



# Six String Stories



## Ultimate Scale Guide

Every scale shape you'll ever need

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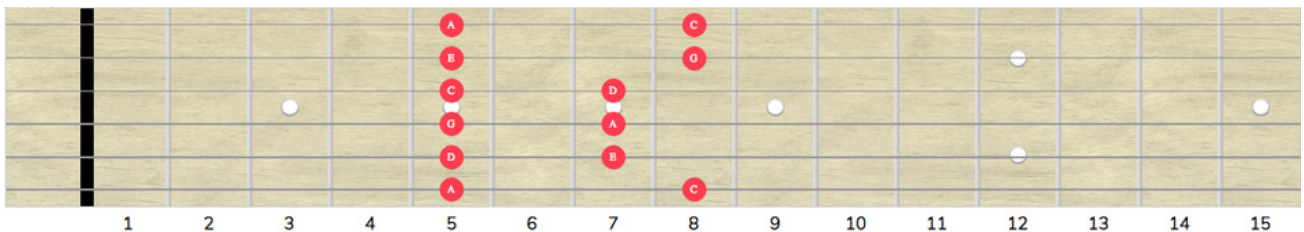


Welcome!

## Scales, scales and more scales...

Over the course of your guitar learning journey you will come across a lot of different scales. You'll come across different scale theories and different scale shapes. There are a lot of scales, so let me tell you what this guide is all about, by starting with what it is definitely not about!

It is NOT about learning every shape in this book. No no no, that would be painful! It is however the best scale reference boo you will ever see. So, when you learn a new scale with your tutor and want to master the shapes, you will find them here. Simple as that.



## Easy to read diagrams

Every single scale shape will be drawn out as shown above, in a nice easy to read fashion. This is a fretboard from above, and the red circles mark where the fingers need to go. Within the red circles you can see the actual notes you are playing as well, which can really help.

**IMPORTANT:** We do not cover any theory or application of scales in this book. We just keep it simple and show the scale shapes. How to apply and use them is up to you and your tutor!

## Moving shapes

In this ebook we will learn all scales in a single key. For example, if we were learning the Minor Pentatonic scale, we would learn it in G minor. All shapes that we learn are, of course, moveable. There is therefore no point listing the G#m pentatonic scales, or Am pentatonic scales as they are the same shapes just moved around the fretboard.

Just to be sure you understand this, **here are the basics**. The first note is the root of the scale. To change key, simply move that root note to another fret. Of course, that is simplified, but is a great starting point!

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# The chapters

Heres what we'll be looking at.

## **chapter 1 Pentatonic scales**

LEVEL 1 - MINOR PENTATONIC SCALES

LEVEL 2 - MAJOR PENTATONIC SCALES

## **chapter 2 Major & minor scales**

LEVEL 1 - MAJOR SCALE

LEVEL 2 - MINOR SCALE

## **chapter 3 Blues scales**

LEVEL 1 - THE BLUES SCALE

## **chapter 4 3 note per string scales**

LEVEL 1 - BASIC SHAPES

LEVEL 2 - MODAL SCALES

## **chapter 5 Modal scales**

LEVEL 1 - IONIAN & DORIAN

LEVEL 2 - PHRYGIAN & LYDIAN

LEVEL 3 - MIXOLYDIAN & AEOLIAN

LEVEL 4 - LOCRIAN

## **chapter 6 More advanced scales**

LEVEL 1 - HARMONIC MINOR

LEVEL 2 - CHROMATIC SCALE

LEVEL 3 - FURTHER SCALES...

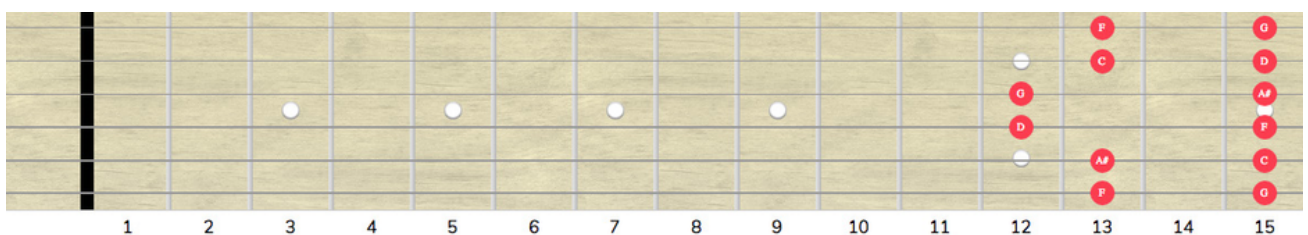
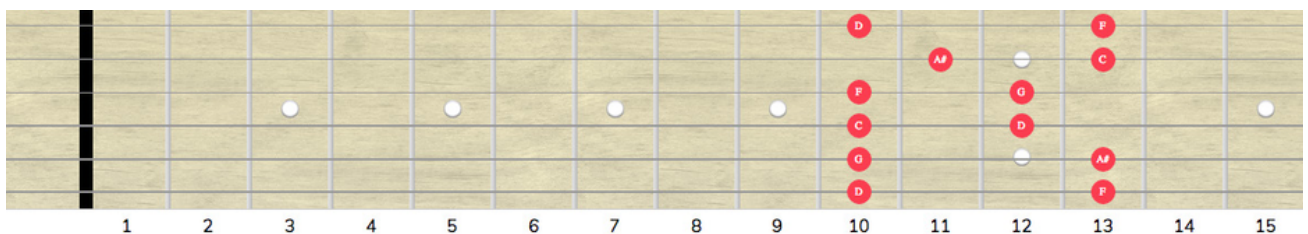
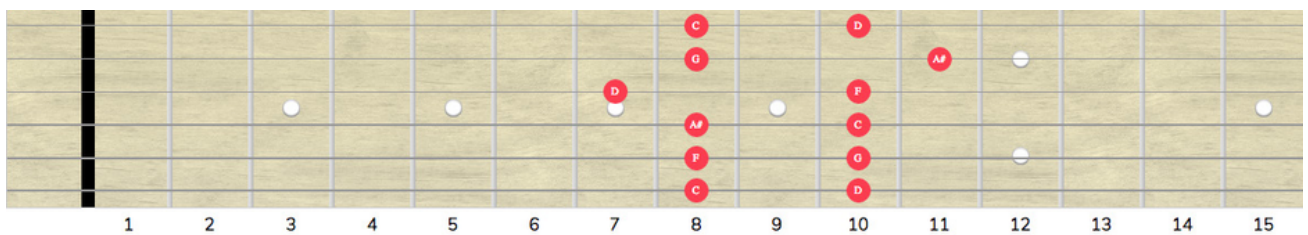
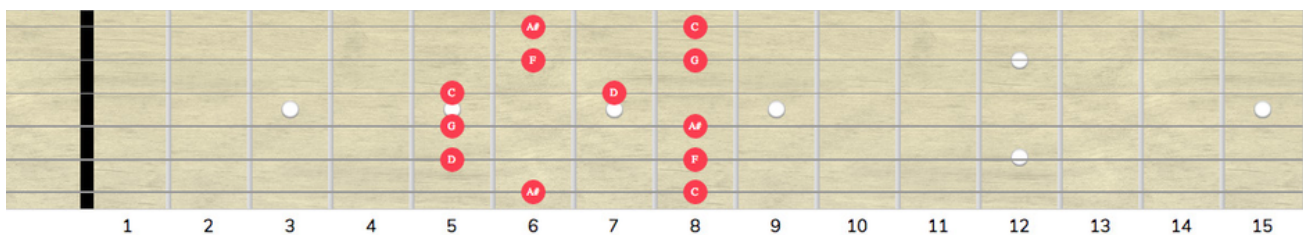
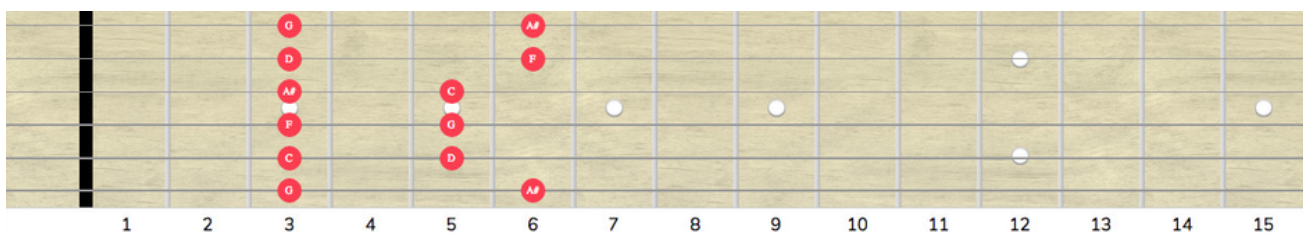
**section one**  
**pentatonic scales**

# Minor

Learning the minor pentatonic scales in the key of G.

## Scales shape 1-5

Here are the 5 shapes of the G minor pentatonic. Remember that we will only be learning the scales in this key, so just focus on the shapes. The theory can come in your lessons!



