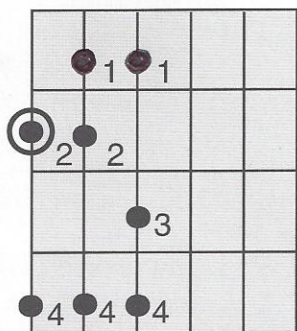


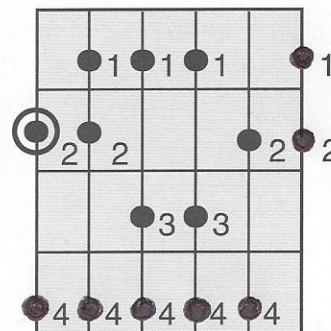
The Major Scale

First form

One octave



Two octaves



The circled note is the root (also called the “tonic”).

That note determines the key you’re playing in.

“First form” means that the root is on the 6th string (the low E). Knowing the notes on that string allows you to play the major scale in any key. Simply start by placing your second finger on the appropriate fret.

NOTES ON THE 6th STRING (The low E string):

NOTES:	F	F#	G	G#	A	A#	B	C	C#	D	D#	E
		$\frac{F\#}{G\flat}$		$\frac{G\#}{A\flat}$		$\frac{A\#}{B\flat}$			$\frac{C\#}{D\flat}$		$\frac{D\#}{E\flat}$	
FRETS:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Starting with your 2nd finger on the 2nd fret will produce an F# major scale (also called a Gb major scale). Starting on the 8th fret will produce a C major scale, etc.

Practice the one-octave scale pattern first. It’s best for learning the sound of the major scale. (Be sure your guitar is in tune.) Once you’ve learned the one-octave pattern, play the two-octave pattern in various keys as part of your daily practice.

A word about “position”:

Playing “in position” means that the four fingers are assigned to four consecutive frets. The position you’re in is determined by the fret your first finger plays.

For example, in 4th position the first finger plays any notes on the fourth fret. The second finger plays the 5th fret, 3rd finger the 6th fret, etc.

Notice that if you play the first form major scale (shown above) in the key of A, you’re in 4th position, even though you start on the 5th fret.

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