

# Blues Scales: Major and Minor. Learning/Practice Pages

## 12-Keys/Roots for R.H. Practice

JimO

### 1. C Major Blues Scale

Musical notation for the C Major Blues Scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: C4 D4 E4 F4 | G4 A4 B4 C5 | C5 B4 A4 G4 | F4 E4 D4 C4. The notes are labeled with fingerings: 1, 2, b3, 3, 5, 6, 1/8.

### 5 C Minor Blues Scale

Musical notation for the C Minor Blues Scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: C4 D4 E4 F4 | G4 A4 B4 C5 | C5 B4 A4 G4 | F4 E4 D4 C4. The notes are labeled with fingerings: 1, b3, 4 #4/b5, 5, b7, 1/8.

### 9 2. F major

Musical notation for the F major scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: F4 G4 A4 B4 | C5 D5 E5 F5 | F5 E5 D5 C5 | B4 A4 G4 F4.

### 13 F minor

Musical notation for the F minor scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: F4 G4 A4 B4 | C5 D5 E5 F5 | F5 E5 D5 C5 | B4 A4 G4 F4.

### 17 G major

Musical notation for the G major scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), G5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: G4 A4 B4 C5 | D5 E5 F5 G5 | G5 F5 E5 D5 | C5 B4 A4 G4.

### 21 G minor

Musical notation for the G minor scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), G5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: G4 A4 B4 C5 | D5 E5 F5 G5 | G5 F5 E5 D5 | C5 B4 A4 G4.

### 25 D major

Musical notation for the D major scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: D4 E4 F4 G4 | A4 B4 C5 D5 | D5 C5 B4 A4 | G4 F4 E4 D4.

### 29 D minor

Musical notation for the D minor scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: D4 E4 F4 G4 | A4 B4 C5 D5 | D5 C5 B4 A4 | G4 F4 E4 D4.

### 33 Bb major

Musical notation for the Bb major scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), Eb5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), Ab5 (quarter), Bb5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: Bb4 C5 D5 Eb5 | F5 G5 Ab5 Bb5 | Bb5 Ab5 G5 F5 | Eb5 D5 C5 Bb4.

### 37 Bb minor

Musical notation for the Bb minor scale in 4/4 time. The scale is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: Bb4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), Eb5 (quarter), F5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), Ab5 (quarter), Bb5 (quarter). The notes are grouped into four measures: Bb4 C5 D5 Eb5 | F5 G5 Ab5 Bb5 | Bb5 Ab5 G5 F5 | Eb5 D5 C5 Bb4.





A good way to practice these scales is to play them in I-IV-V progressions. Basic blues tunes are arranged this way, so it makes sense to play them in those combinations. Here are the symbols.

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>KEY OF C</u> : C7-F7-G7     | 2. <u>KEY OF F</u> : F7-Bb7-C7     | 3. <u>KEY OF G</u> : G7-C7-D7           |
| 4. <u>KEY OF D</u> : D7-G7-A7     | 5. <u>KEY OF Bb</u> : Bb7-Eb7-F7   | 6. <u>KEY OF A</u> : A7-D7-E7           |
| 7. <u>KEY OF Eb</u> : Eb7-Ab7-Bb7 | 8. <u>KEY OF E</u> : E7-A7-B7      | 9. <u>KEY OF Ab</u> : Ab7-Db7-Eb7       |
| 10. <u>KEY OF B</u> : B7-E7-F#7   | 11. <u>KEY OF Db</u> : Db7-Gb7-Ab7 | 12. <u>KEY OF Gb</u> : Gb7-Cb7(B7)- Db7 |

(The 3 "enharmonic" scales are not presented here, since most Blues players aren't very fond of them. For the academic-minded aspiring blues musician we will simply mention that there are 15 scales allowed in the notation conventions for professional scores. The ones not accounted for in this exercise are the keys of F#, C# and Cb. In the sub-culture of Blues Bands these scales are never mentioned, since they could start a bar-fight or, perhaps a sharply raised eyebrow.) lol