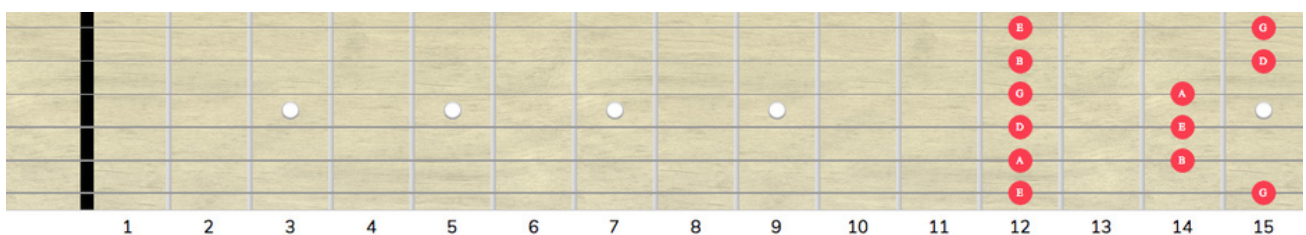
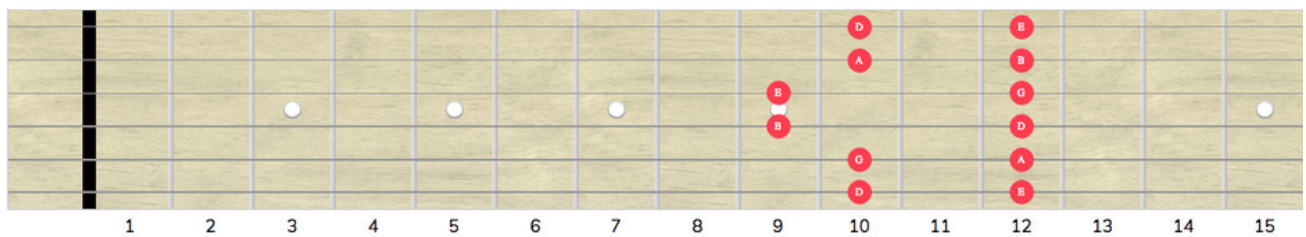
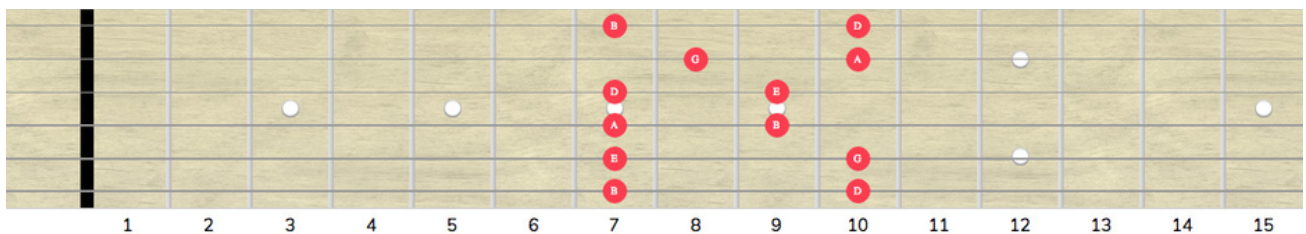
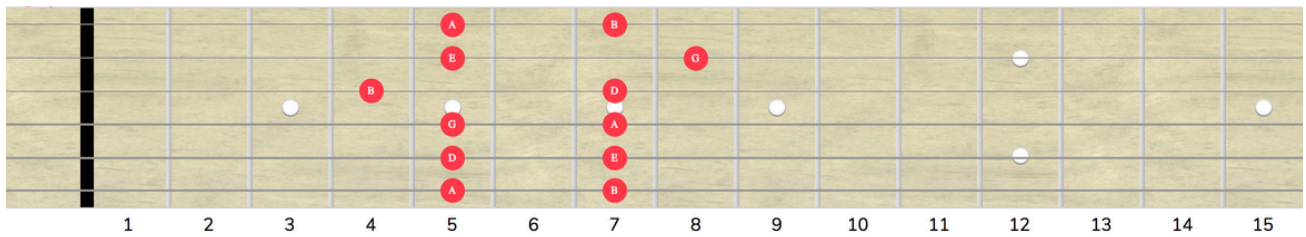
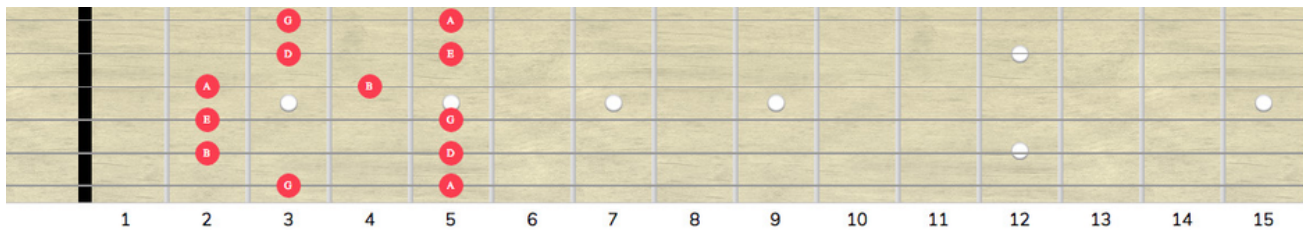
**section two**  
**major & minor scales**

# Major

Learning the major pentatonic scales in the key of G.

## Scales shape 2 - 1

Here are the 5 shapes of the G major pentatonic. The really good news is that these are the same 5 shapes, you just start them in different places, as shown below!



# **section three**

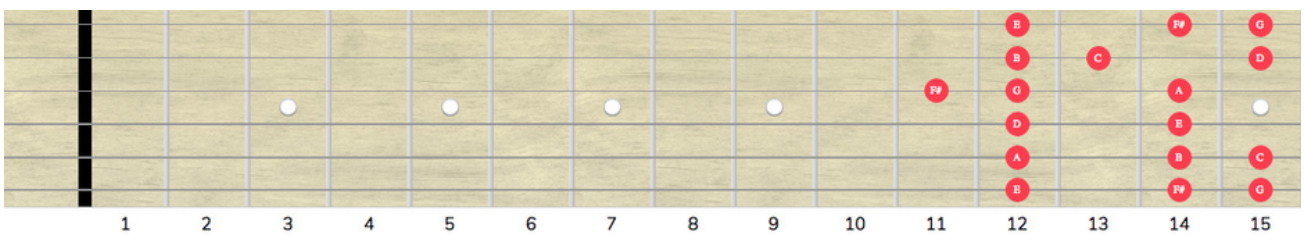
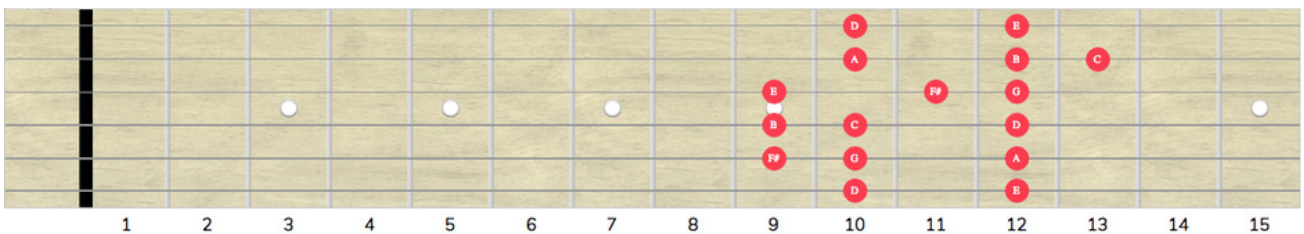
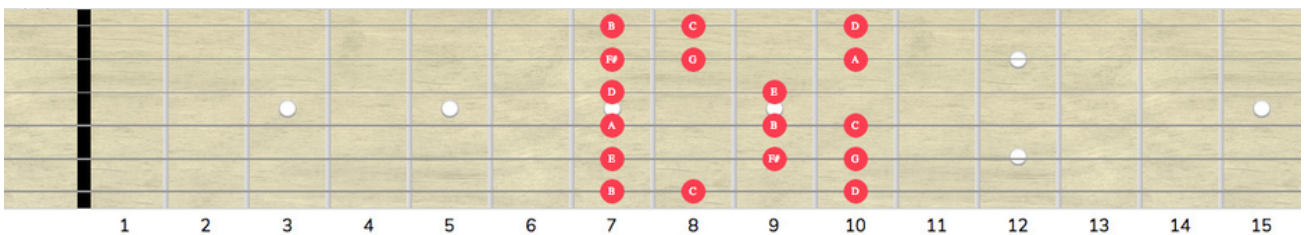
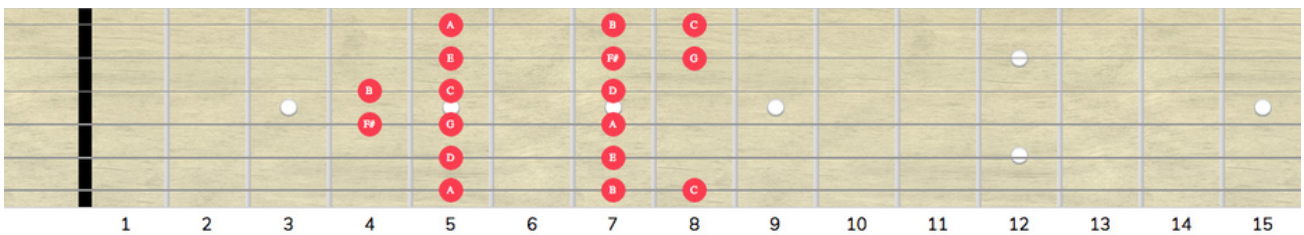
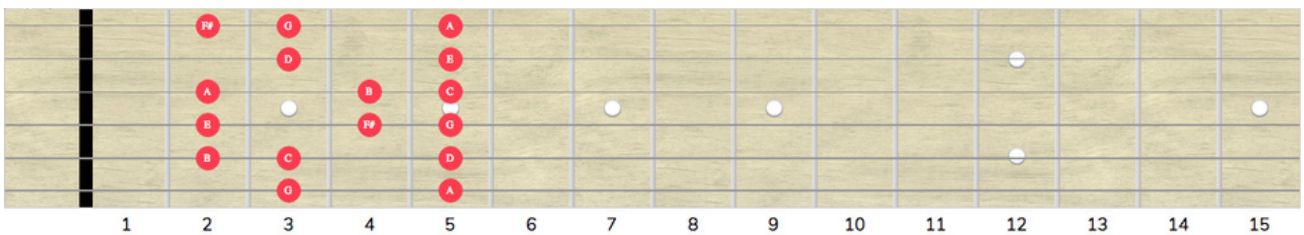
## **the blues scale**

# Major scale

Learning the major scale in 5 positions across the neck in G.

## Scales shape 2 - 1

Here are the 5 shapes of the G major scale across the neck. These are very much based on the 5 major pentatonic shapes, but we now have the full 7 notes of the major scale (rather than 5 notes of the pentatonic scale).

