

E Minor Pentatonic Scale

All Five Shapes



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Key: E Minor/G Major

Chord in the key: G, Am, Bm, C, D, Em, F#dim°

Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqPH3cbrUgo>

This is the most important scale on the baritone Ukulele because

1. Shape 1 starts at the beginning of the fretboard
2. Shape 1 has all 4 open strings
3. It is perfect for playing blues in E
4. You can improvise in the key of G major and E minor

This tutorial will introduce you all 5 shapes. Commit these to memory and

Shape 1 - Note how this is shape 1 at the very start of the fretboard, that is why E minor is the most important scale to learn on the fretboard, because it starts at the beginning.

E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 1

Musical notation for E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 1. The notation is in 4/4 time and E minor key. The scale is shown on a treble clef staff and a baritone ukulele fretboard. The notes are E (open), G (2nd fret), B (open), D (2nd fret), E (open), G (3rd fret), B (open), D (3rd fret). The fretboard shows fingerings: 0-2-0-2 for the first two notes, and 0-3-0-3 for the last two notes.

Shape 2 - I love to slide into this shape from the G string 2nd fret and really get into some great bends on the B string.

E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 2

Musical notation for E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 2. The notation is in 4/4 time and E minor key. The scale is shown on a treble clef staff and a baritone ukulele fretboard. The notes are E (2nd fret), G (5th fret), B (2nd fret), D (4th fret), E (3rd fret), G (5th fret), B (3rd fret), D (5th fret). The fretboard shows fingerings: 2-5-2-4 for the first two notes, and 3-5-3-5 for the last two notes.

Shape 3 - I use this shape the least admittedly.

E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 3

Musical notation for E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 3. The notation is in 4/4 time and E minor key. The scale is shown on a treble clef staff and a baritone ukulele fretboard. The notes are E (5th fret), G (7th fret), B (4th fret), D (7th fret), E (5th fret), G (8th fret), B (5th fret), D (7th fret). The fretboard shows fingerings: 5-7-4-7 for the first two notes, and 5-8-5-7 for the last two notes.

Shape 4 - I love to play around with the left side of this shape on the G, B and E strings, very cool double stops.

E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 4

7 9 7 9 8 10 7 10

Shape 5 - This shape also has some really cool double stops on the B and E the strings sliding from the 10th to the 12th fret.

E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 5

9 12 9 12 10 12 10 12

Shape 1 The Octave - Note how this is the exact same shape as shape 1, this is how they work, they start over. This is also how transposition works and it is the basis for how to move these shapes.

E Minor Pentatonic - Shape 1 (One Octave Up)

12 14 12 14 12 15 12 15