

Pentatonic Scale Information

The Pentatonic Scale is made of 5 notes. Pentatonic Scales are usually referred to as the Major Pentatonic Scales and the Minor Pentatonic Scales.

The Major Scale is made of 7 notes. The notes that make up the Major Pentatonic Scale are the 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the Major Scale.

The Natural Minor Scale is made of 7 notes. The notes that make up the Minor Pentatonic Scale are the 1, 3, 4, 5 and 7 of the Natural Minor Scale.

The Pentatonic Scale is used in many styles of music and is very popular in Blues, Rock, Pop, Gospel and Spirituals.

With Pentatonic Scales, nearly any series or combination of notes that are played sound musically pleasing when played against a variety of chords. This makes Pentatonic Scales ideal for improvising and soloing. It is hard to make a mistake when playing and trying different note sequences within the scale. Pentatonic Scales represent a great way to get started with improvising, because it is easy to hear and play.

When improvising, if a particular song is in a certain key (we will use the key of G as an example), use the G Major Pentatonic scale for a more positive happy sound, and use the G Minor Pentatonic Scale for a bluesy sadder sound. You generally don't need to change Pentatonic Scales when a chord changes in a song. The notes in the chord progression should already be in the Pentatonic Scale you are using.