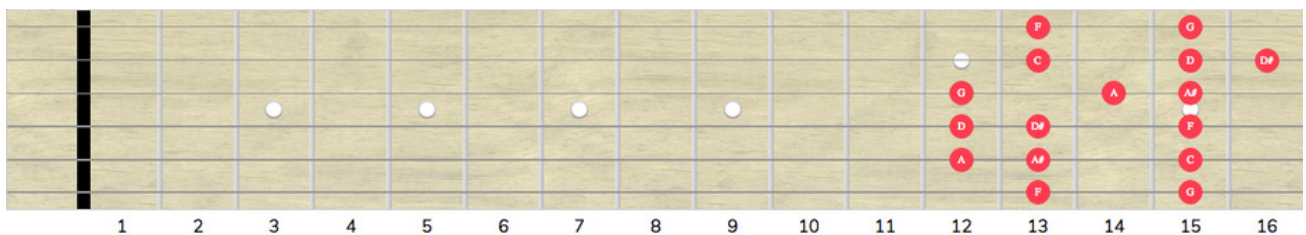
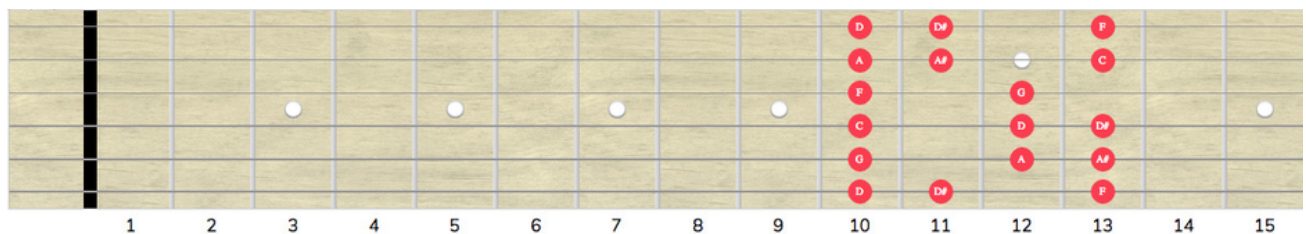
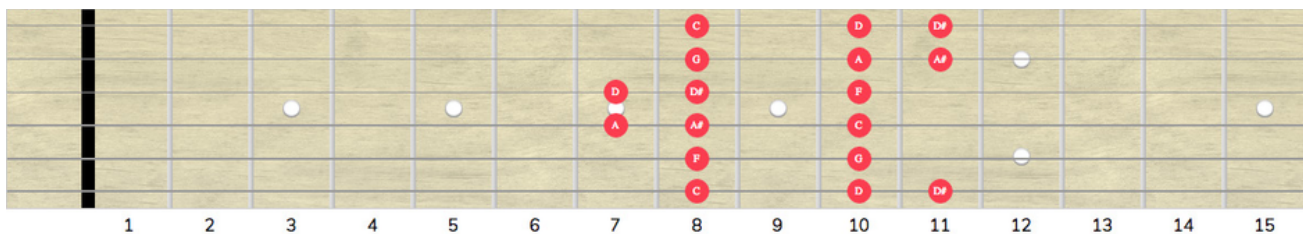
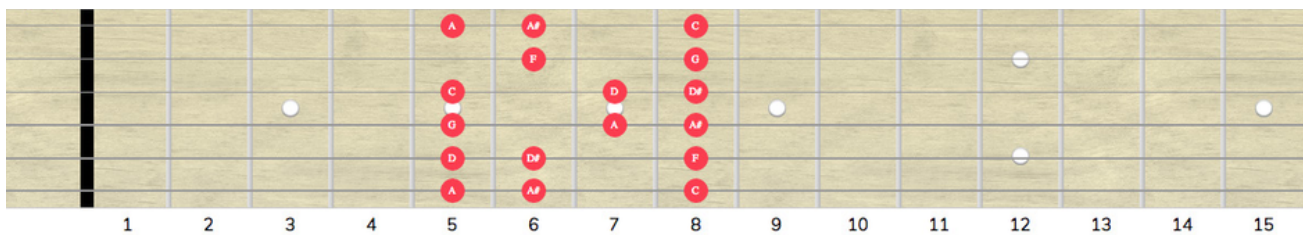
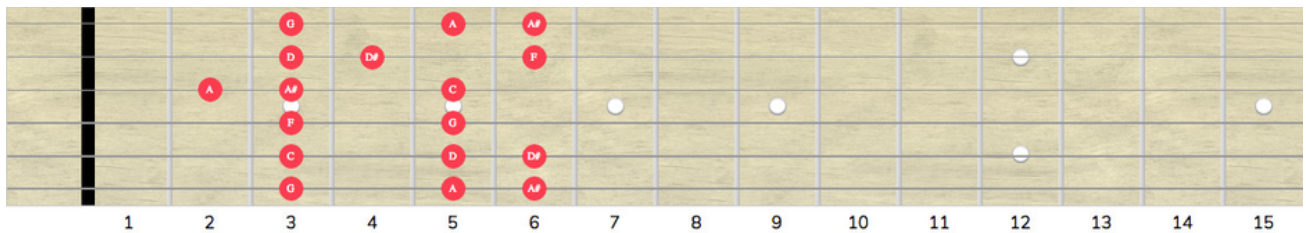


# Minor scale

Learning the minor scale in 5 positions across the neck.

## Scales shape 1-5

Here are the 5 shapes of the G minor scale. Once again, these are very much based on the 5 pentatonic shapes but include 2 extra notes to create the full, natural minor scale.

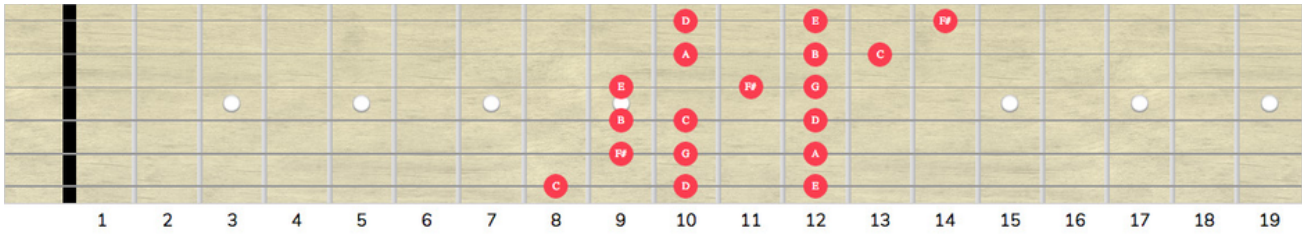


# **section four**

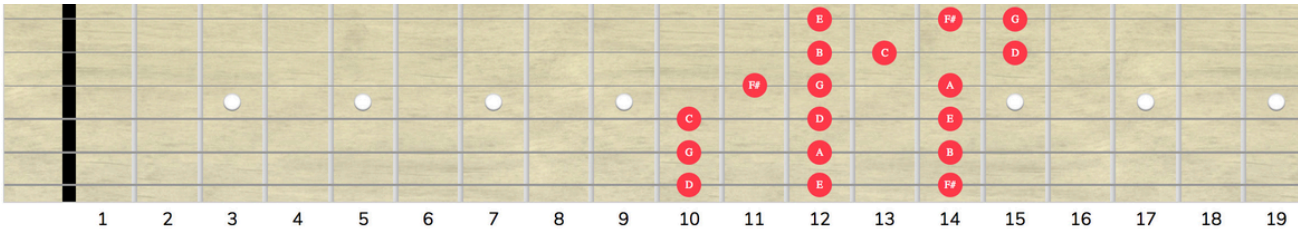
**3 note per string**



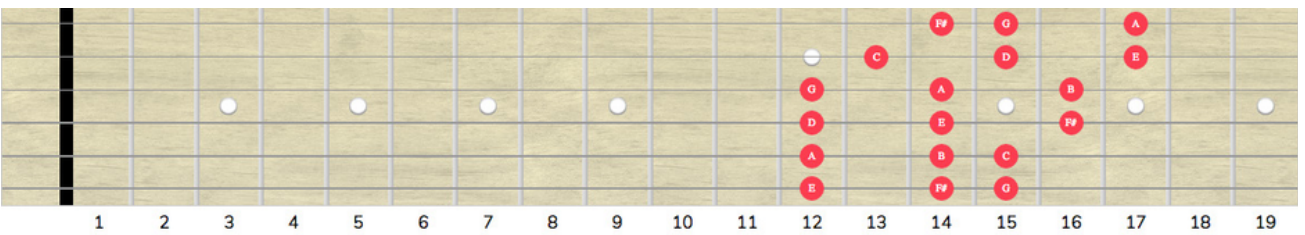
## Lydian Scale



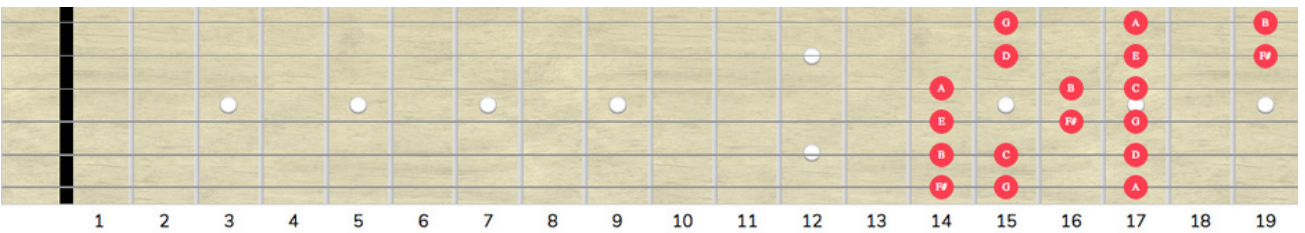
## Mixolydian Scale



## Aeolian Scale



## Locrian Scale



## Next level...

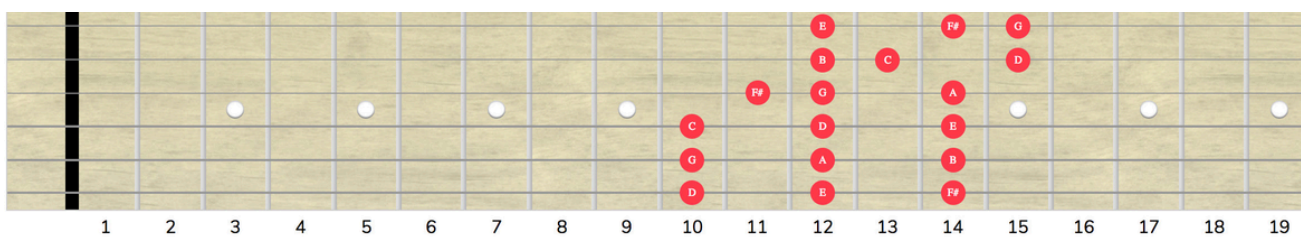
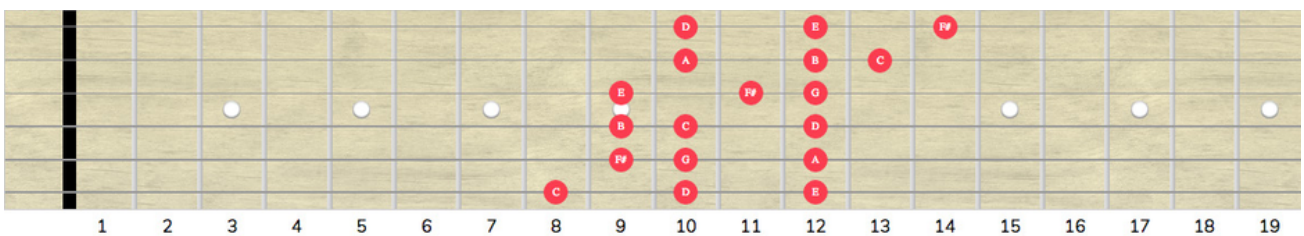
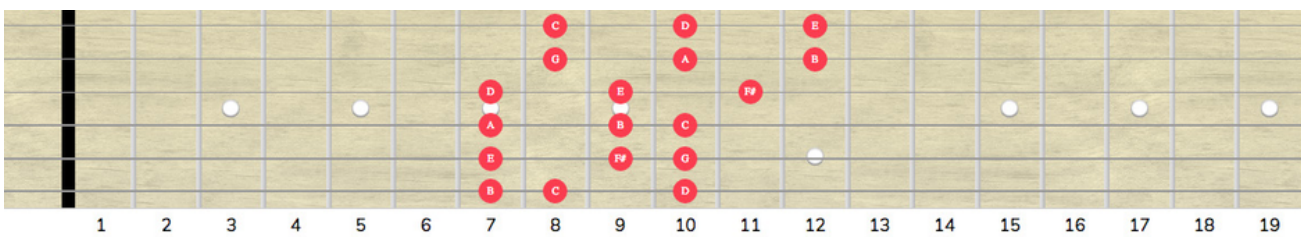
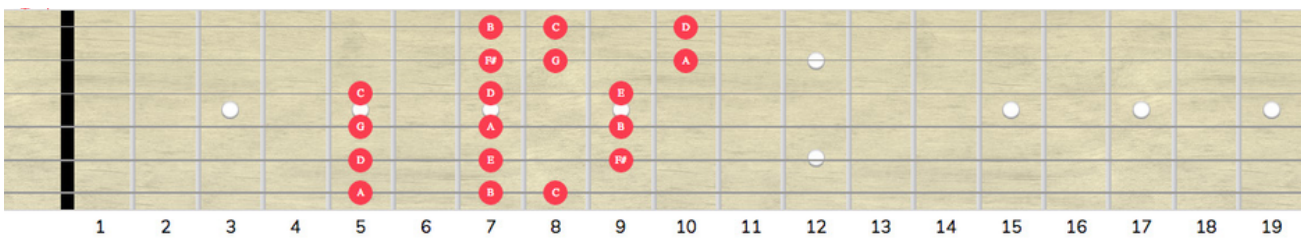
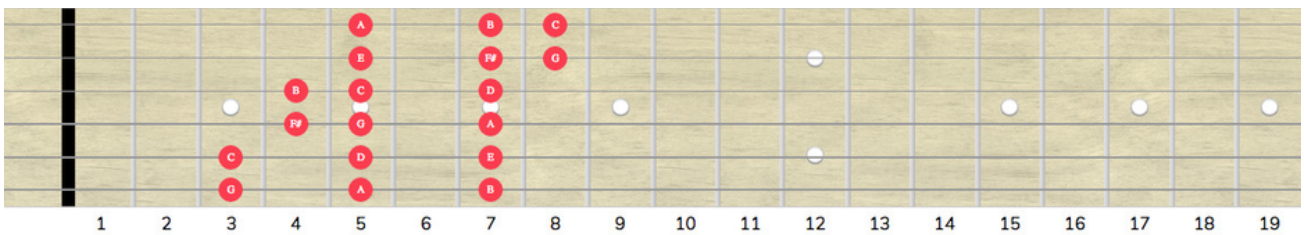
Learning one scale shape per mode is a good starting block, but not the long term goal. So, consider these scales more useful for theory for now, then tackle the scale shapes in the next sections when you are ready to learn modes properly. Don't rush into this tough, as it's not easily applied and it's unlikely you'll need the modes for a long time!

