

Lesson

94

Learn Transposition Drill #2

Ultimately, when you are working on a project with a clearly defined goal, it is invaluable to be able to see the “big picture.”

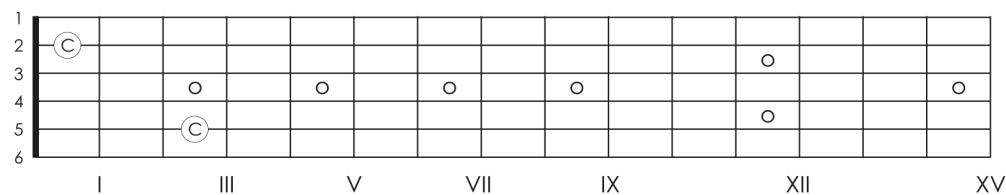
This second transposition drill will help you see the whole fretboard all in one key. Whether you are playing someone else’s songs, or creating your own music, this musicianship skill will prove to be invaluable.

Transposition Drill #2

- Choose a scale type
- Choose a key
- Play that scale in that key over the entire fretboard, starting with the lowest possible pattern
- Play each pattern just one time ascending and descending

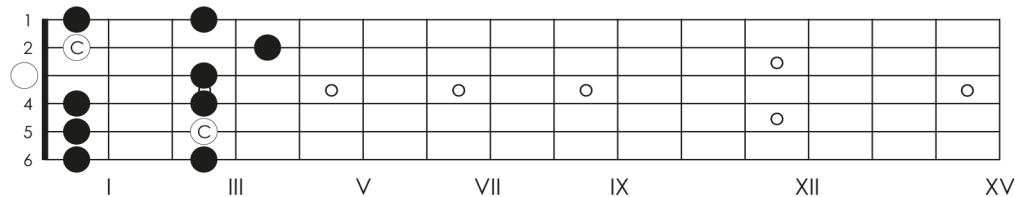
Remember to use the tonic shapes to navigate the fretboard. Start with the *lowest* tonic shape (you can be sure it’s the lowest by trying to play the *next* lowest tonic shape). In this example in the key of C, the third tonic shape in I position is the lowest possible shape.

Tonic Shape #3 in the Key of C



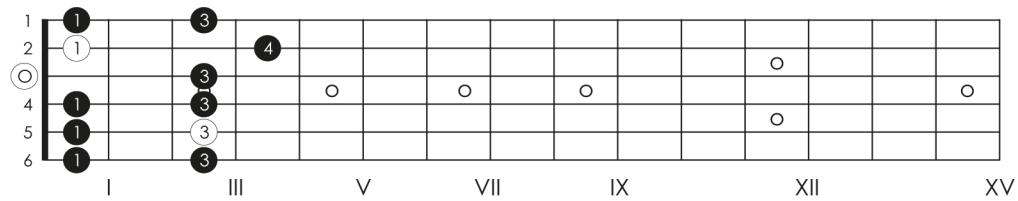
So pattern #3 fits over this tonic shape.

Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #3 in the Key of C



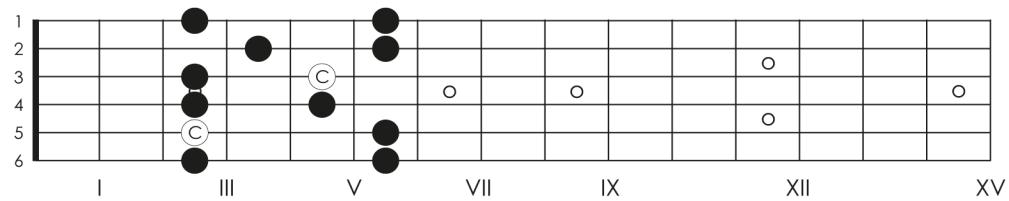
But this puts us in **open position**, so you will use I position fingering to play the pattern:

Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #3 in the Key of C:
Open Position with First Position Fingering

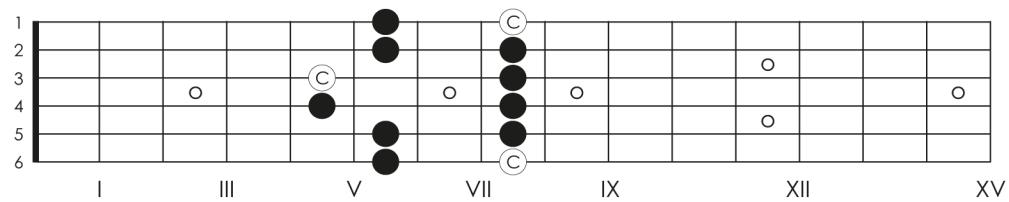


Here are the rest of the patterns in the key of C:

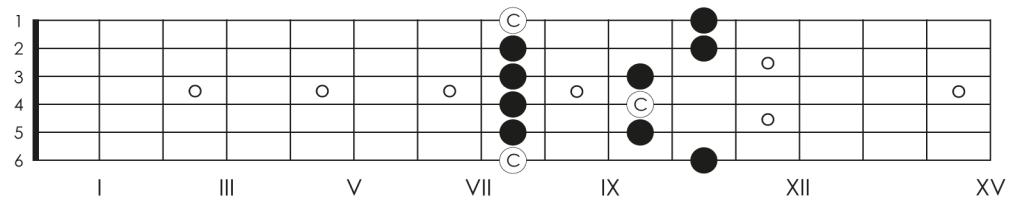
Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #4 in the Key of C



