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# PRACTICING THE MINOR PENTATONIC SCALE

We acquire fluency with any scale by developing a vocabulary of patterns, licks and other building blocks of solos. Begin by playing the scale from bottom to top and vice-versa using alternate picking. Start slowly and gradually increase your speed. Also, practice the following patterns that use the A Minor Pentatonic scale on V. Again, start slowly and speed up as they become more familiar.

37

Fingering: | 4 | 3 4 | 3 | | 3 | 3 3 | 3 | | 3 | 3 3 | 3 | | 3 | 4 3 | 4 |

38

Fingering: 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

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## MELODIC PATTERNS IN A NATURAL MINOR

Try developing melodic patterns to practice the natural minor scale, just as you did with the major scale. For instance, try these patterns in all the different fingerings, in all keys, ascending and descending.

86

T  
A  
B

5 6 3 5 3 | 5 6 3 | 6 3 5 6 5 | 5 3 5 | 3 | 4 5 3 | 5 2 4 5 4 | 5 2 4 2 | 3 5 2

3 4 | 3 | 3 4 | 4 | 3 4 3 3 | 3 | 1 2 3 | 4 | 3 4 3 4 | 3 | 2 4 |

T  
A  
B

5 2 3 5 3 | 5 | 2 3 2 | 3 5 2 | 5 2 3 5 | 3 | 5 2 3 2 | 3 5 2 | 5

4 | 2 4 2 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 4 | 4 | 2 4 | 2 4 | 2 | 2 4 | 4

87

T  
A  
B

5 3 6 5 3 | 6 5 3 6 5 3 | 5 5 3 | 5 4 | 3 | 5 4 2 5 4 2 | 4 2 5 3 2 | 5 3 2

3 | 4 3 | 4 3 | 4 3 | 3 3 | 3 2 | 1 4 3 | 4 3 | 4 3 | 4 2 | 4 2 |

T  
A  
B

5 3 2 5 3 2 | 5 3 2 | 5 3 2 5 3 2 | 5 | 3 2 5 3 2 | 5 3 1 5

4 2 | 4 2 | 4 2 | 4 2 | 4 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 2 | 4 2 | 4 | 4

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To access the MP3s on the CD, place the CD in your computer's CD-ROM drive. In Windows, double-click on My Computer, then right-click on the CD icon labeled "MP3 Files" and select Explore to view the files and copy them to your hard drive. For Mac, double-click on the CD icon on your desktop labeled "MP3 Files" to view the files and copy them to your hard drive.