## Minor Pentatonic Scale

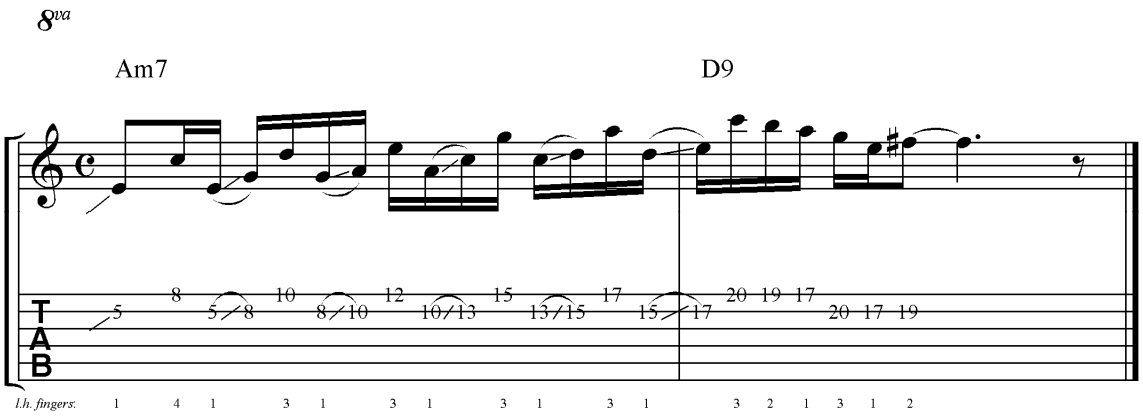
**Riff# - 119**

Sliding Two-Note Shapes

Date – 04/28

Of all scales the minor pentatonic is beyond question the most used scale for blues, rock and country soloing. It is a most malleable scale and suited for many uses and contexts. The theoretical construction of the minor pentatonic scale is 1 b3 4 5 b7. One of the benefits of this scale is the shapes that it makes on the fretboard and its relative ease of fingering. With our basic pentatonic scales having two notes on each string, we can create easy two-note shapes by only playing one note from each string. These shapes can then be combined with adjacent scale positions to create a fluid, connected run up, or down, the neck.

Today's lick starts off with an A minor pentatonic scale (A C D E G) at the fifth fret. The notes on the 2nd and 1st strings for the full scale would be the fifth and eighth frets on both strings. We are only going to use the fifth fret of the 2nd string and the eighth fret of the 1st string. We are going to then move into each next successive pentatonic scale position by sliding to it with our first finger on the second string. As we move through all five pentatonic positions on the first and second string we will finally windup at the seventeenth fret or one octave higher then where we started at the fifth fret. Our lick ends with a short scale run through the A Dorian scale (A B C D E F# G).




Click for audio

**Gear Box of the Day**: The locking tremolo had its origination in 1979 when Floyd Rose figured out a solution to the tuning problems of standard tremolos with his innovative locking nut and bridge fine tuners. By locking the nut at bridge the strings could no longer pass through the nut of the guitar and then subsequently become caught in the nut slots on the way back through after the tremolo bar was released. By having the nut locked, fine tuners were added at the bridge to allow for smaller tuning adjustments without unlocking the clamps on the nut. In 1982 Rose negotiated a licensing deal with Kramer guitars to put his new invention on their guitars. Kramer also happened to have as an endorsee at the time a certain guitar player by the name of Eddie Van Halen. This coalescence of the right product for the right player at the right time and the success of the Floyd Rose tremolo was a lock, if you will.

US Patent
#6,822,151

Copyright 2008
A2G Sharp Music