




Big League Lead Guitar Lesson 24

Patterns Combinations & Sequences



The Professor Says

Thinking of Scales in a way is which both creative, yet logical and mathematical increases the effectiveness and musical power inherent in the scales.

SEQUENCE A repetition of a melodic idea or brief passage of notes at different pitch levels, These repetitions are raised or lowered by the same or a similar interval.

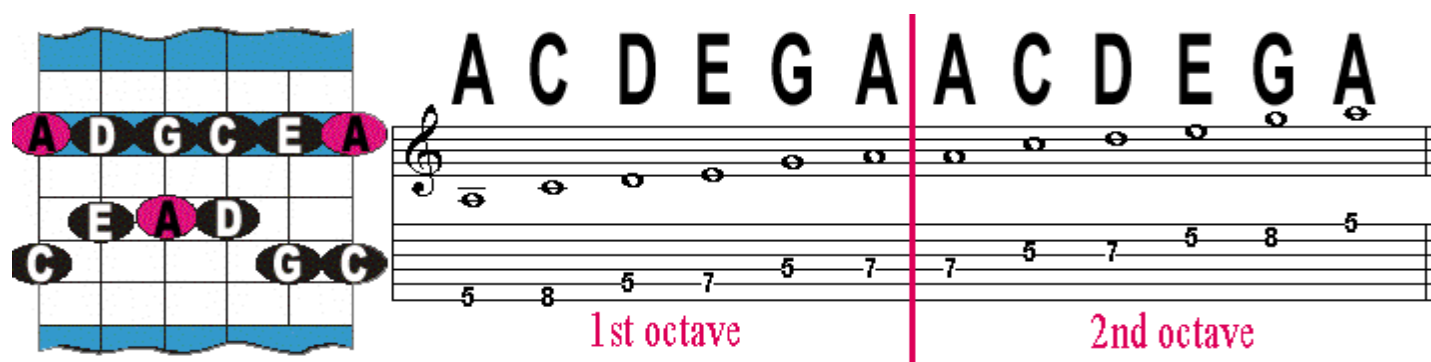
SKIP Distances, or leaps greater than one whole step away. Melodic material is often created by applying a logical series of leaps to the notes in a scale.

PATTERN Reordering of scales by applying logical, mathematical ideas to the frequency and occurrence scale passages, bits of scales and individual notes.

Combinations, Permutations & Patterns Study # 1: Pentatonic Skipping

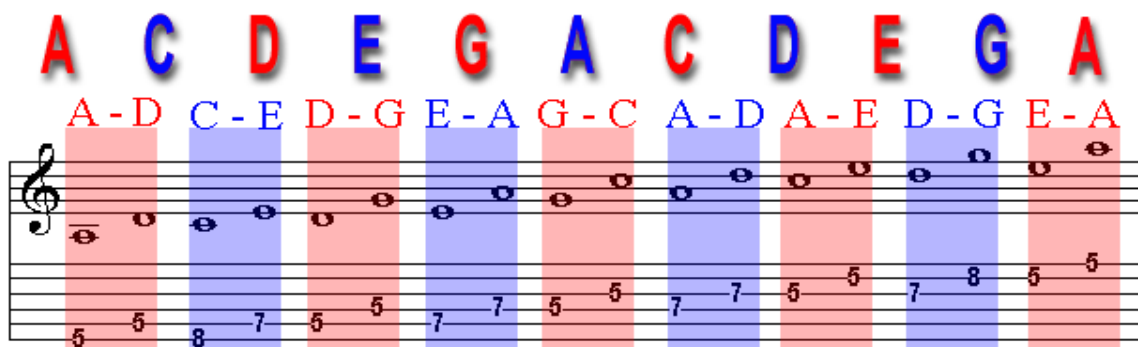
This lesson is all about training your ear, mind and fingers to fully exploit the musical possibilities inherent in the scale shapes and patterns known and favored by professional lead guitarists. The musical lines found in pentatonic scales can be absolute knockouts and help you to develop a personal, mature and musical style as opposed to the meek and awful sounding practice of 'running scales' playing the same notes in the same order every time. Working with and listening to patterns, combinations and permutations of basic scale shapes will force you to be extra careful, and become even more inventive and more melodic with your soloing.

