

Major Scales

POWER WORKOUT

intermediate

Major scales are the building blocks for all of music. Think of scales as the letters of the alphabet which we then use to create music. Major scales can be played in a myriad of forms on the guitar. This lesson focuses on one concept - playing every major scale for one octave in a single position on the guitar.

We are going to be in the 5th position - which means that the first finger is going to be at the 5th fret and the other fingers will play all of these scales within the 5th to the 10th fret. Each of these scales is formed from a root, with no open strings used - so all of these scale forms will be moveable. The diamond in the forms indicates the root. This power workout shows you how these scales and a few variations can be moved around the neck in order to play a major scale in any key any place on the neck.

The Ten Forms

There are ten scale finger forms that allow you to play any major scale anywhere on the neck. The scale forms are grouped by their root strings. Also, notice that roots are used for the 1st, 2nd, and 4th fingers but not the 3rd. Using the 3rd finger for a root for a major scale creates a very uncomfortable scale fingering that would be useless in any practical playing situation. So, in order to avoid this awkward form, some of the forms are used in two places to play two different scales. For example, the Bb major scale and the B major scale use the same form and the C major scale and C# major scale share a form.

Play the scales up and down in eighth notes repeating the top note and then move on to the next form working your way up the neck. Metronome in the lesson video is 80bpm.

Scales with Roots on 6th String

A	B\flat	C	D	E\flat	F

Scales with Roots on 4th String

G	A\flat	B\flat

Scales with Roots on 3rd String

C

The 1-2-3-1 Pattern

Now that you have played the scale forms up and down, let's add a simple 4-note pattern going up three steps and back to the starting note. This 4-note pattern will then be applied to each note of the scale in a particular form. The pattern starts on the A major scale in the first form playing the 1-2-3-1 pattern through all of the notes then continues through all of the keys. Metronome in the lesson video is 88bpm.

A 5fr



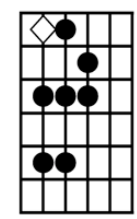


B \flat 5fr



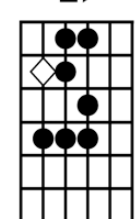


C 5fr

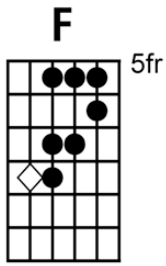



D 5fr

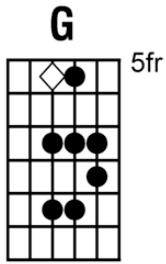
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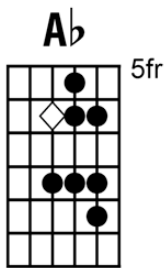
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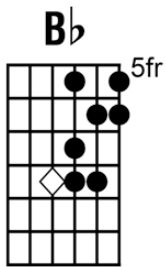
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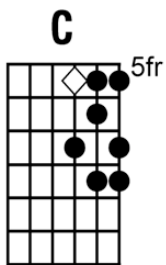
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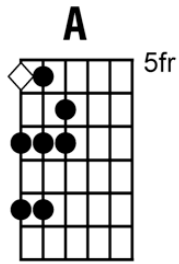
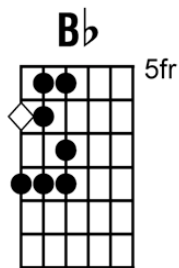
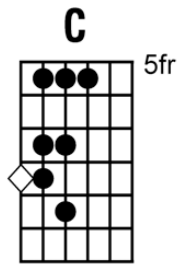
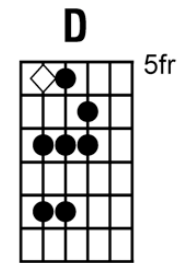
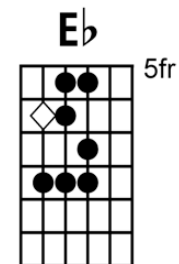


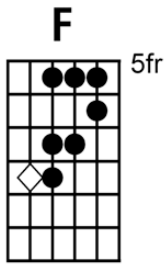
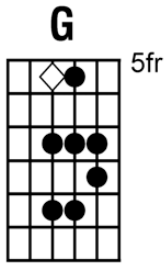
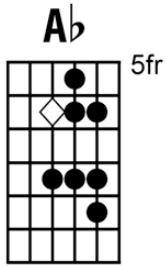
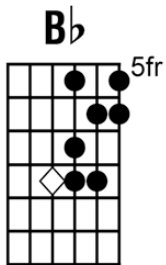
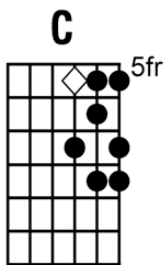
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Thirds

Another way to practice scales is by playing the scales in thirds. This is one of the more helpful patterns musically as many melodies are based in thirds. Here are the scales played in thirds. Metronome is at 96bpm.

For more ideas and instruction check out the award winning Gibson's Learn & Master Guitar course at www.LearnAndMaster.com and the lessons section at www.gibson.com for all the help you need to become the player you want to be!

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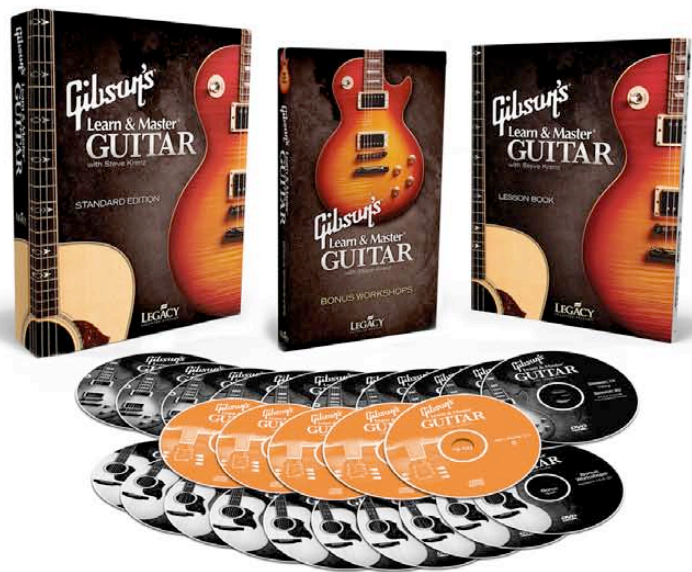
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