

Major Scales combining all "Five Strings"

It is imperative to memorize all scales: Lots of speed is also good.

Octave=8 notes in alphabetical order. The "octave note" will have the same name as the first note.

Key of "C"

Key of "G"

Key of "D"

When playing the D major scale, it is best to shift the left hand momentarily into 2nd position when you get to the first string. This makes the playing of the high "A" easier than stretching out with the baby finger. The entire D major scale is often played completely in 2nd position because there is no need to reserve a finger for the first fret. For now, we will play D major in open first position.

Although not marked as such, use combination fingering whenever it is appropriate. Keep in mind that in a scale, you are trying to produce a seamless transition from one note to the next. Poor fingering technique will produce "clipped" notes.

The "eight" notes in any major scale have the following technical names. It is a good idea to memorize these names for future studies.

1. Tonic (first note)
2. Super Tonic (second note----super = above-----"above the tonic")
3. Mediant (third note-----approximately half way between the tonic and the dominant)
4. Sub Dominant (fourth note----directly below the dominant-----sub=below)
5. Dominant (5th note-----this note will play a key role in music in a multitude of ways)
6. Sub Mediant (6th note-----approximately half way between the sub dominant and the upper tonic note (8th or Octave)
7. Leading Note or Leading Tone (7th----if you sing or play the scale from the Tonic upwards, and then stop on the leading note, you will probably notice that this note sounds like an unlikely end for the scale. The leading note tends to lead to the "upper tonic.")
8. Octave or Upper Tonic (8th note-----sounds like a conclusion for the scale)

Progress Report: _____
