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Lead Guitar

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills



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Essentials Part 2

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

What Are Keys?

You may have heard the musical term 'key' being thrown about at a local jam night or on TV (typically singers may say that someone is 'out of key'). Keys are a crucial part of music as they provide something called a 'tonal centre'. Now, we don't want to get too deep into this, as there will just be too many questions for this stage of your learning. All we need to know is how keys affect our soloing and scale choice.

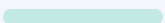


“


So the scenario is pretty typical, you are having a jam with another musician or guitarist and you need to

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During the next 5 lessons we will be focusing on the Pentatonic scale. We will not only be learning the shape, but also learning how to play major and minor as well as playing in any key so that you can start improvising!

Lessons:

-  **Pentatonic Shape 1**
-  **What Are Keys?**
-  **Moving The Minor Pentatonic**
-  **The Major Pentatonic**
-  **Improvisation**

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be able to
sound
good
together.
Well, the
way to do
this is by
being in
the same
key!

Dan



A more experienced musician should know what key they are in and can tell you. Equally, as we progress and you improve you will understand how to determine the key of a song. For now, once you know the key you need to choose the scale. This part is super simple:

A conversation might go something like this! 🤔🎸



“

Ollie, what key is this in?

”

“

It's in the key of G minor.

”



“

Awesome! I'll play G minor pentatonic then!

”

Easy as that! The key could be G major, so you play using the G major scale. It could be Bb Major so you play using your Bb Major scale. In this example the key is G minor and you only know the Minor pentatonic scale, so that's what you use! Further

down the line you will know many many minor scales and you can use all of them, but for now you use what you know! The main thing to establish is if it's major or minor and then what is the tonal centre note (i.e. G or A).



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