To gain a command of this tricky and often confusing concept you must think of individual notes and their names as opposed to viewing the scale as a whole, complete entity. Play the standard, two octave scale shape below, saying the name of each note as you play it.



Next play the scale slowly in an every other note fashion, again saying the name of the note as you play it. Use this exercise to form a complete thought process, making the feeling, and sound of playing two consecutive notes on adjacent strings a firmly established pattern of thinking, hearing and playing - a complete thought process.

Thinking of the A MINOR PENTATONIC scale in an every other note fashion.



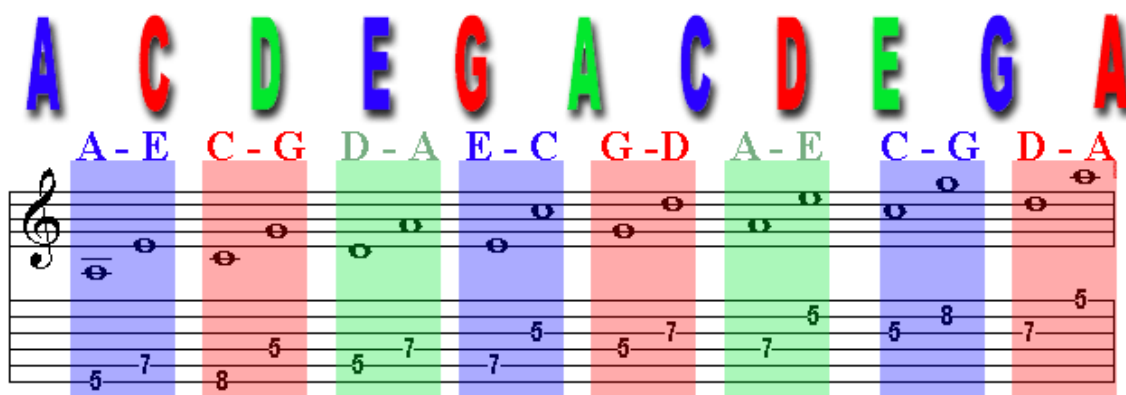
Next of course play the pentatonic box pattern note skipping scale passage in time.

One Note Skipping Based On The A Minor Pentatonic Scale



Next play the scale slowly in an skipping two notes fashion, again saying the name of the note as you play it. This results in a series of perfect fifth intervals.

Thinking Of The Minor Pentatonic Scale In An Every Third Note Fashion (skipping 2 notes).



Next of course play an in tempo example of the skipping two notes pattern of the minor pentatonic scale.

Two Note Skipping Pattern Based On The A Minor Pentatonic Scale



The Instant Melody

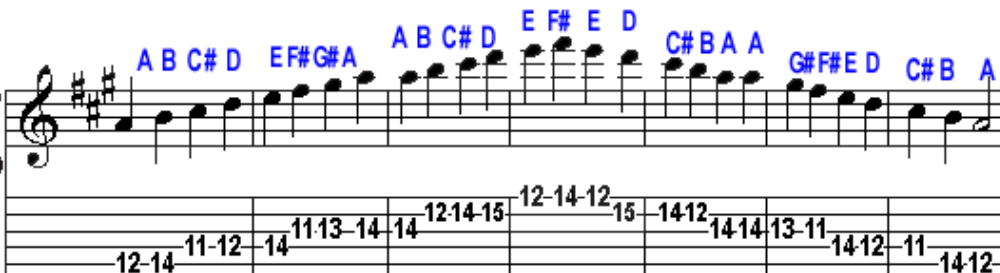
Finish up this review by playing the major scale in thirds as a root 5 major scale and a root 6 major scale, what I often call 'first line of defense' thinking for lead guitar playing. First review the fingering patterns for these two all important fingering patterns with a deeper level of focus than normal by giving each note in the scale an exact letter name as you practice. Next, play the scale as passages of thirds as is indicated in the printed sheet music exercises.

A MAJOR SCALE

Root 5, 11th position



A B C# D E F# G# A



A MAJOR SCALE PLAYED IN THIRDS

-Root 5 Fingering Pattern, position 11



A MAJOR SCALE

Root 6, 4th position



A B C# D E F# G# A



A MAJOR SCALE PLAYED IN THIRDS

-Root 6 Fingering Pattern, position 4

