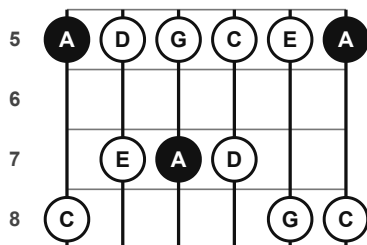
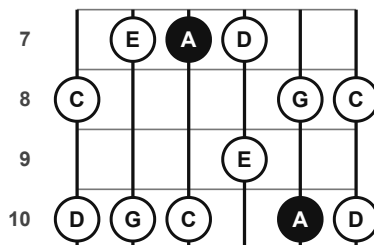


Pentatonic scale on guitar: the five shapes

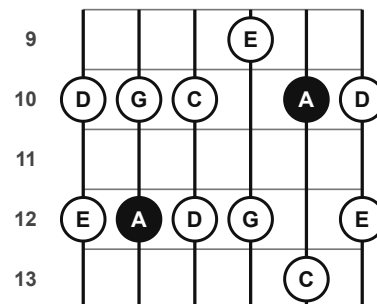
A minor pentatonic is A, C, D, E, G (root, b3, 4, 5, b7). Five shapes cover the neck, two notes per string. Filled dots are the root, A.



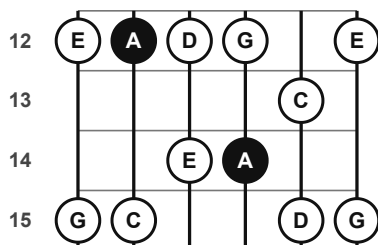
Shape 1. Frets 5 to 8.



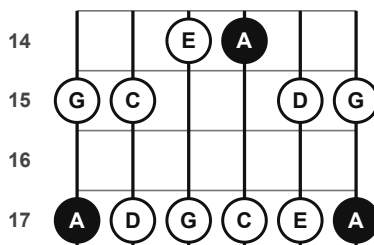
Shape 2. Frets 7 to 10.



Shape 3. Frets 9 to 13.



Shape 4. Frets 12 to 15.



Shape 5. Frets 14 to 17.

Play this first. Shape 1, low to high: 6th string frets 5 and 8, 5th string 5 and 7, 4th string 5 and 7, 3rd string 5 and 7, 2nd string 5 and 8, 1st string 5 and 8. Listen for A at the bottom and the top: the same note, two octaves apart (computed).

"Whenever you learn a scale, the amount of notes on that scale can be the amount of positions that you can come up with."

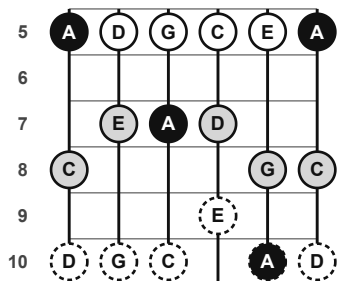
Daniel Weiss, from his YouTube lesson [These Pentatonic Scale Ideas WILL Transform Your Playing!](#) (4:42)

Free lesson, weissguitar.com/pentatonic-scale/. Standard tuning. Filled dot = root (A). Charts computed from the scale formula, not Daniel's fingering.

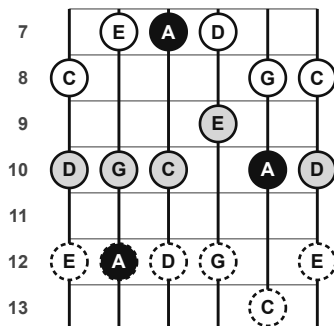
Not sure what to practice next? Take the free 3-minute assessment: weissguitar.com/diagnostic/?from=pdf_pentatonic-scale

How the five shapes connect

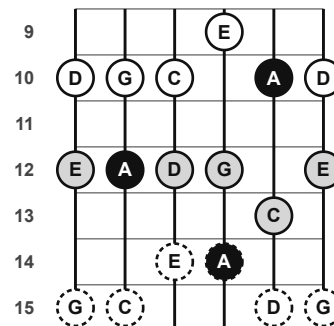
Neighboring shapes share one note on every string, six in all. Shape 5 meets shape 1 again twelve frets higher.



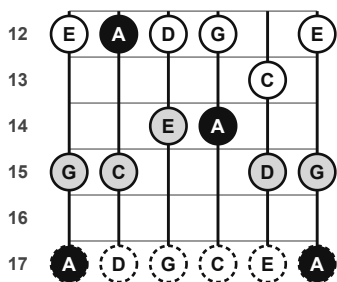
Shape 1 and 2. Solid: first. Dashed: second. Shaded: shared.



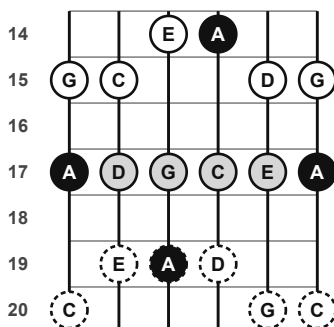
Shape 2 and 3. Solid: first. Dashed: second. Shaded: shared.



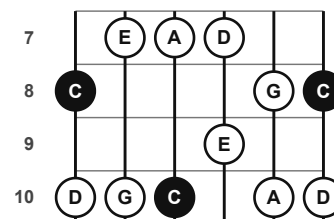
Shape 3 and 4. Solid: first. Dashed: second. Shaded: shared.



Shape 4 and 5. Solid: first. Dashed: second. Shaded: shared.



Shape 5 and 1, 12 frets up. Solid: first. Dashed: second. Shaded: shared.



Same notes, other root. C major pentatonic in shape 2, the same twelve notes as A minor shape 2. Filled dots are C. Computed.

Play this. Take one idea in shape 1, then play the same idea in shape 2.

Listen for the shared notes: they sound the same in both shapes. Shapes 1 and 2 share (computed) C (6th string, fret 8), E (5th, 7), A (4th, 7), D (3rd, 7), G (2nd, 8) and C (1st, 8).

"I try to just connect those positions while keeping an idea going."

Daniel Weiss, from his YouTube lesson Simple Ways to Modernize Your Pentatonic Guitar Solos (4:46)

Free lesson, weissguitar.com/pentatonic-scale/. Standard tuning. Filled dot = root (A or C). Solid = first shape. Dashed = second shape. Shaded = shared note. Charts computed from the scale formula, not Daniel's fingering.

Not sure what to practice next? Take the free 3-minute assessment: weissguitar.com/diagnostic/?from=pdf_pentatonic-scale