

## Pentatonic Scales for Jazz

The Pentatonic scale is a 5 note scale.

We will take a look at the Major Pentatonic Scale and the Relative Minor Pentatonic scale.

The notes of the C Major Pentatonic Scale are : C D E G A

The notes of the A Minor Pentatonic Scale are: A C D E G

Notice that both scales have the same notes.

The Pentatonic Scale Exercise can be applied both the Major and Minor Pentatonic Scale.

The Minor Pentatonic Scale is commonly used in Blues and songs with a Bluesy feel.

The following songs are examples of melodies built on the Minor Pentatonic Scale:

*Sonny's Blues* by Sonny Rollins

*Bag's Groove* by Milt Jackson,

*Sugar* by Stanley Turrentine

# Major & Minor Pentatonic Scales

C Major Pentatonic Scale    A Minor Pentatonic Scale    G Major Pentatonic Scale    E Minor Pentatonic Scale

This row contains four pentatonic scales in treble clef. The C Major Pentatonic scale (C4-D4-E4-F4-G4) is shown with a natural key signature. The A Minor Pentatonic scale (A3-B3-C4-D4-E4) is shown with a natural key signature. The G Major Pentatonic scale (G3-A3-B3-C4-D4) is shown with one sharp (F#). The E Minor Pentatonic scale (E3-F3-G3-A3-B3) is shown with a natural key signature.

D Major Pentatonic Scale    B Minor Pentatonic Scale    A Major Pentatonic Scale    F# Minor Pentatonic Scale

This row contains four pentatonic scales in treble clef. The D Major Pentatonic scale (D4-E4-F#4-G4-A4) is shown with two sharps (F# and C#). The B Minor Pentatonic scale (B3-C4-D4-E4-F#4) is shown with two sharps (F# and C#). The A Major Pentatonic scale (A3-B3-C#4-D4-E4) is shown with three sharps (F#, C#, and G#). The F# Minor Pentatonic scale (F#3-G3-A3-B3-C#4) is shown with three sharps (F#, C#, and G#).

E Major Pentatonic Scale    C# Minor Pentatonic Scale    B Major Pentatonic Scale    G# Minor Pentatonic Scale

This row contains four pentatonic scales in treble clef. The E Major Pentatonic scale (E4-F#4-G#4-A4-B4) is shown with four sharps (F#, C#, G#, and D#). The C# Minor Pentatonic scale (C#3-D3-E3-F#3-G#3) is shown with four sharps (F#, C#, G#, and D#). The B Major Pentatonic scale (B3-C#4-D4-E4-F#4) is shown with four sharps (F#, C#, G#, and D#). The G# Minor Pentatonic scale (G#3-A3-B3-C#4) is shown with four sharps (F#, C#, G#, and D#).

F Major Pentatonic Scale    D Minor Pentatonic Scale    Bb Major Pentatonic Scale    G Minor Pentatonic Scale

This row contains four pentatonic scales in treble clef. The F Major Pentatonic scale (F3-G3-A3-Bb3-C4) is shown with one flat (Bb). The D Minor Pentatonic scale (D3-E3-F3-G3-A3) is shown with a natural key signature. The Bb Major Pentatonic scale (Bb3-C4-D4-E4-F4) is shown with two flats (Bb and Eb). The G Minor Pentatonic scale (G2-A2-B2-C3-D3) is shown with a natural key signature.

Eb Major Pentatonic Scale    C Minor Pentatonic Scale    Ab Major Pentatonic Scale    F Minor Pentatonic Scale

This row contains four pentatonic scales in treble clef. The Eb Major Pentatonic scale (Eb3-F3-G3-Ab3-Bb3) is shown with three flats (Bb, Eb, and Ab). The C Minor Pentatonic scale (C3-D3-E3-F3-G3) is shown with a natural key signature. The Ab Major Pentatonic scale (Ab3-Bb3-C4-D4-Eb4) is shown with four flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, and Db). The F Minor Pentatonic scale (F3-G3-Ab3-Bb3) is shown with four flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, and Db).

Db Major Pentatonic Scale    Bb Minor Pentatonic Scale    Gb Major Pentatonic Scale    Eb Minor Pentatonic Scale

This row contains four pentatonic scales in treble clef. The Db Major Pentatonic scale (Db3-Eb3-F3-Gb3-Ab3) is shown with five flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, and Gb). The Bb Minor Pentatonic scale (Bb3-C4-D4-Eb4) is shown with five flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, and Gb). The Gb Major Pentatonic scale (Gb3-Ab3-Bb3-C4-Db4) is shown with six flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, and Cb). The Eb Minor Pentatonic scale (Eb3-F3-G3-Ab3) is shown with six flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, and Cb).

# Pentatonic Scale Exercise

C Major/A Minor

Two staves of musical notation for the C Major/A Minor pentatonic scale exercise. The first staff shows the ascending scale: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5. The second staff shows the descending scale: C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

G Major/E Minor

Two staves of musical notation for the G Major/E Minor pentatonic scale exercise. The first staff shows the ascending scale: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The second staff shows the descending scale: G5, F5, E5, D5, C5, B4, A4, G4. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 4/4.

D Major/B Minor

Two staves of musical notation for the D Major/B Minor pentatonic scale exercise. The first staff shows the ascending scale: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C#5, D5. The second staff shows the descending scale: D5, C#5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is 4/4.

A Major/F# Minor

Two staves of musical notation for the A Major/F# Minor pentatonic scale exercise. The first staff shows the ascending scale: A4, B4, C#5, D5, E5, F#5, G#5, A5. The second staff shows the descending scale: A5, G#5, F#5, E5, D5, C#5, B4, A4. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, and G#) and the time signature is 4/4.

F Major/D Minor

Two staves of musical notation for F Major/D Minor. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff continues the melodic line, ending with a repeat sign.

Bb Major/G Minor

Two staves of musical notation for Bb Major/G Minor. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb), and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff continues the melodic line, ending with a repeat sign.

Eb Major/C Minor

Two staves of musical notation for Eb Major/C Minor. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab), and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff continues the melodic line, ending with a repeat sign.

Ab Major/F Minor

Two staves of musical notation for Ab Major/F Minor. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of four flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db), and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with a repeat sign at the beginning. The second staff continues the melodic line, ending with a repeat sign.