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## LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills

①



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## UNIT 4 • LESSON 5 &lt;&lt; PREVIOUS NEXT &gt;&gt;

## The Main Riff

The first thing we need to get correct is the opening lead riff. This riff uses a combination of the C# minor pentatonic shape 1 as well as the C# minor scale. Let's first look at the part of the tab we need, and then talk more about the theory afterwards:

The image displays a musical score for the song "The Sound of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal staff (treble clef) and a guitar staff (TAB). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

- System 1:** The vocal staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and A4. The guitar staff shows a sequence of fret numbers: 12, 12, 10, 10, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 8, 8, 11, 11, 9, 9. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the guitar staff. A green highlight is under the first four fret numbers (12, 12, 10, 10), and an orange highlight is under the last four (8, 8, 11, 11).
- System 2:** The vocal staff continues with a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and A4. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 12, 12, 10, 10, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11. A curved arrow labeled "full" points from the 11th fret to the 10th fret in the 10th measure. A green highlight is under the 10th and 11th fret numbers (10, 10).
- System 3:** The vocal staff continues with a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and A4. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 9, 9, 8, 8, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11. A curved arrow labeled "full" points from the 11th fret to the 10th fret in the 11th measure. An orange highlight is under the 8th and 9th fret numbers (8, 8).
- System 4:** The vocal staff continues with a whole note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and A4. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 11, 11, 9, 9, 11, 11, 9, 9. A "1 Bar Break" is indicated above the guitar staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

The notes highlighted in green and orange above are the notes we're using from the C# minor scale,

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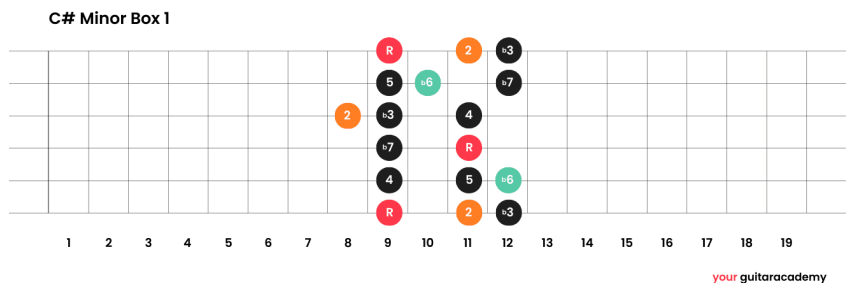
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In this final unit for the essentials course, we will be developing your pentatonic playing even further by adding bends, looking at another solo using all the techniques you have learnt so far, and finally learning a Foo Fighters style rock song!

Lessons:

- Pentatonic Sequence
- Bends
- Bends Solo
- "Foo Rock"
- The Main Riff
- The Verse

which are additional to the C#minor pentatonic scale. We can see those clearly on the diagram here:



We're not using every single one of these notes, but this is the full scale shape that is worth learning. This will become more and more prominent in future courses, but for now you can simply add this scale shape to the same idea as the minor pentatonic. **If somebody says to you that can solo in a minor key, you can now use the minor pentatonic and the minor scale as well.** Again, more on that in future courses.



“

So, good luck trying to get all of this together! When you're learning bigger songs like this, it's important to learn them in

smaller  
sections,  
working  
to get  
each part  
together  
before  
moving  
on.

**Dan** ”



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