# 7 Shapes

Let's start with the 7 basic shapes in the key of G major.

## Scales shape 1 - 7

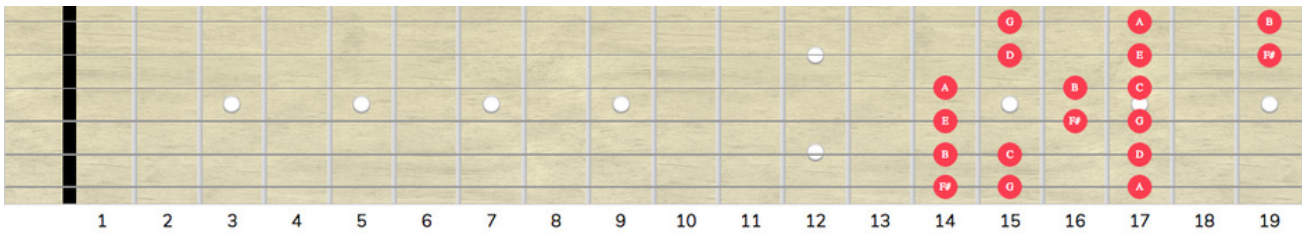
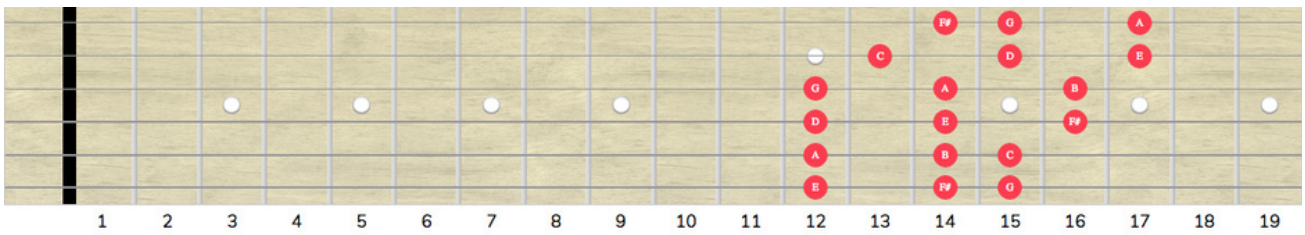
3 note per string scales can apply to any scales, but typically a used with the major / minor scales to help learn the modal scales. We will focus on learning the shapes, then add the modal theory!



# **section five**

## **Modal scales**

Now we're getting into more advanced ideas...

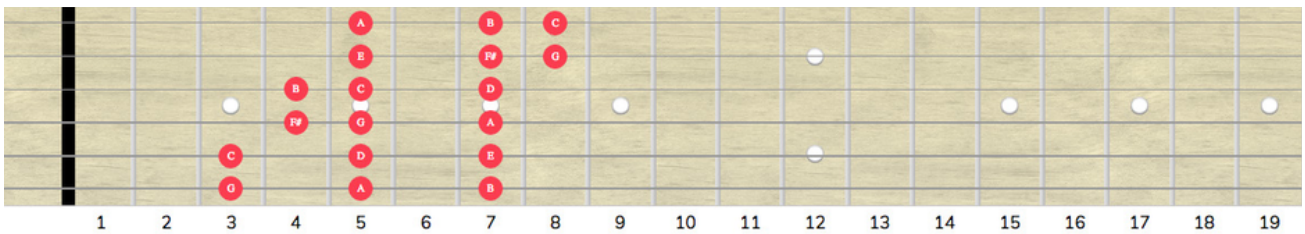


## Why these scale shapes?

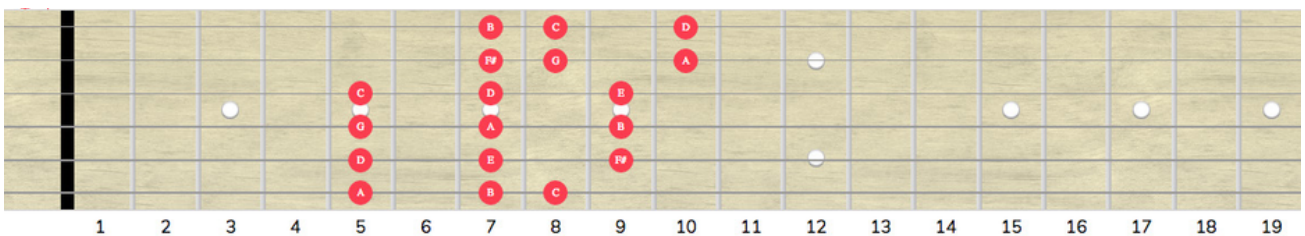
So why would you use these scale shapes instead of the basic 5 positions for major and minor? Well, there are a number of reasons, but the main being the fact that each of the scales starts on one of the seven degrees of the scale. This allows us to easily play modal scales without knowing very much theory! To show you this in more depth, here are the same 7 scales shapes, but rather than just all be thought of as G major, here they are named as the mode.

