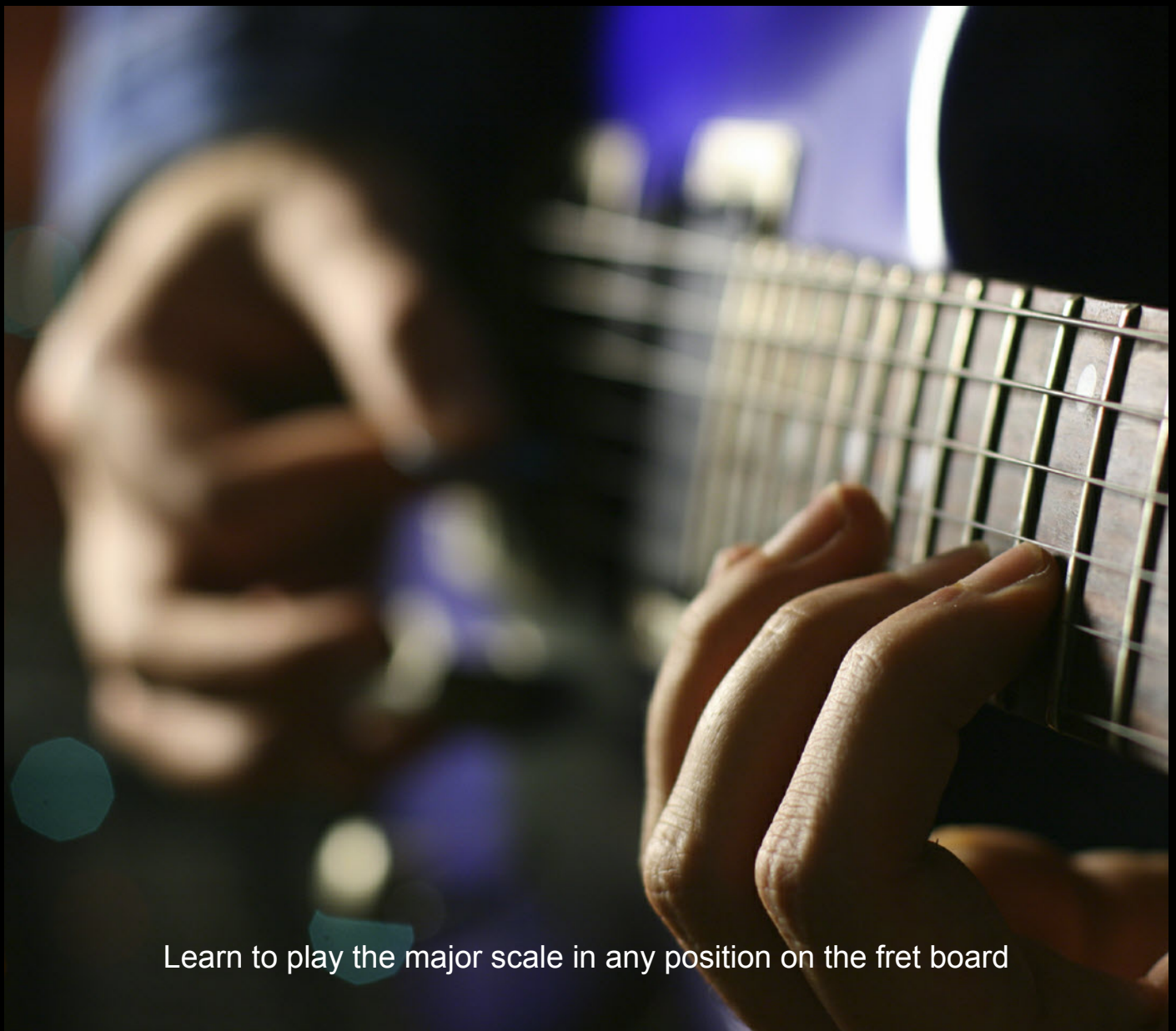




Scales (Major) 1.1

By Duncan Jones



Learn to play the major scale in any position on the fret board

Scales (Major) 1.1

Intermediate level

By Duncan Jones

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FORWARD

This e-book is written with the intention of providing quality tuition delivered in a bite size practical way, so the student whatever the level can access the material and learn what they need.

