

Scales in Sequence

Ever got stuck with what to play next in an improvisation? I know I have. What all players need are stock licks or stocking fillers to fill out a solo. A really cool trick for helping with this is sequenced scales. Here are some examples, check out the video to hear them.

Scales in 4s

Be a bit careful with how you play this one. I use economic picking, but legato and picking is just as good.

The image displays four examples of sequenced scales for E-Guitar in 4/4 time. Each example consists of a musical staff and a corresponding guitar tablature (TAB) staff. The first example is marked *mf* and features a scale with the following TAB: 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 8 5. The second example features a scale with the following TAB: 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 9 5 7. The third example features a scale with the following TAB: 9 5 7 9 5 7 9 6 7 9 6 8 9 6 8 10. The fourth example features a scale with the following TAB: 6 8 10 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 8 10. Each example includes a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Scales in 3s

This is played with legato but picking is fine. Aim for 6 notes a pulse.

The image shows three separate musical exercises for guitar, each consisting of a treble clef staff and a TAB staff. The first exercise is labeled 'E-Gt' and 'mf' in 4/4 time. The TAB for the first exercise is: 5 7 8 7 8 5 3 5 7 5 7 8 7 8 5 3. The second exercise has a TAB: 5 7 5 7 9 7 9 5 4 5 7 5 7 9 7 9. The third exercise has a TAB: 6 5 6 8 6 8 10 8 10 7 5 7 8. Each exercise ends with a double bar line and a blue triangle symbol.

Pentatonics in 3s

Legato. Lots of legato. Again aim for 3 or 6 notes per pulse.

The image shows two separate musical exercises for guitar, each consisting of a treble clef staff and a TAB staff. The first exercise is labeled 'E-Gt' and 'mf' in 4/4 time. The TAB for the first exercise is: 5 8 5 8 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7. The second exercise has a TAB: 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8. Each exercise ends with a double bar line and a blue triangle symbol.

Scale pattern 2

This is a pattern that is moved up in modes again.

E-Gt

mf

TAB

5 5 5 5 7 7 8 8 7 7 7 7 8 8 10 10

TAB

8 8 8 8 10 10 12 12 10 10 10 10 12 12 13 13

TAB

12 12 12 12 13 13 15 15 13 13 13 13 15 15 17 17

TAB

Scale pattern 3

Down a scale with a similar pattern

E-Gt

mf

TAB

8 7 5 5 7 5 8 8 5 8 6 6 8 6 5 5

TAB

6 5 7 7 5 7 5 5 7 5 4 4 5 4 7 7

TAB

