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# Improvisation

**LEVEL 1** • Guitar Skills



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## Developing Intervals

UNIT 2 • **LESSON 1** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Diagrams

### Minor 3rd Interval

In this lesson we will add our first interval, which is the minor 3rd interval. I'm sure you've played this before, in your minor pentatonic, but have you ever properly connected the dots and got to grips with how this interval sounds and feels? That is our job today! So, let's start by showing how to find a minor 3rd interval (b3rd) on the E, A & D strings.



**"An interval is the term for the musical difference between two notes. So this is a specific distance between two notes, that is always the same."**

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Now we have put the work in with a single note, we can start to add some extra notes to our improvisation.

Lessons:

- Minor 3rd Interval
- Minor 7th Interval
- The 4th Interval
- The 5th & B String!
- Completing The Box!

### UNIT 3

#### Major

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### UNIT 4

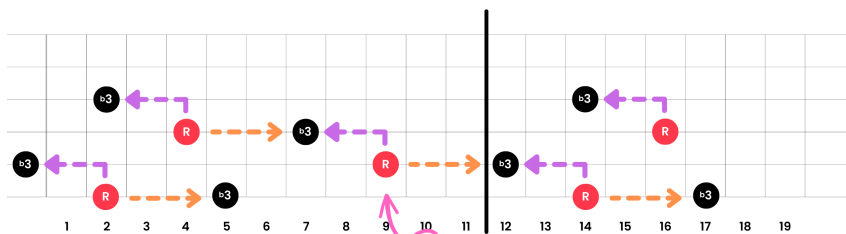
#### Major To Minor

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## minor 3rd interval

On the E, A & d string.



### the key.

- 1 strings down & 2 frets back
- same string, 3 frets across

Our focus will be using the interval spacing across the two strings (the purple arrow) as this is more common.

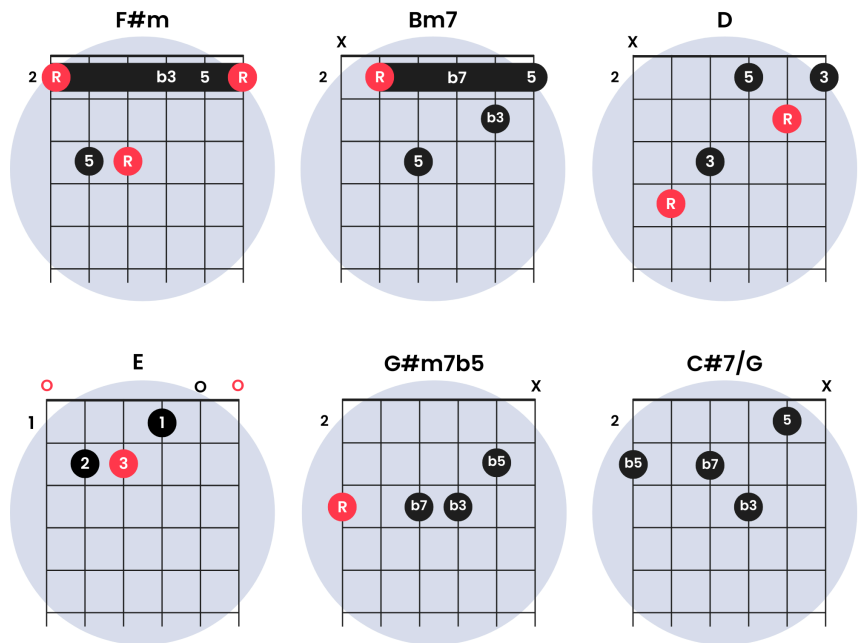
To practice this interval, we are now using a new backing track, based in the key of F# minor. This is why we are using the F# as our root note in the diagram above. Just so it is easier to follow Thomas, the backing track consists of the following chords:

| F#m | F#m | Bm7 | Bm7 |  
| D | E | F#m | G#m7b5 C#7/C |

This "turnaround" is a "II V I" and uses some pretty cool chord shapes, which we've put below to show you guys. No stone is ever left unturned with YGA courses!



"PS. This is a 6/8 groove, so you count "1 2 3 4 5 6" in each bar. Check out our blues courses for more on that one!"



## Exploring & The 1/4 Tone Bend

Your job is to explore this interval, just like Thomas does in the video. We also talk about the idea of the quarter tone bend (**not to be confused with a quarter note length from unit 1!**). This is a technique we talk about in great detail in our Blues Essential courses, and is the act of nudging up the b3rd interval, to create just a bit more tension. It's also a

great way to add a "question mark" at the end of your phrase. The b3rd with a quarter bend doesn't

sound resolved, hence the idea that it's a question

mark. Then, of course, coming to the root note brings us home musically.



"Tension and release is massive here. Notice how the root note sounds like home, and the b3rd sounds a little bit more tense at times, wanting to go home to the root!"

# guitar club

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