*NOTE: Remember, we're not tackling theory,*

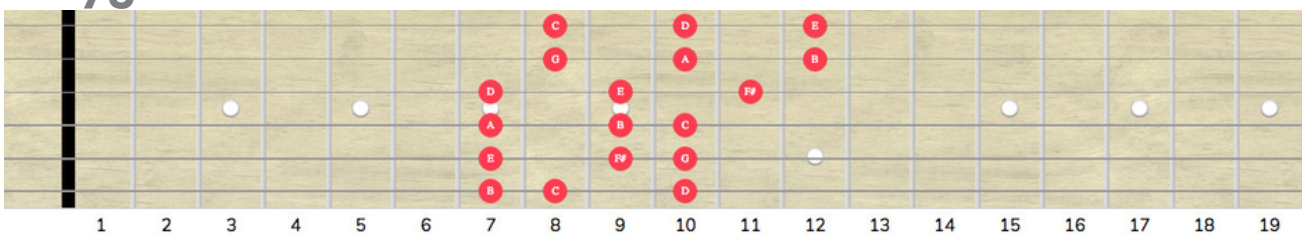
### Ionian Scale



### Dorian Scale



### Phrygian Scale

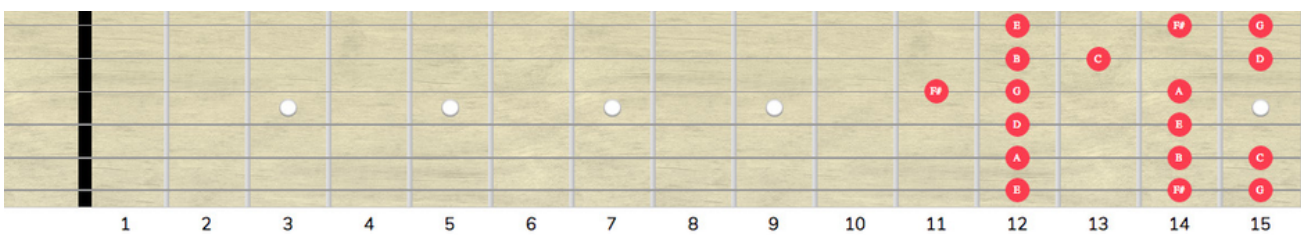
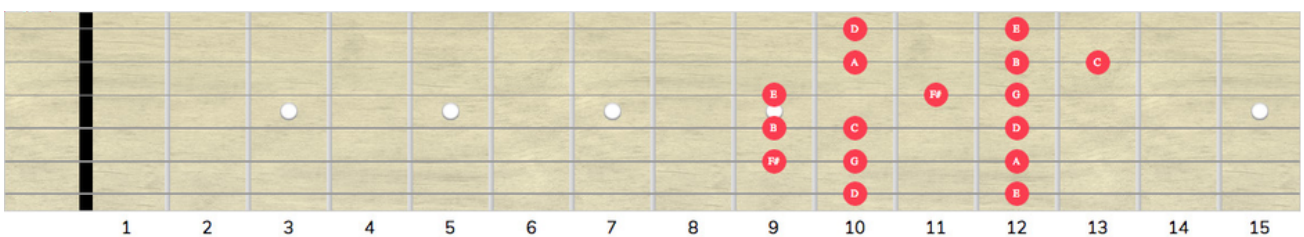
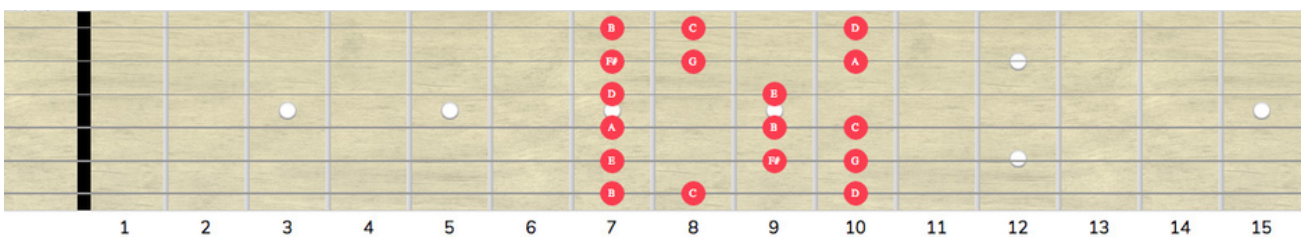
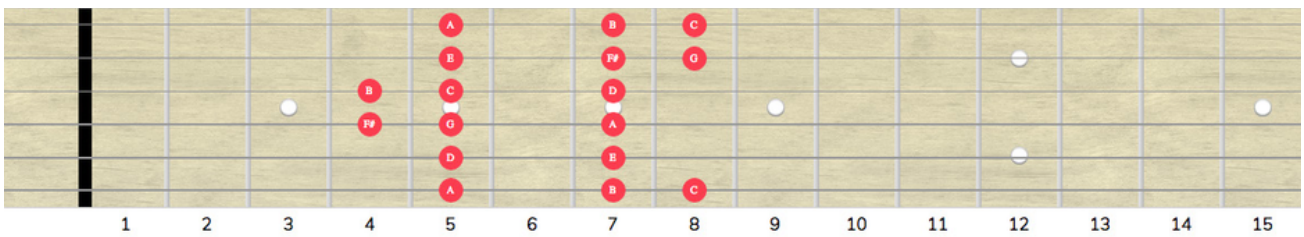
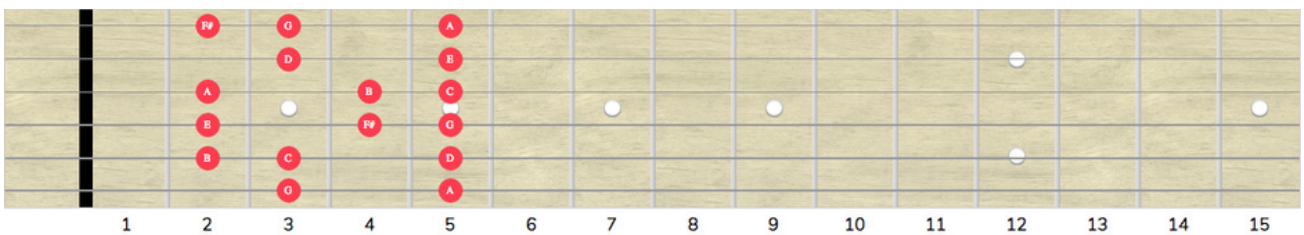


# Ionian

Easy peasy, the Ionian scale is just the major scale!

## G Ionian Shapes

Great news guys... The Ionian scale is just a fancy term for the major scale. Here are the 5 scale shapes for G Ionian (major), you should recognise them!

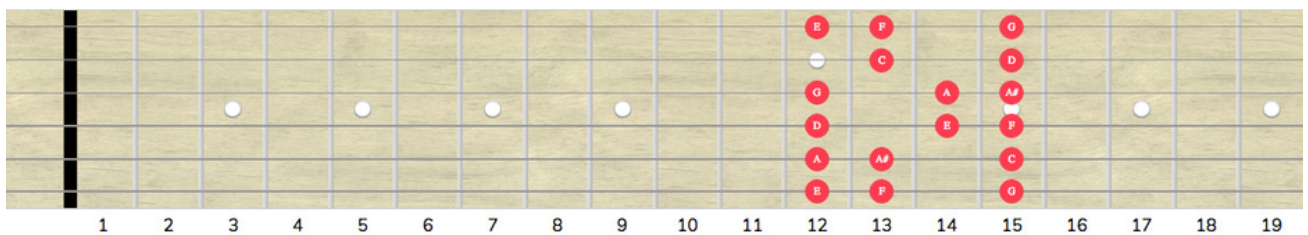
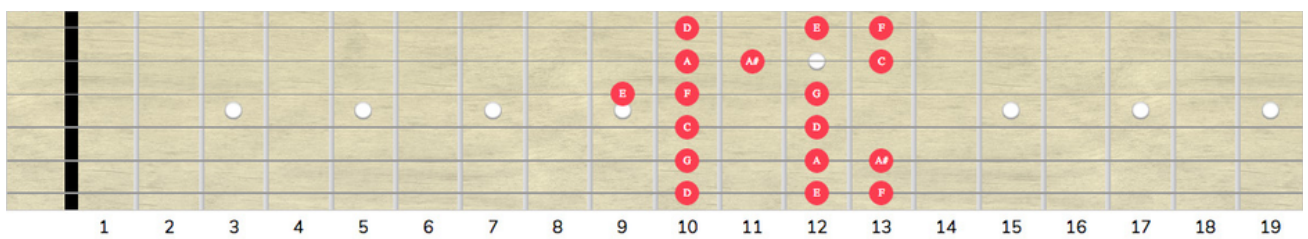
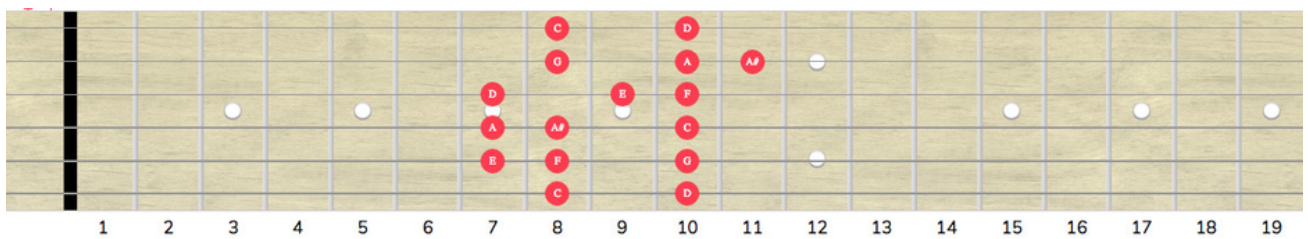
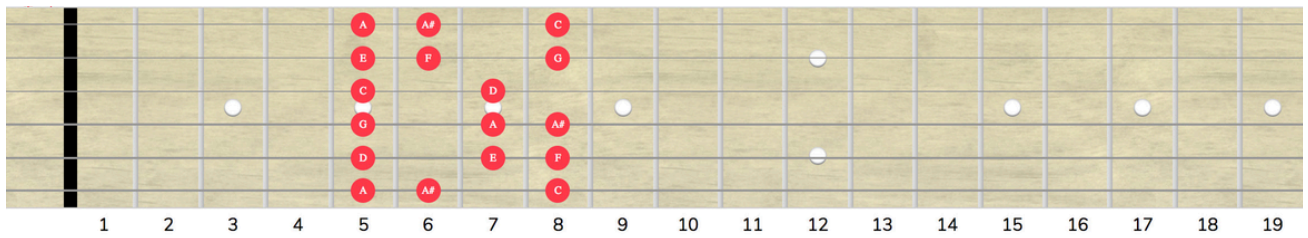
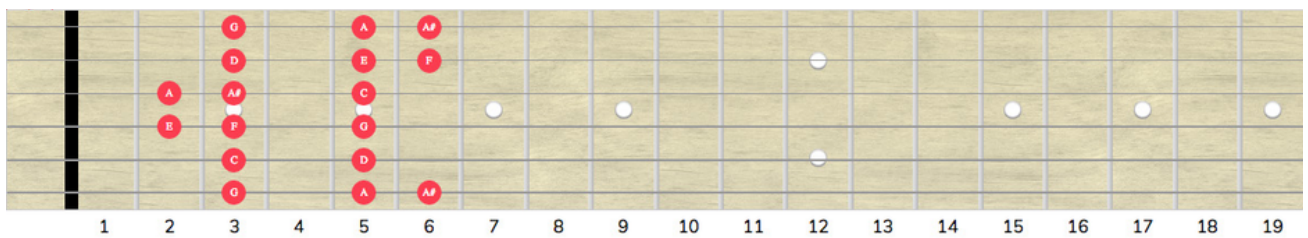


# Dorian

The second degree of the major scale is the dorian mode.

## G Dorian Shapes

Below are the 5 shapes for the G Dorian scale. The good news is the shapes are all the same, you just need to think of them differently. You could think of them as F major across the neck... but we won't tackle the theory here!



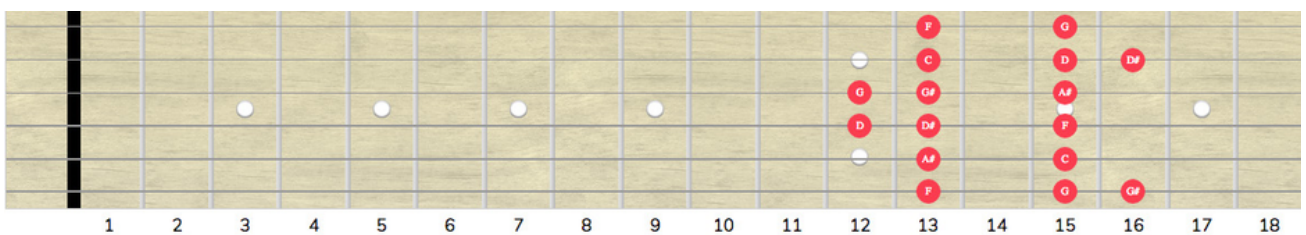
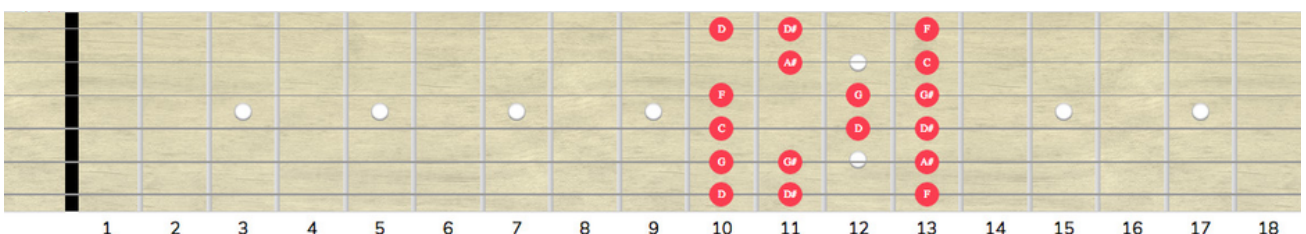
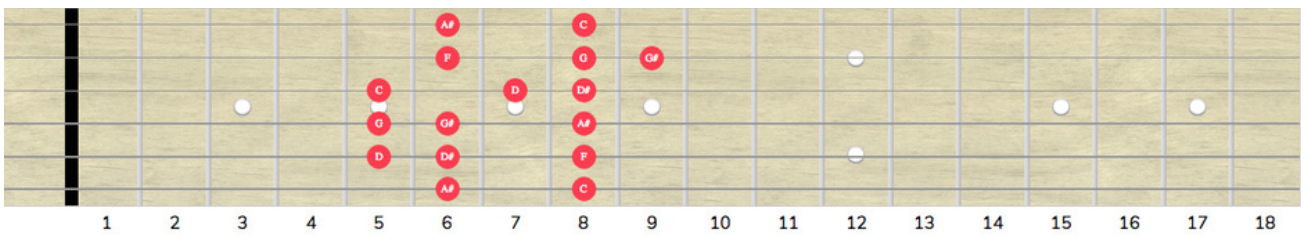
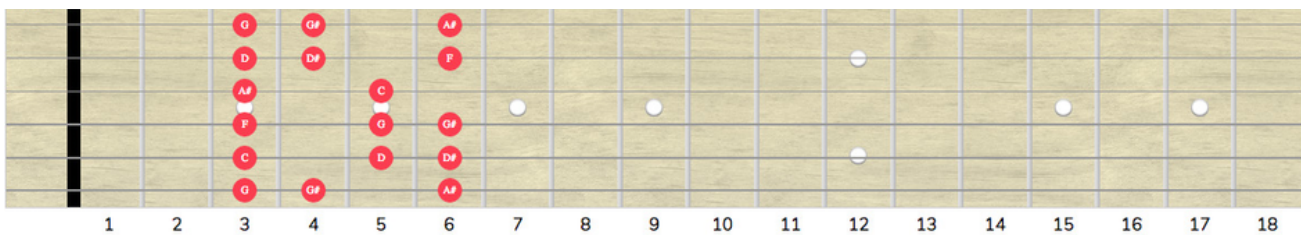


