**Color Tones** 

## **Your Best Blues Solo Ever!**



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Key: A Harmony: A7, D7, E7 Video Tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x aMae9uRrI

Harmony Review Strum Pattern:

| 1          | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | & | 1  | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | & | 1  | & | 2 | æ | 3 | & | 4 | æ | 1          | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | æ | 1 |
|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>A</b> 7 | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | A  | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | A  | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | <b>A</b> 7 | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | 1 |
| D          |   | D | U |   | U | D | U | D  |   | D | υ |   | υ | D | U | D  |   | D | U |   | U | D | U | D          |   | D | U |   | υ | D | U | I |
|            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1          | & | 2 | & | 3 | æ | 4 | & | 1  | & | 2 | æ | 3 | & | 4 | æ | 1  | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | æ | 1          | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | & | I |
| D7         | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | D  | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | A  | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | A7         | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | T |
| D          |   | D | U |   | U | D | U | D  |   | D | υ |   | υ | D | U | D  |   | D | U |   | U | D | U | D          |   | D | U |   | U | D | U | T |
|            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |            |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1          | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | & | 11 | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | æ | 11 | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | & | 11         | & | 2 | & | 3 | & | 4 | & | T |
| E7         | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | D  | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | A  | 7 |   |   |   |   |   |   | E7         | 1 |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   |
| D          |   | D | U |   | U | D | U | ID |   | D | U |   | U | D | υ | D  |   | D | U |   | υ | D | U | D          |   | D | U |   | υ | D | U | 1 |
| D          |   | D | U |   | υ | D | U | D  |   | D | υ |   | υ | D | U | D  |   | D | υ |   | υ | D | U | D          | L | D | U |   | υ | D | U | I |

Scale Review

The minor pentatonic scale



- The greatest starter scale. It works with blues, and it works soloing over minor progressions in A as well as major progression in C

The Blues Scale

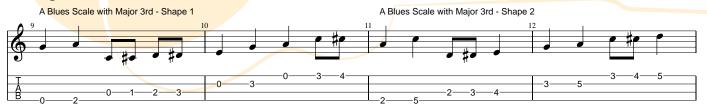


- Add the flat 5<sup>th</sup> interval and now you are really cooking. It is just a passing tone but by adding that passing tone to what you are playing you get some really interesting things.
- Just make sure you don't land on this note

Intervals of the blues scale in A

- Root - A note • This is where you resolve, the last note of your solo, home base, it is where everything finishes. • You DON'T have to start here though, and you don't need to finish ever phrase on this note. - b3rd - C Note  $\circ$  The flat 3<sup>rd</sup>, this is the minor note and it is the one that makes the scale sound strange as you are playing a minor note over major chords 4<sup>th</sup> - D Note • This is root of your IV chord It is dissonant over the A7 as it clashes with the C# b5<sup>th</sup> - Eb • This is the passing tone that transforms the minor pentatonic into the blues scale  $5^{th} - E$ This is the most neutral note, a very safe sound.  $-b7^{th}-G$  $_{\odot}$  This is the note that turns the A chord into the A7 Dissonant, but in a good way. You can use this scale to really create some lovely tension.

## Adding the 3rd



- This note can really make your blues sound other level professional.
- You can hammer into it from the C
- You can also do a blues curl, which is a bend between the C and the C# note
- This trick works over the I and V chord, NOT the IV chord

## Example Lick

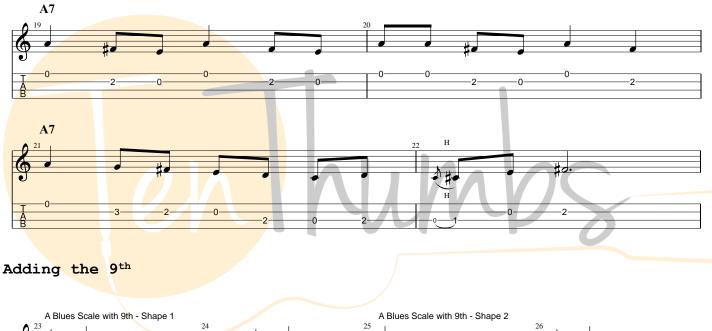


## Adding the 6<sup>th</sup>



- This note is known as the marker for the relative minor
- It is the classic sound used in southern rock
- In a blues context it gives a safe, happy, rock, country sound that is also sophisticated and smooth at the same time.

Example Licks





- This is the "funk note"
- Is featured prominently in rhythmic ideas in all funk music
- It sounds great when added to a 7 or a m7 chord as well for rhythm

Example Lick