We are constantly striving to better the way we teach, so if you spot any errors or have suggestions please feel free to notify the author. d.jones@internet-guitar-lessons.com

The Major Scale

The major scale is the back bone of all western music, the goal of this lesson should be to learn the major scale in all positions all over the neck and eventually in all keys. Wherever you place your fingers on the fret board you should be able to instantly visualise the appropriate scale you want to play.

In order to achieve this, the best approach to learning any scale is the following.

- Learn the scale in each position
- Learn the scale by combining the positions two at a time
- Learn the scale on one string.

Once you have done this you can then try the following in order to consolidate your knowledge:

- Practice the scale using intervalic patterns, this helps really get inside the sound and feel of the scale
- Improvise using the scale over major chord progressions, this is probably the most import stage of all, learning to make music using the scale.

In order to improvise in real time at any tempo the scale must become second nature to such an extent you don't have to think about it. The moment you think about it is the moment you forget it or make a mistake.

In music theory the major scale is the starting position for all scales, it's given the formula

C D E F G A B C
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1

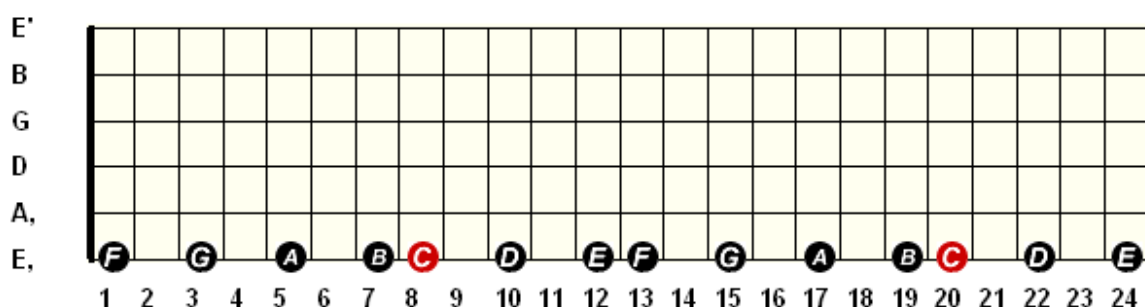
I have given the common three notes per string pattern here; these patterns facilitate modern rock techniques such as fast alternate picking and legato. However there are other ways of fingering these scales, none are better or worse just better for certain situations.

The numbers on the strings refer to the above degrees of the major scale, for example 1 is C or the root, 2 is B the second note in the scale etc .The following 7 patterns give you the C major scale, as you can see you have a different pattern built from each note of the scale.

- Pattern 1 from F at the 1st fret
- Pattern 2 from G at the 3rd fret
- Pattern 3 from A at the 5th fret
- Pattern 4 from B at the 7th fret
- Pattern 5 from C at the 8th fret
- Pattern 6 from D at the 10th fret
- Pattern 7 from E at the 12th fret
- Pattern 1 from the F at the 13th fret
- Pattern 2 from G at the 15th fret etc etc