# Phrygian

The third degree of the major scale is the phrygian mode.

## G Phrygian Shapes

Below are the 5 shapes for the G Phrygian scale. The good news is the shapes are all the same, you just need to think of them differently. You could think of them as Eb major across the neck... but we won't tackle the theory here!

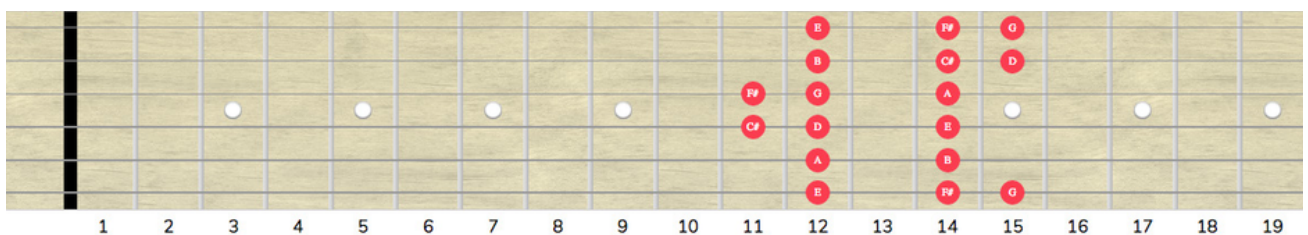
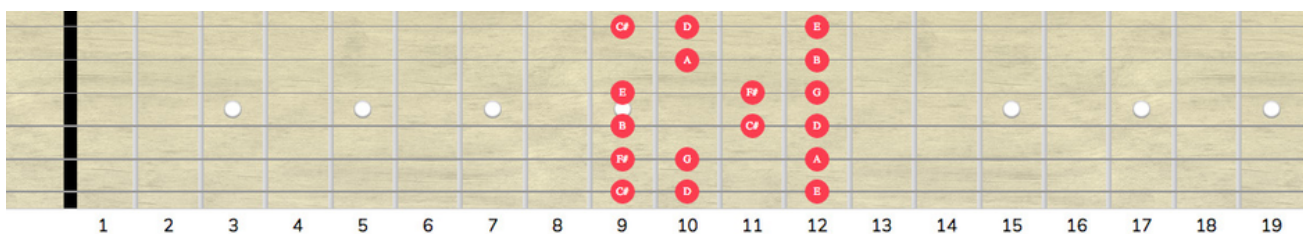
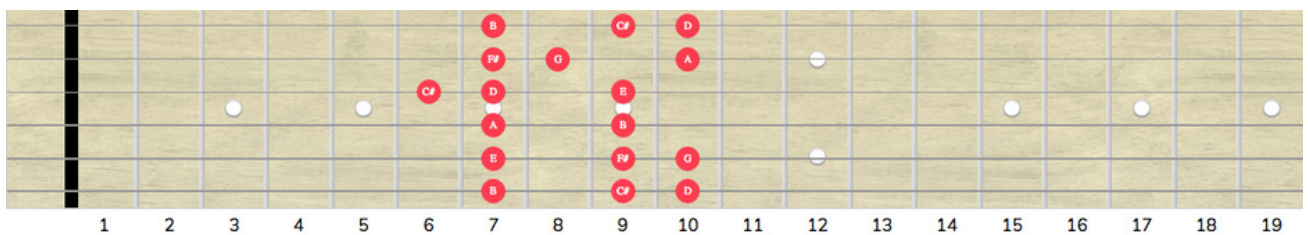
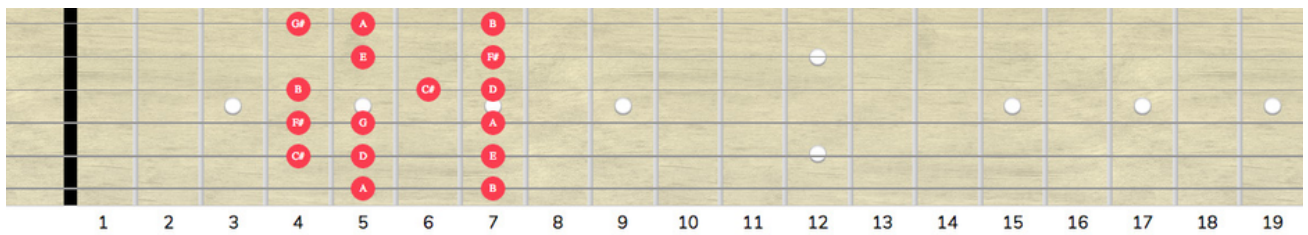
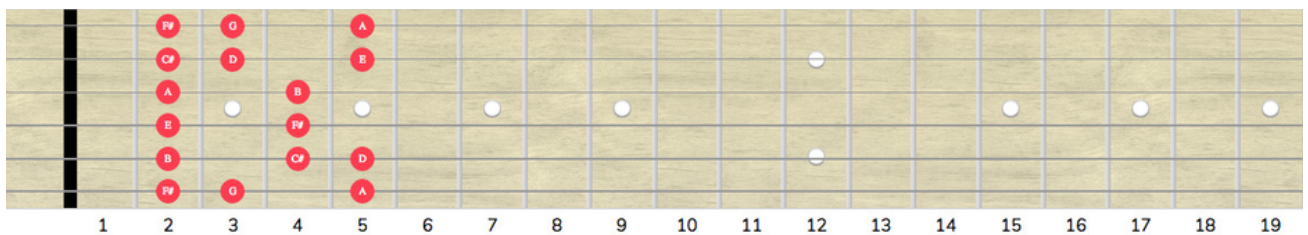


# Lydian

The fourth degree of the major scale is the lydian mode.

## G Lydian Shapes

Below are the 5 shapes for the G Lydian scale. The good news is the shapes are all the same, you just need to think of them differently. You could think of them as D major across the neck... but we won't tackle the theory here!



# **section six**

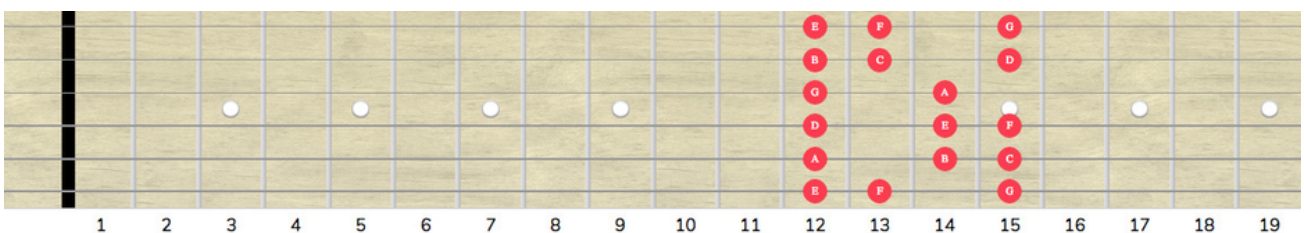
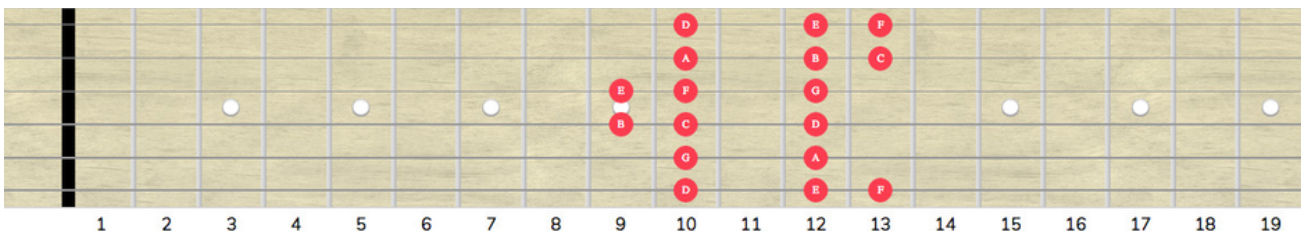
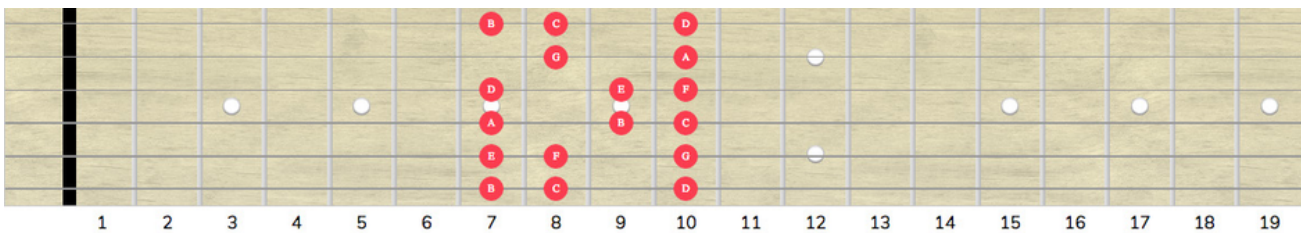
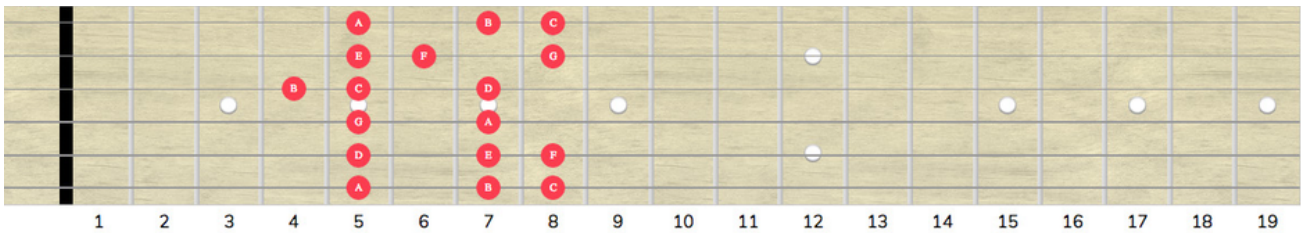
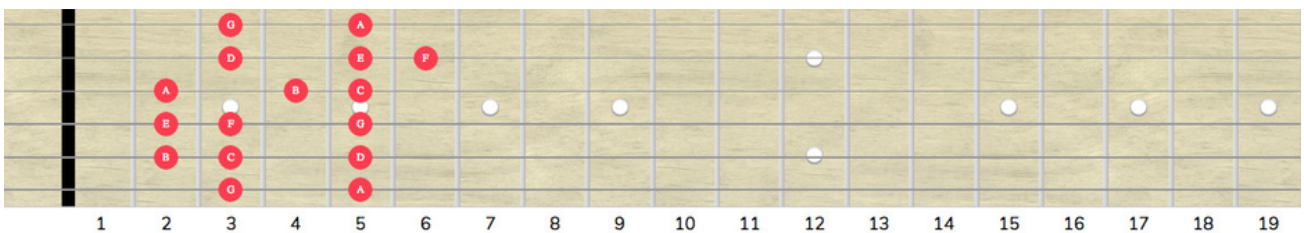
## **Advanced scales**

