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Eric Clapton

Player Studies



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Minor Pentatonic

UNIT 2 • **LESSON 11** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes

Interactive tab

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Blues Note Slide

We can now take all of the pentatonic scale shapes and put them together across the fretboard, using a really simple, but an effective system! We will essentially slide from the 4th degree to the 5th degree, moving our position as we go. This works so well and is so well used by Eric Clapton because we are using the blues note to slide through.



The blues note is the "b5" degree of the scale. The note in between the 4th and 5th degree. This extra note

Course navigation

UNIT 1

Silly Beer

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UNIT 2

Minor

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Pentatonic

In the second section we turn our attention to mastering the 5 minor pentatonic shapes. We work through one shape at a time, talking in terms of tones (root b3rd 4th 5th b7th) and supply a cool Cream era lick for each of them.

Lessons:

- Pentatonic Shape 1
- Pentatonic Shape 2
- Pentatonic Shape 3
- Pentatonic Shape 4
- Pentatonic Shape 5
- Blues Note Slide

UNIT 3

Clapton's 12 Bars

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UNIT 4

A Deeper Dive

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UNIT 5

Zebra

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Crossing

would
make
something
called the
"Blues
Scale"!

Dan

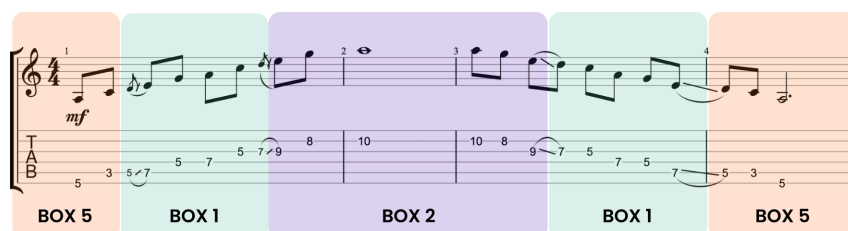


Now, the "old you" may have thought that it would be a groovy idea to go and learn 5 shapes of the blues scale... But working with intervals as we have done, we realise that we don't need to. We can simply find our 5th intervals in the minor pentatonic and add in the note below as and when we want to. In the case of box 1 we get:

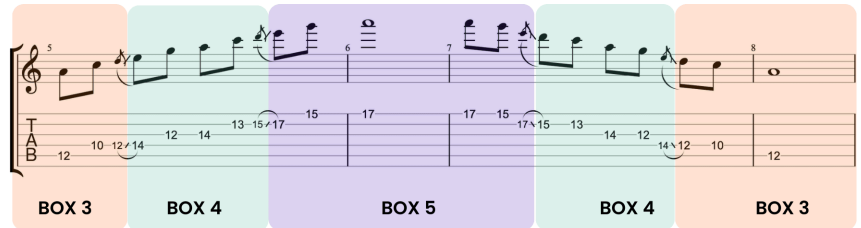
A Minor Pentatonic Box 1 (plus blues note)



So let's use this linking pattern to learn the placement of a lot of these b5th notes, as every time we slide we are sliding through that note within whatever box you are in. This is our first pattern:



The pattern above rolls through boxes 5-2, whilst the second pattern rolls through boxes 3 to 5, as you can see by the awesome colour coding. Be sure to use the interactive tab for a simple tab and playback view.



There we have it! 5 shapes learnt very thoroughly, as well as the blues note slide for our linking patterns. This is knowledge that you need to keep applying through the course and beyond!



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