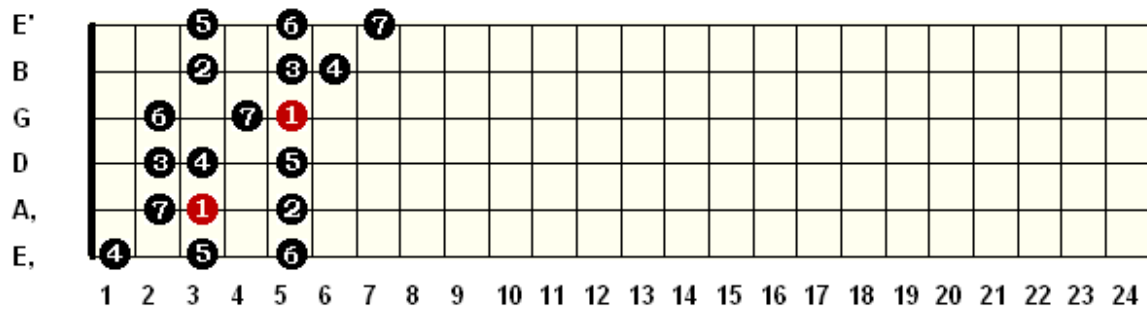
Notes for locating the root notes

C Major Scale



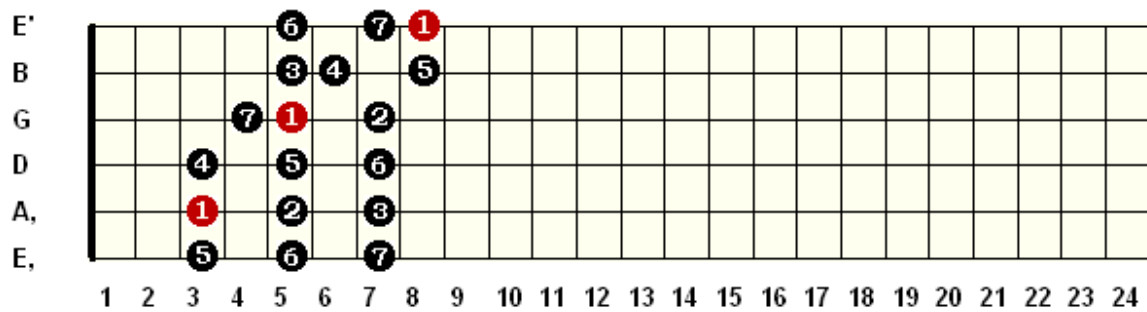
C Major Scale Pattern 1

C Major Scale



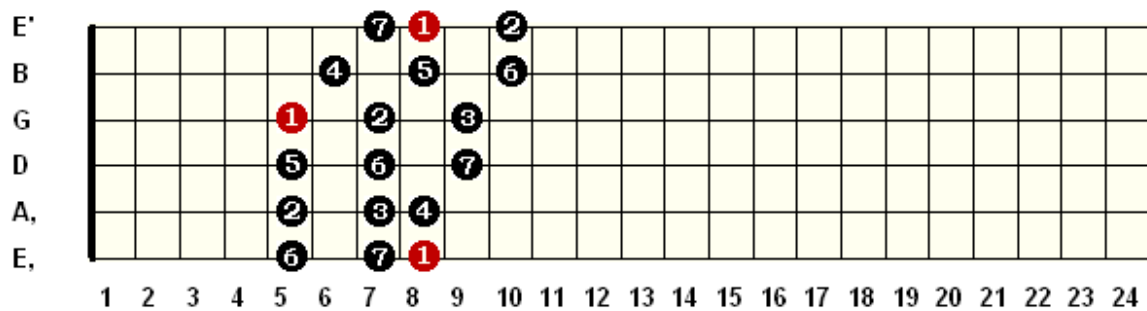
C Major Scale Pattern 2

C Major Scale



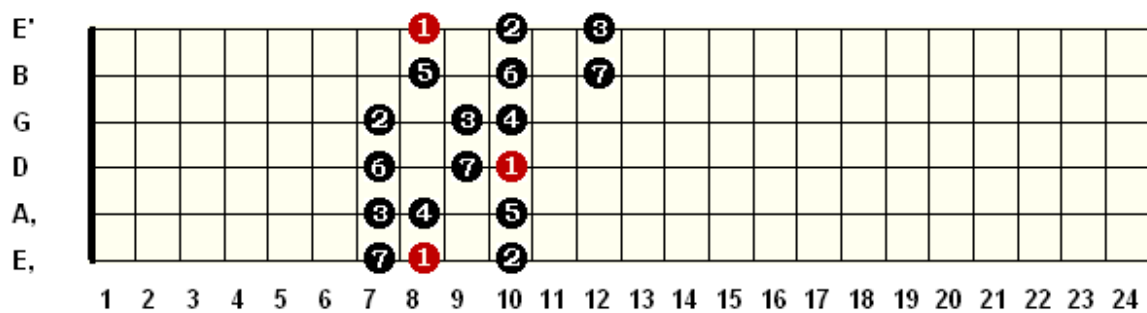
C Major Scale Pattern 3

C Major Scale



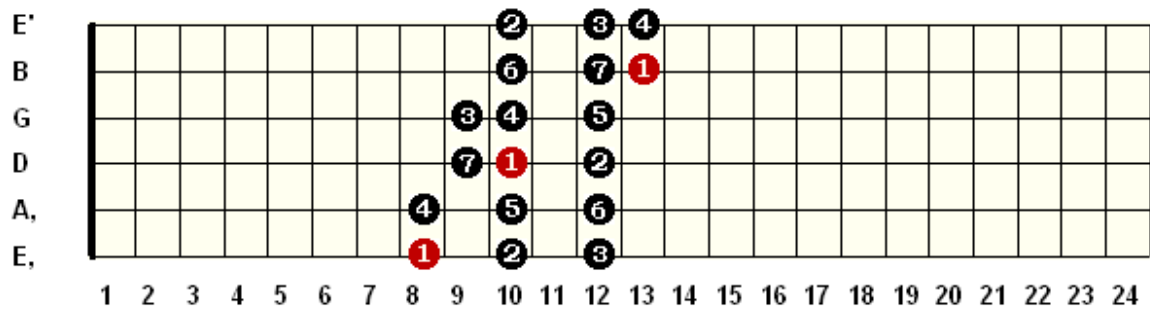
C Major Scale Pattern 4

