic scales starting from each note.

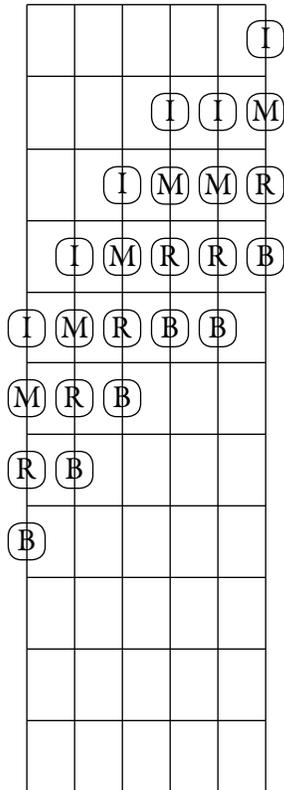
SYMMETRICAL SCALES AND TECHNIQUE



Symmetrical Scales are groups of evenly spaced notes.

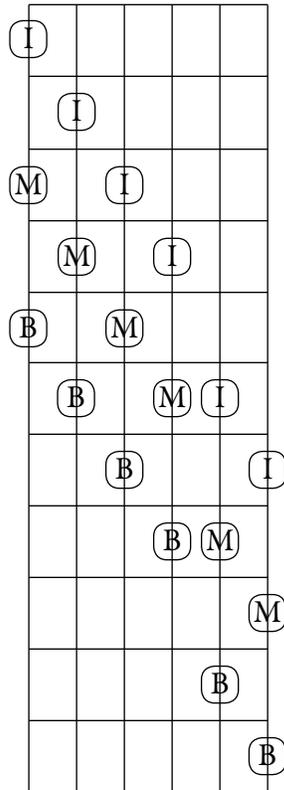
Chromatic Scale

All 12 notes, spaced
apart by 1/2 steps



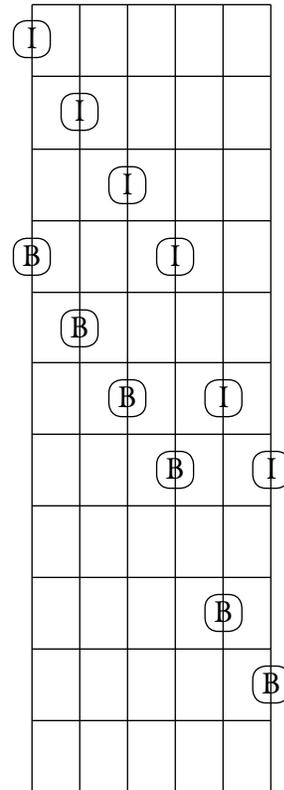
Whole-Tone Scale

Whole steps



Diminished Scale

1-1/2 steps, minor 3rds



Exercises

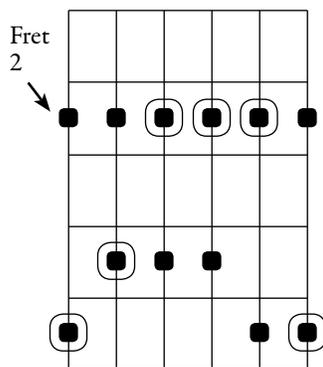
Using workbook pages 137 through 142, draw the Symmetrical Scales.

PENTATONIC SCALES

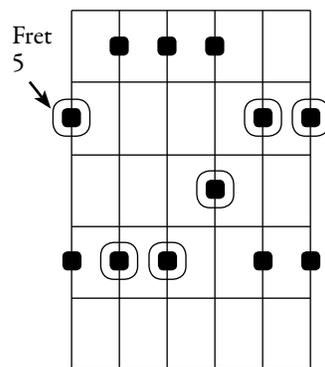


- Are the most universal scales
- Lay well on the fretboard
- Provide an open sound with great harmonic strength
- Are able to assume many harmonic identities
- When layered over with blues scales, provide wide range of possibilities

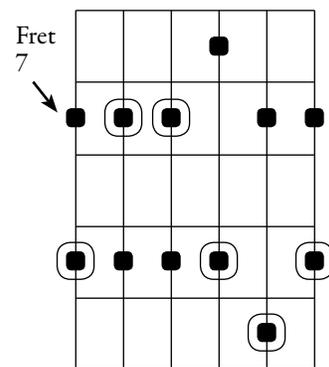
Example of Pentatonic Scales in the key of A



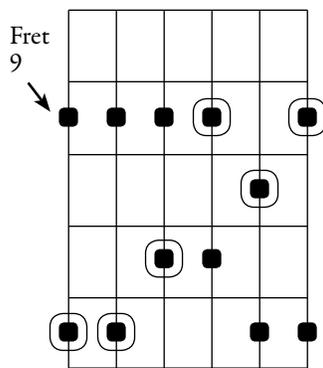
AEO - PENT
"G" Shaped



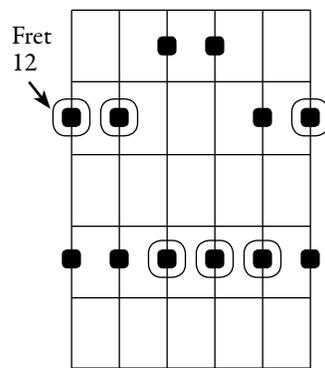
IO - PENT
"E" Shaped



DORI - PENT
"D" Shaped



LYDI - PENT
"C" Shaped



MIXO - PENT
"A" Shaped

Exercises



Practice drawing chord shapes.

Play chord shapes and scales.

Break the patterns into parts and develop licks.

Advanced: Play as 4ths (two adjacent notes at once).

Using workbook pages 143 through 155, draw the pentatonic scale patterns and their corresponding chord shapes.

METRONOME PRACTICE



Time is everything! Tell yourself this every day for life!

GET ONE — BUY ONE — STEAL ONE!

Exercises

Practice playing the following with a metronome:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| M.M. 200 | Play 1/2 notes (one note equals two ticks) |
| M.M. 120 | Play 1/4 notes (one note equals one tick) |
| M.M. 120 | Play 1/8 notes (two notes equal one tick) |
| M.M. 120 | Play 1/8 notes with swing feel (doo-ba) |

Repeat the above, playing in between the metronome ticks.

GENERAL PRACTICE TIPS

Warm up slowly with the symmetrical scales for three or four minutes.

Practice drawing what you are working on.

Isolate your weaknesses and allow them more time.

Keep a practice journal.

Save “getting off” for after practice.

Remember that two minutes of concentrated effort on a difficult passage is the equivalent of 15 to 20 minutes of song repetition.

Don't get discouraged! It is not uncommon for people to have difficulty assimilating this new information and incorporating it into their playing repertoire. Most people who embark upon concentrated studies of this nature tend to lose perspective on their growth rate. This is totally normal! A little faith and patience will help a lot.