

Scale Sequences

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Dave Jones

5 8 5 8 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 8 5 8 5

5 8 5 8 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 7 5 8 5 8 5

This exercise is based on playing the minor pentatonic scale ascending and descending in triplets. Triplets are 3 notes per beat, think of a 3 syllable word like 'Rock 'n' Roll'. Clap the rhythm of the word first, then try playing the same rhythm on the guitar. This exercise is great for developing picking and fretting hand coordination. However, it is essential that you only play at a tempo that you can manage. You should aim for accuracy, clarity and even timing, before increasing the tempo. Make sure you can play the exercise 4 or 5 times without mistakes, before increasing your speed, otherwise you will 'learn' your mistakes.