C Major Scale



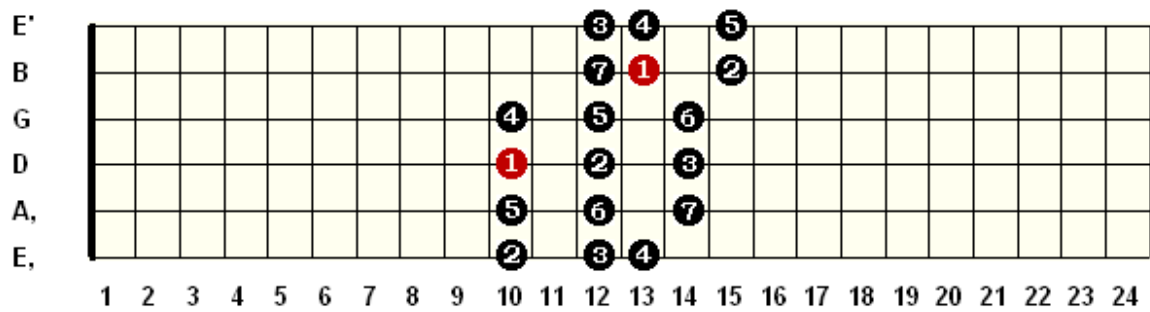
C Major Scale Pattern 5

C Major Scale



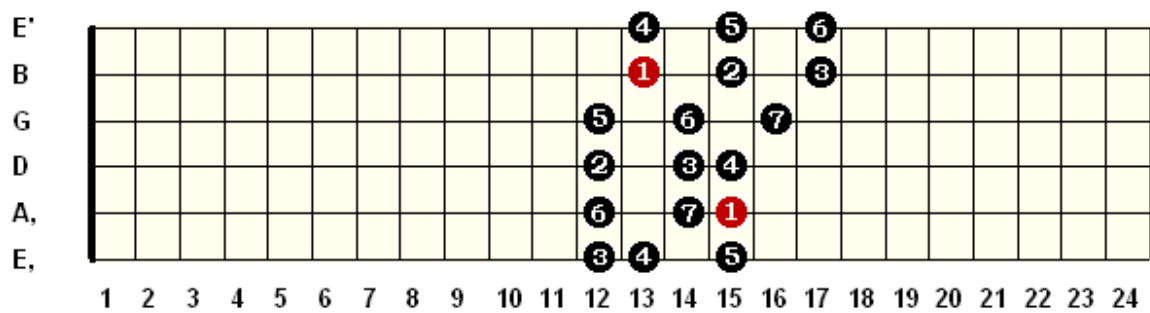
C Major Scale Pattern 6

C Major Scale



C Major Scale Pattern 7

C Major Scale



Once you get to the last pattern, everything repeats all over again, so in order to play the major scale all over the neck you have to memorise only 7 patterns.

