

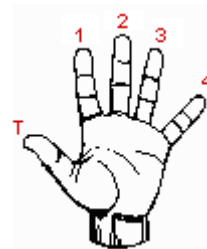
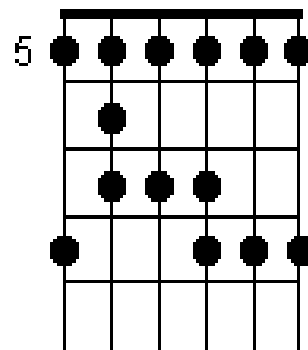
The Blues

A Scale



One of the best ways to start working on the co-ordination in your fingers is to practice playing scales. Although they may seem boring, they will certainly help build the strength and agility your fingers need to play the guitar well. Keep that in mind while practicing this new scale.

Count up to the fifth fret of your guitar. On most guitars, the fifth fret will be marked with a dot on the fretboard. Place your first finger on the fifth fret of the sixth string, and play that note. Next, put your fourth (pinky) finger on the eighth fret of the sixth string, and again play that note. Now, continue to the fifth string, and follow the pattern illustrated on the right, until you've reached the eighth fret on the first string. Take your time and learn this scale well... it'll be one that you use a lot in your blossoming career as a pro guitarist!



Remember :

- To use alternate picking throughout. Try starting the scale with a downstroke, then next time try starting the scale with an upstroke.
- Once you've finished the scale, try playing the scale backwards, by starting at the first string, third fret, and playing all notes in exactly the reverse order.
- The key here is accuracy, not speed! Try playing the scale very slowly, making sure that each note is ringing clearly.

