
MINOR PENTATONIC SCALES

The **minor pentatonic scale** is a five-note scale based on the minor scale. Let's think of it relative to the major scale, though. It uses the root, a lowered or flat 3rd (aka minor 3rd), the 4th, 5th and flat 7th scale tones. By thinking of these scales relative to the major scale, you should still be able to "see" how the major scale falls on top of and around the notes in the minor pentatonic scale. When you can identify the major scale around the notes you are playing (even if you are not playing notes in the major scale), then you will have a very complete understanding of the notes on your fingerboard.

Figure 2.5 shows you the notes in the C minor pentatonic scale and Figure 2.6 lists all twelve of the minor pentatonic scales. Use Exercise 2.3 to learn the C minor pentatonic scale in all positions up to the 12th fret and then go learn the other eleven minor pentatonic scales using the same approach. (I know it's a lot of work, but it's better than not getting any gigs!)

C Minor Pentatonic Scale

Fig 2.5