Changing Key

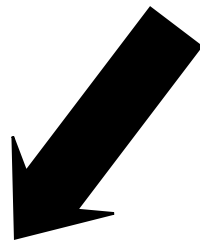
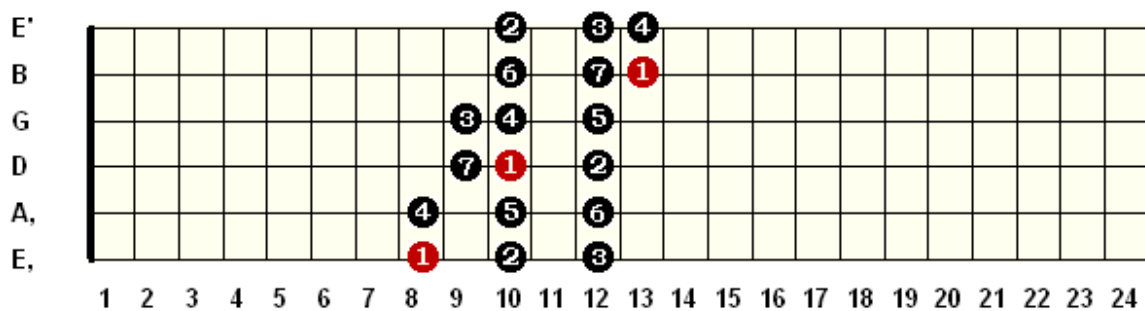
In order to change keys relocate the pattern so that root or dot with a 1 in red is on the right root note on the bottom e string.

For example:

- To play in the key of G Major move the pattern played at the 8th Fret down to the 3rd Fret (G A B C D E F#)
- To play in the key of A Major move the pattern played at the 8th Fret down to the 5th Fret. (A B C# D E F# G#)
- ETC

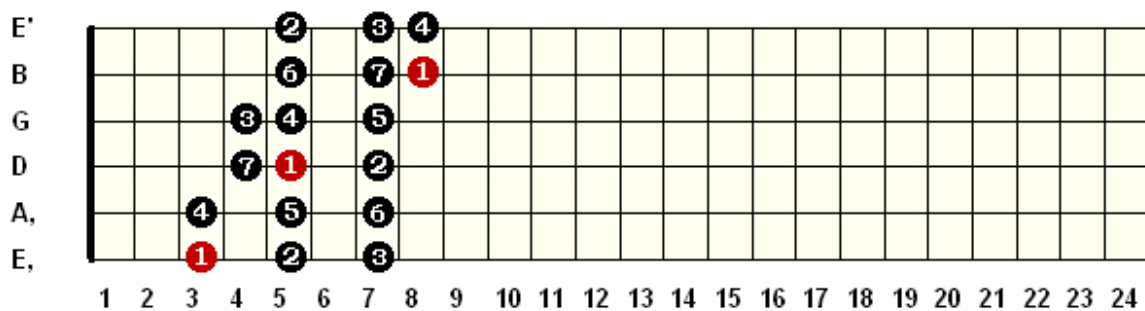
To illustrate, pattern 5 played at the 8th fret , moves down to the 3rd fret to play in the key of G Major

C Major Scale



Pattern moves from 8th fret to 3rd fret, the notes change to G A B C D E F#)