# Mixolydian

The fifth degree of the major scale is the mixolydian mode.

## G Mixolydian Shapes

Below are the 5 shapes for the G Mixolydian scale. The good news is the shapes are all the same, you just need to think of them differently. You could think of them as C major across the neck... but we won't tackle the theory here!

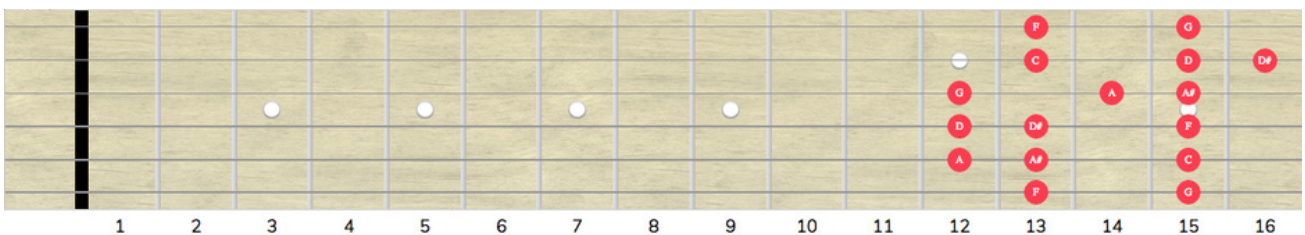
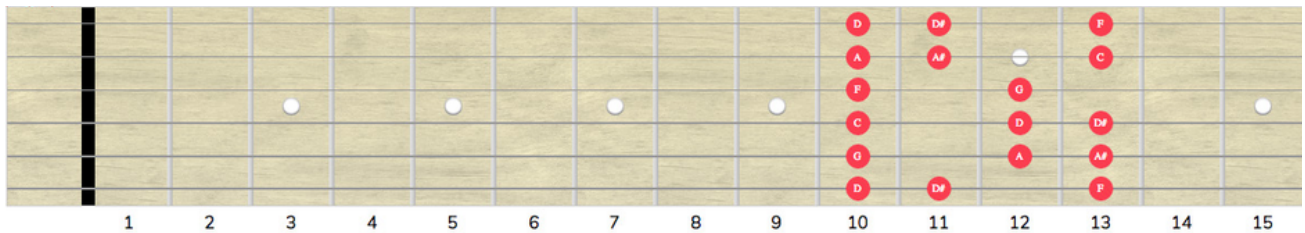
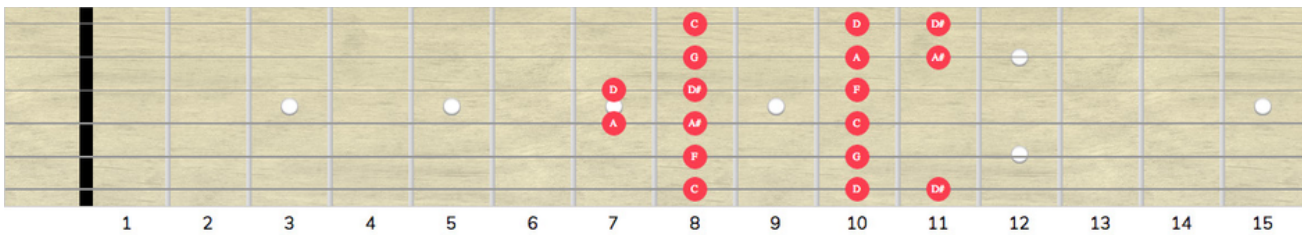
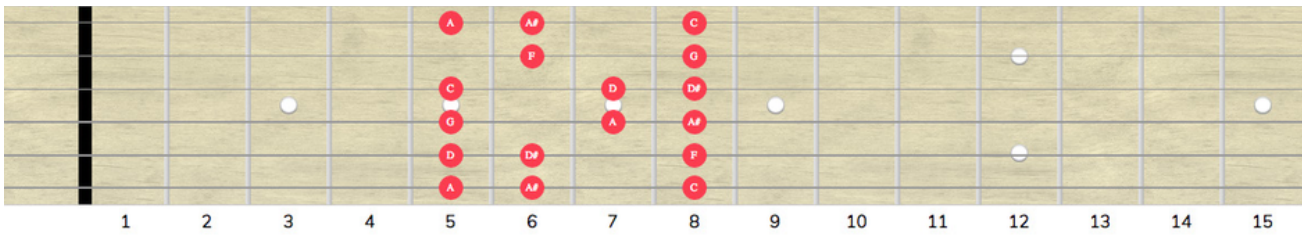
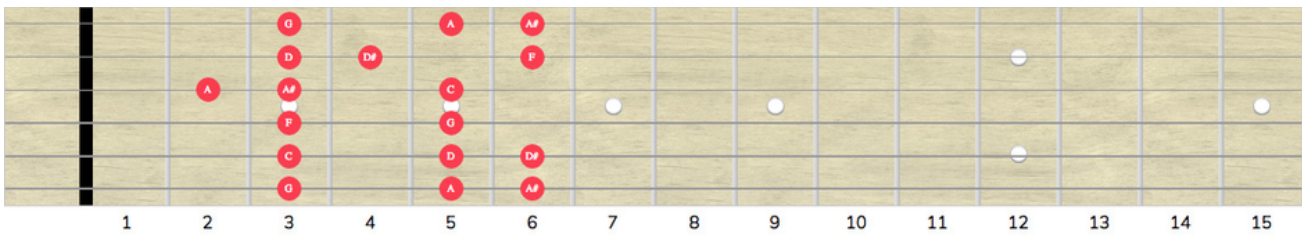


# Aeolian

The sixth degree of the major scale is the aeolian mode.

## G Aeolian Shapes

Below are the 5 shapes for the G Aeolian scale. The good news is the shapes are all the same, you just need to think of them differently. You could think of them as Bb major across the neck... but we won't tackle the theory here! Aeolian is also a fancy term for the minor scale, so you should definitely be familiar with this!



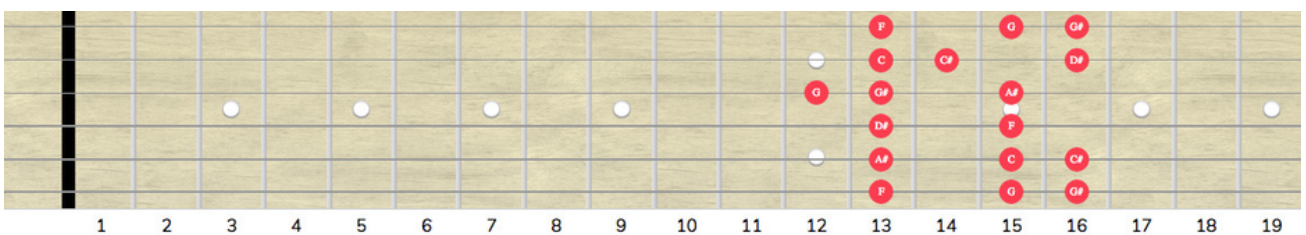
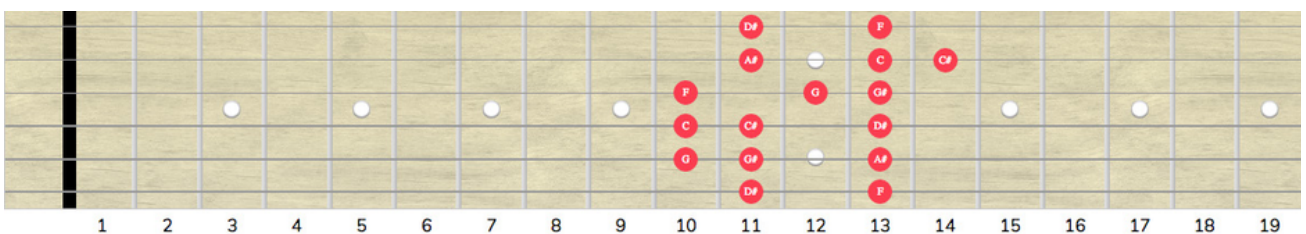
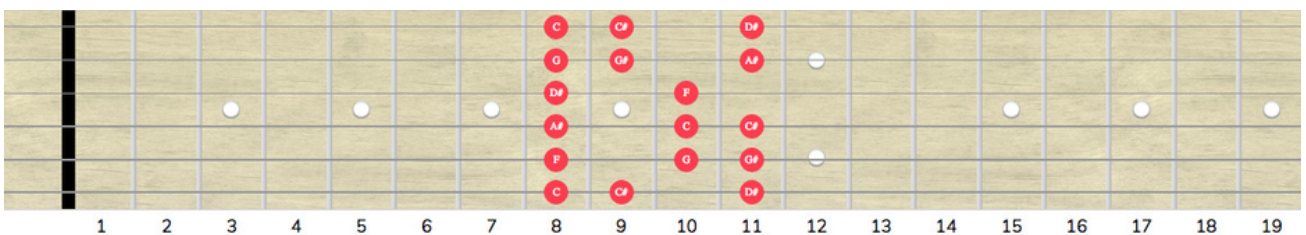
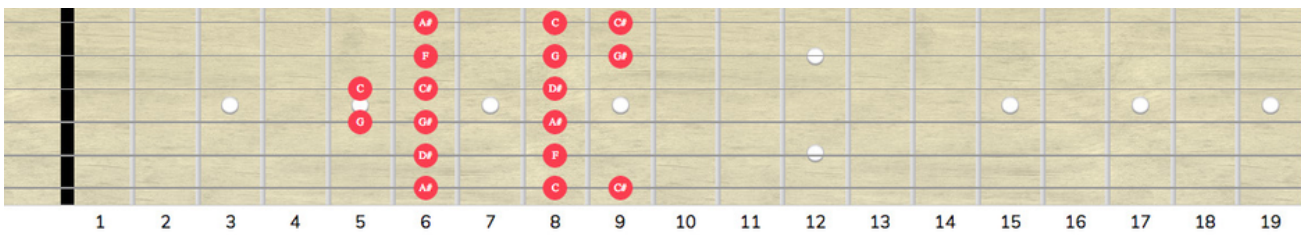
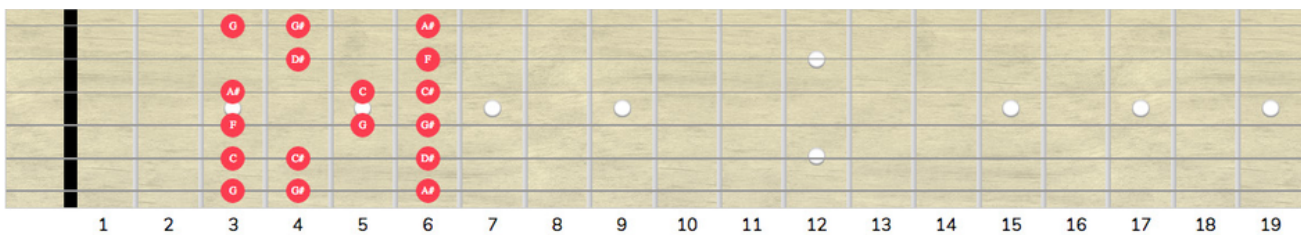


