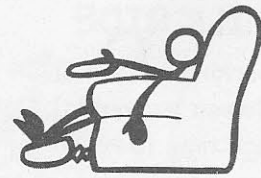




BASS SCALES (A FISHY SUBJECT)



There's not enough room in this book to teach you all about scales and how to use them. But, if you know a scale or two, here are some ideas on getting the most out of them during mindless couch potato practicing time. For the following exercises, you're going to use a C Major scale. You could adapt these exercises to any key or type of scale you wish; they're just patterns.

Below is a C Major scale. The major scale is made by starting on the *key note* (the note the scale is named after, in this case C) and following this pattern of whole steps and half steps: whole-whole-half-whole-whole-half. This C Major scale begins with finger 2 on string 4 at the 8th fret, which places it in 7th position.

C Major Scale (7th Position, Starting on Finger 2)

W W H W W W H

C D E F G A B C

T
A
B

8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10

2 4 1 2 4 1 3 4

And now, let's play a bunch of patterns. In the first one, follow this pattern: skip up a 3rd (every other scale tone is an *interval*, or distance, of a 3rd), go down a scale tone, skip up a 3rd, go down a scale tone, etc. For simplicity, this is shown with alternate fingerpicking.

Ascending: Up a 3rd, Down a Scale Tone

i *m* *i* *m* etc.

T
A
B

8 7 10 8 7 10 8 7 10 9 7 10 9 7 10

2 1 4 2 1 4 2 1 4 3 1 4 3 1 4

Here's the descending version of the pattern.

Descending: Down a 3rd, Up a Scale Tone

i *m* *i* *m* etc.

T
A
B

10 7 9 10 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 8 10 7 8

4 1 3 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2 4 1 2