G Major Scale



To build on your knowledge here, check out the following other instructional's

- [Scales 1.11 Playing in all Major keys - Exercises and tips](#)
- [Scales 1.2 Harmonic Minor Scale](#)
- [Scales 1.1 Major - Video Lesson -](#)
- [Scales 1.11 Playing in all Major Keys - Video Lesson](#)
- [Scales 1.12 Intervalic Patterns](#)

The following tablature and music file demonstrates the major scale played in all 7 positions

C Major Scale

ITeach Music

Moderate ♩ = 120

1 2 3 4

TAB

1 3 5 2 3 5 2 3 5 2 4 5 3 5 6 3 5 7 5 3 6 5 3 5 4 2 5 3 2 5 3 2

5 6 7 8 9

5 3 1 3 5 7 3 5 7 4 5 7 5 6 8 5 7 8 7 5 8 6 5 7 5 4 7 5 3 7 5 3

10 11 12 13 14

7 5 3 5 7 8 5 7 8 5 7 9 5 7 9 6 8 10 7 8 10 8 7 10 8 6 9 7 5 9 7 5 8 7 5

15 16 17 18 19

8 7 8 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10 8 10 12 8 10 12 10 8 12 10 8 10 9 7 10 9 7 10 8 7

20 21 22 23 24

10 8 7 8 10 12 8 10 12 9 10 12 9 10 12 10 12 13 10 12 13 12 10 13 12 10 12 10 9 12 10 9 12 10 8

Moderate ♩ = 120

1 2 3 4

12 10 8 10 12 13 10 12 14 10 12 14 10 12 14 12 13 15 12 13 15 13 12 15 13 12 14

TAB

Detailed description: This block contains the first four measures of a musical piece. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of 'Moderate' and a quarter note equal to 120 beats. The notes are: M1: G4, A4, B4, C5; M2: D5, E5, F5, G5; M3: A5, B5, C6, D6; M4: E6, F6, G6, A6. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB with six strings. The fret numbers are: M1: 12, 10, 8; M2: 10, 12, 13; M3: 10, 12, 14; M4: 10, 12, 14. The strings are numbered 1-6 from top to bottom.

5 6 7 8

12 10 14 12 10 14 12 10 13 12 10 12 13 15 12 14 15 12 14 15 12 14 16 13 15 17 13

Detailed description: This block contains measures 5 through 8. The top staff continues the melodic line: M5: B5, A5, G5, F5; M6: E5, D5, C5, B4; M7: A4, G4, F4, E4; M8: D4, C4, B3, A3. The bottom staff continues the guitar TAB: M5: 12, 10; M6: 14, 12, 10; M7: 14, 12, 10; M8: 13, 12, 10. The strings are numbered 1-6 from top to bottom.

9 10 11

15 17 15 13 17 15 13 16 14 12 15 14 12 15 14 12 15 13 12

Detailed description: This block contains measures 9 through 11. The top staff continues the melodic line: M9: G5, F5, E5, D5; M10: C5, B4, A4, G4; M11: F4, E4, D4, C4. The bottom staff continues the guitar TAB: M9: 15, 17, 15, 13; M10: 17, 15, 13; M11: 16, 14, 12. The strings are numbered 1-6 from top to bottom.

Click on the icon to play this Scale



Below is a chord vamp in the key of C Major, in order to start practicing the scale over a chordal setting, try and come up with as many ideas of your own as you can, only by actually using the scale to make music can you really get it down.

C Major Chord Vamp

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Moderate ♩ = 100

The image shows musical notation for a C Major Chord Vamp. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a guitar tablature (TAB) staff. The treble staff is in 4/4 time and contains two measures of music. The first measure starts with a red '1' above the staff and contains a C major chord (C4, E4, G4) followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4. The second measure starts with a red '2' above the staff and contains a C major chord (C4, E4, G4) followed by a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3. The piece ends with a double bar line and a red '8x3' above it. The TAB staff shows the fret numbers for each string: 3 5 3 0 3 | 3 0 0 3 | 2 0 2 0 | 0 3 3 0.