# Locrian

The seventh degree of the major scale is the locrian mode.

## G Locrian Shapes

Below are the 5 shapes for the G Locrian scale. The good news is the shapes are all the same, you just need to think of them differently. You could think of them as Ab major across the neck... but we won't tackle the theory here!

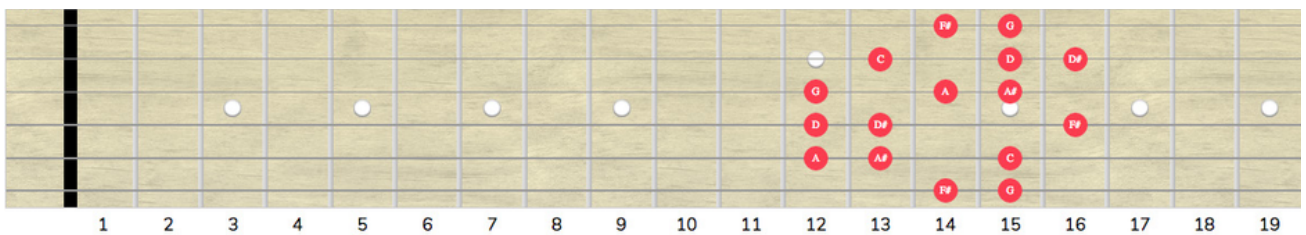
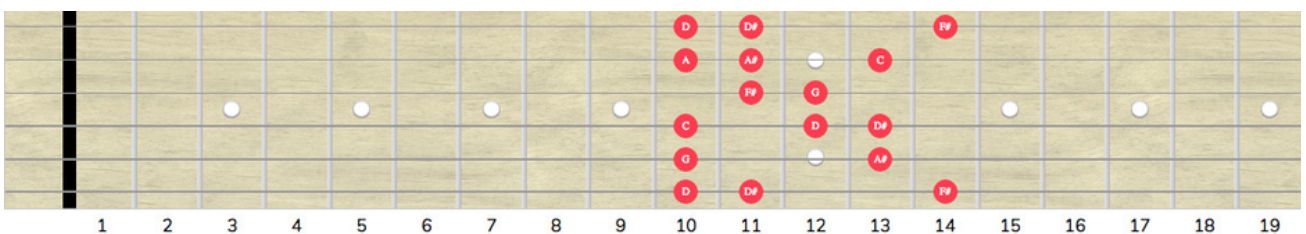
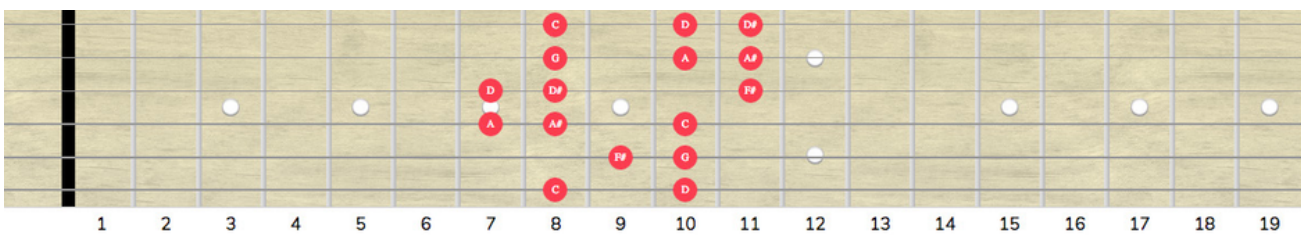
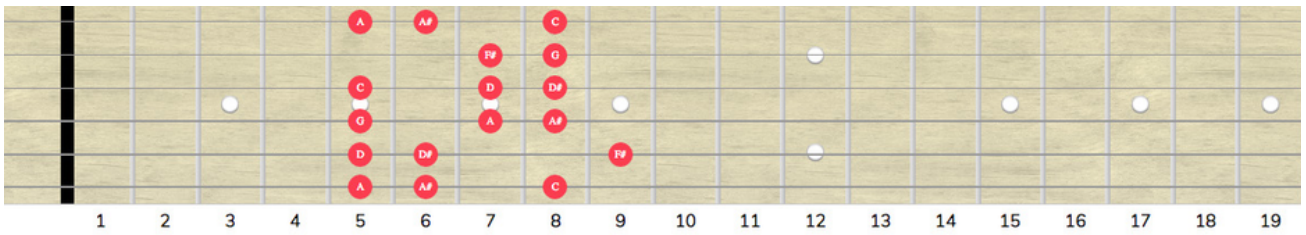
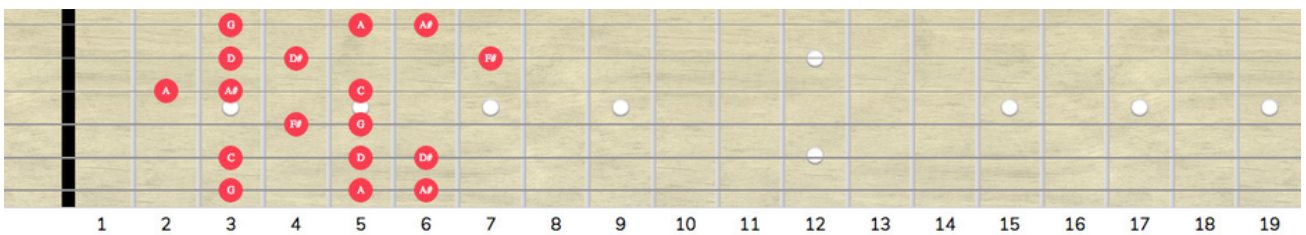


# Harmonic Minor

Making the minor scales lightly more minor sounding!

## G Harmonic Minor Shapes

The harmonic minor is essentially the minor scale with a raised 7th. This simply means that you sharpen the last note of the scale. It gives a more resolved sound when you play to the root note. Here are the shapes in G.

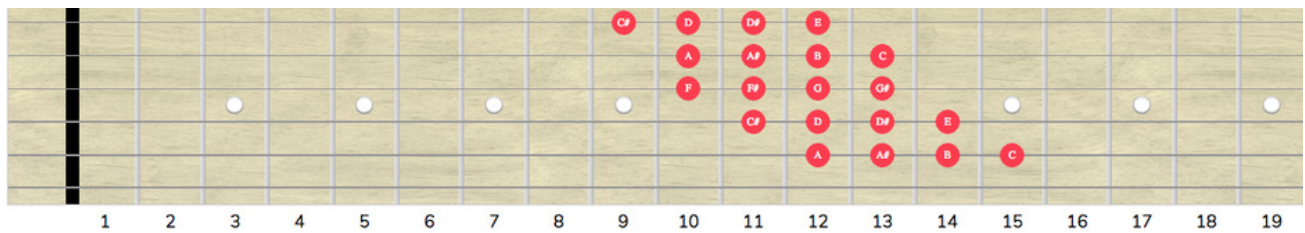
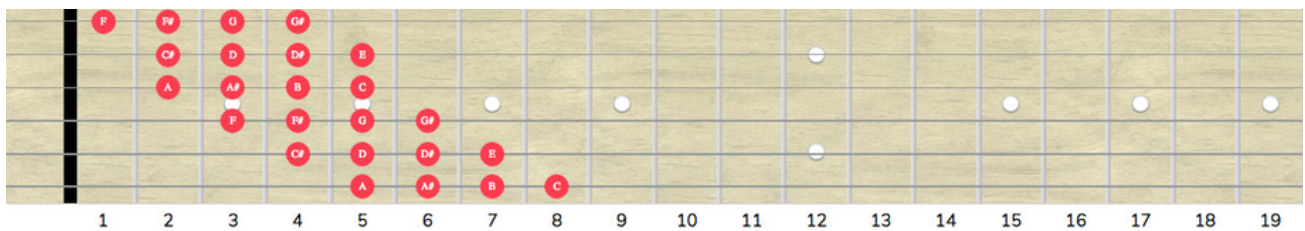


# Chromatic Scale

Yes, if you play all 12 notes one after the other... This is called chromatic.

## A Chromatic Scale Shapes

The chromatic scale is simply all 12 notes. It gives you freedom to be able to play any note you wish, but actually applying this will take some practice. However, this ebook is not about application, just scale shapes!



## More scales?

So, we've come to the end of this e-book, and in theory we now know hundreds of scales! Of course, there are more scales... but we have some pretty important advice for you at this stage.

**“It's not how many scales you know, but what you do with those scales that counts”**

So, even if you just end up learning the 5 pentatonic scales, if you learn how to apply these properly and improvise well with them, it can sound amazing. Just look at players like *Eric Clapton*, *Joe Bonamassa*, *Albert King*, *BB King*, *Stevie Ray Vaughan*... The list goes on and on. Be sure to use our totally free online courses to learn how to get the most out of your scales. Simply visit: <https://www.sixstringstories.in/> and book your DEMO now!

# Ultimate Scale Guide

## Thank you.