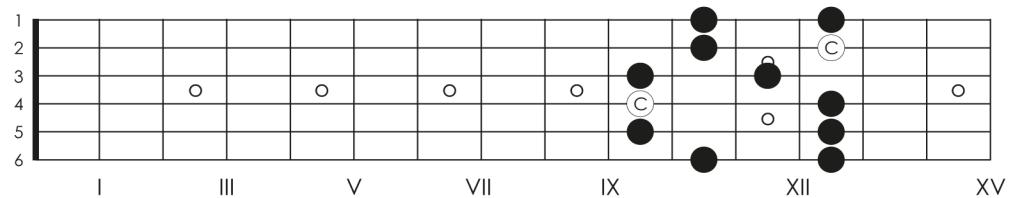
Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #5 in the Key of C



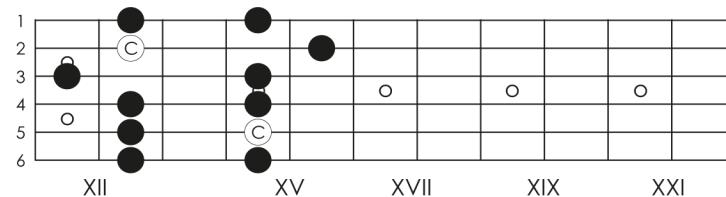
Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #1 in the Key of C



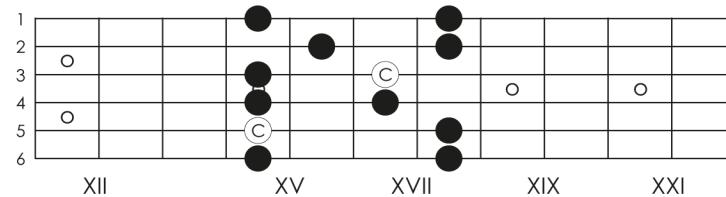
Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #2 in the Key of C



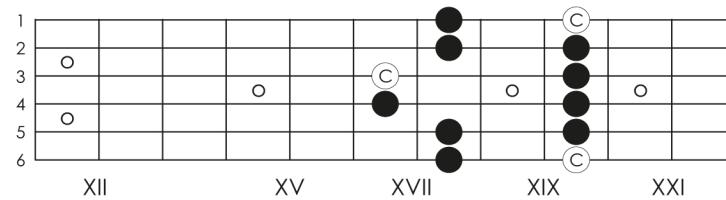
Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #3 in the Key of C



Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #4 in the Key of C

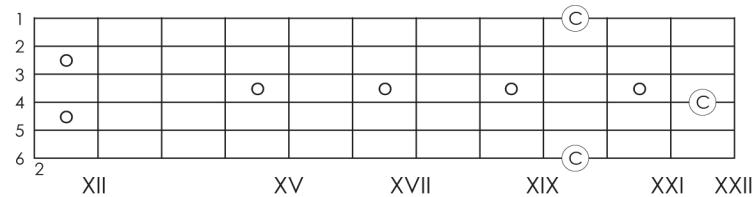


Minor Pentatonic Scale Pattern #5 in the Key of C



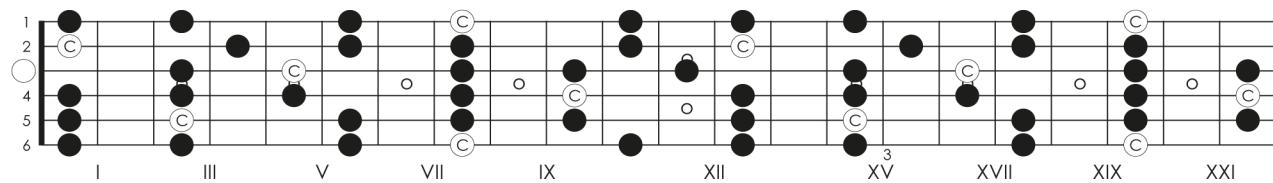
Notice that tonic shape #1 fits at the top of the fretboard, but there are not enough frets to actually play the pattern, at least not on this electric guitar (most electric guitar fretboards end at the 22nd fret—some less, some more).

Tonic Shape #1 in the Key of C

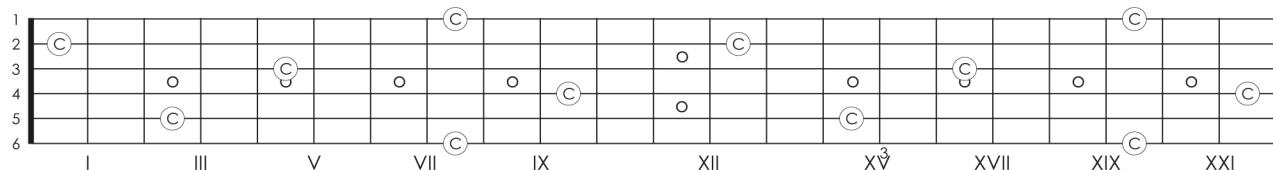


Here are all of the notes of C minor pentatonic on the entire fretboard:

All the Notes of the C Minor Pentatonic Scale



All the Tonics Shapes in the Key of C



Getting to the point where you can see the entire fretboard in any scale type in any particular key is one of the ultimate goals for the “thinking guitarist.” Spending time on this drill with both the minor pentatonic and the major scales is well worth the effort.