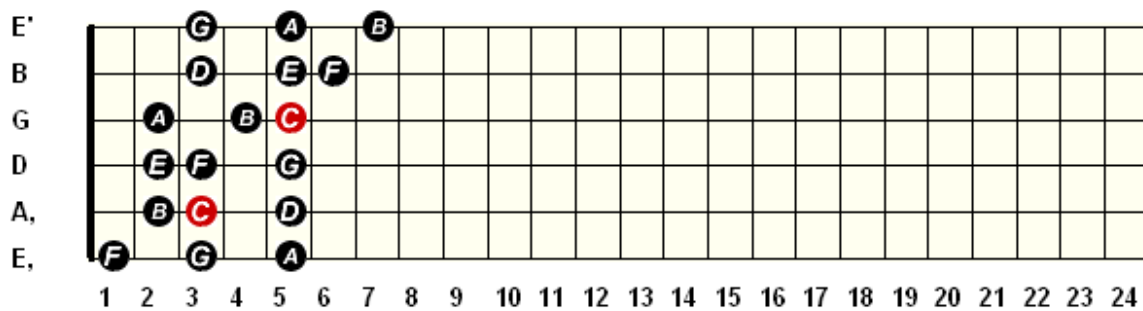
Click on the icon to play this Chord Vamp



The last neck diagrams repeat the patterns shown, but instead of using scale degrees they show the actual notes of the scale.

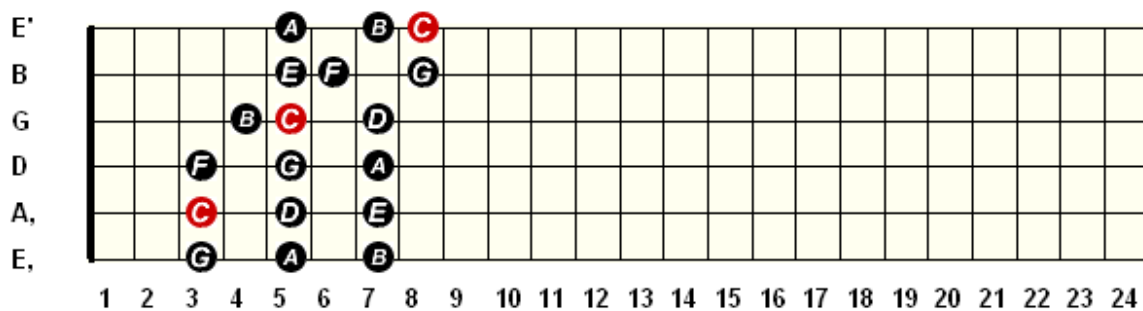
C Major Scale Position 1 - Using Notes

C Major Scale



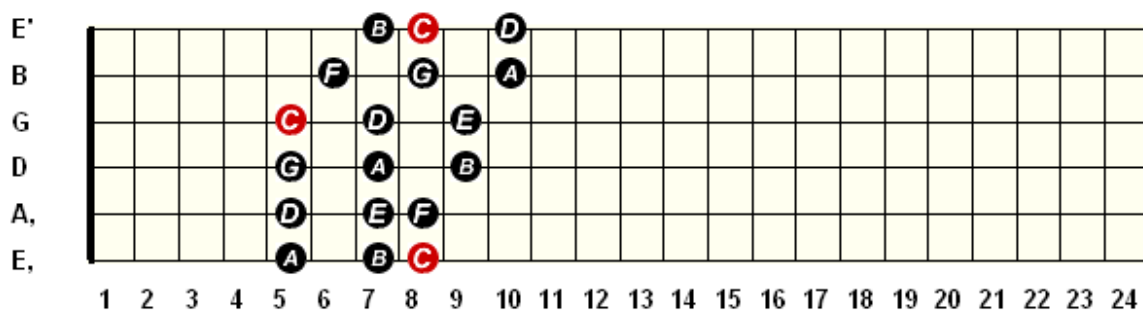
C Major Scale Position 2 Using Notes

C Major Scale



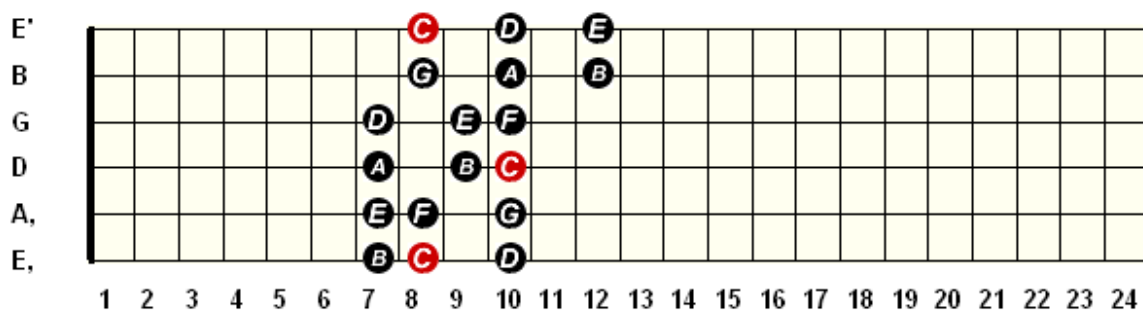
C Major Scale Position 3 Using Notes

C Major Scale



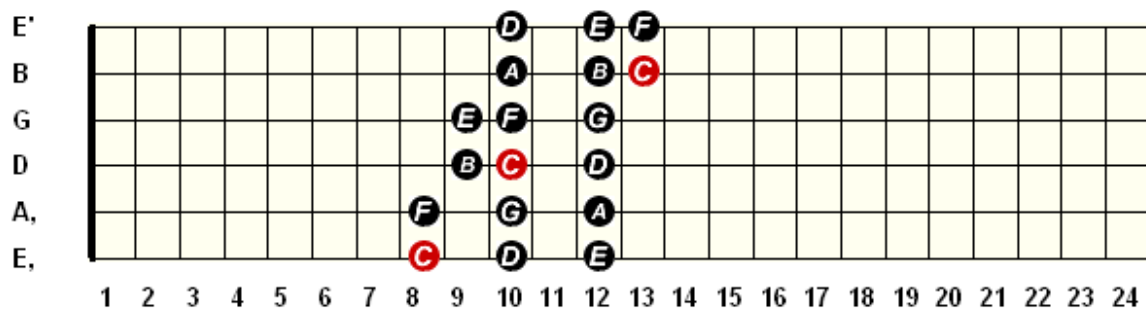
C Major Scale Position 4 Using Notes

C Major Scale



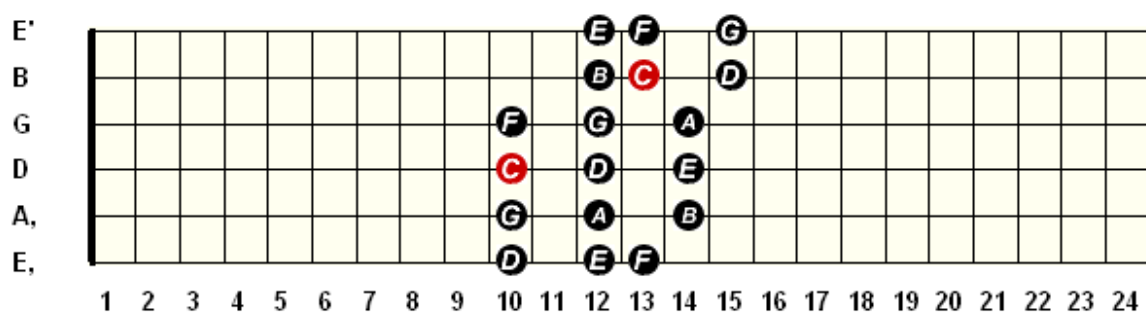
C Major Scale Position 8 Using Notes

C Major Scale



C Major Scale Position 10 Using Notes

C Major Scale



C Major Scale Position 12 Using Notes

C Major Scale

