

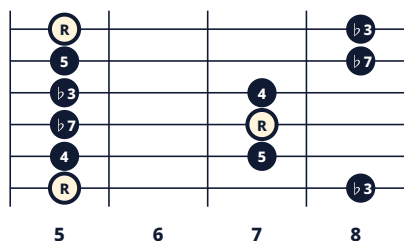
The 5 minor pentatonic positions

The minor pentatonic scale has five positions, or boxes, that cover the guitar neck. In A minor they sit at frets 5–8, 7–10, 9–13, 12–15 and 2–5, then position 1 comes back 12 frets higher. Each box has two notes on every string, and neighbouring boxes share notes, so the five join into one map of the neck.

The five positions · dots show degrees: A R · C $\flat$ 3 · D 4 · E 5 · G $\flat$ 7. Cream is the root.

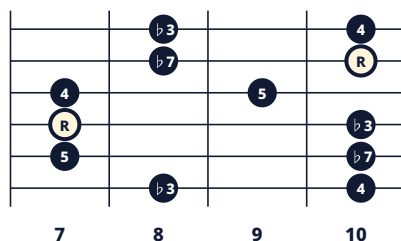
1 position

Frets 5–8



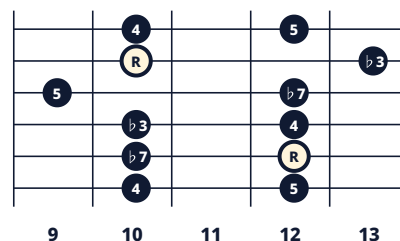
2 position

Frets 7–10



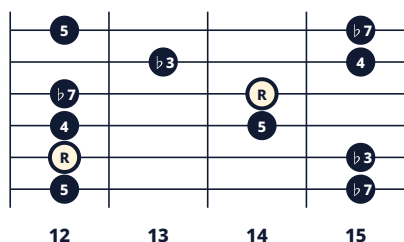
3 position

Frets 9–13



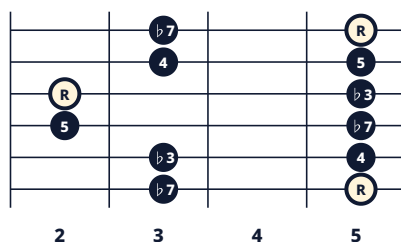
4 position

Frets 12–15



5 position

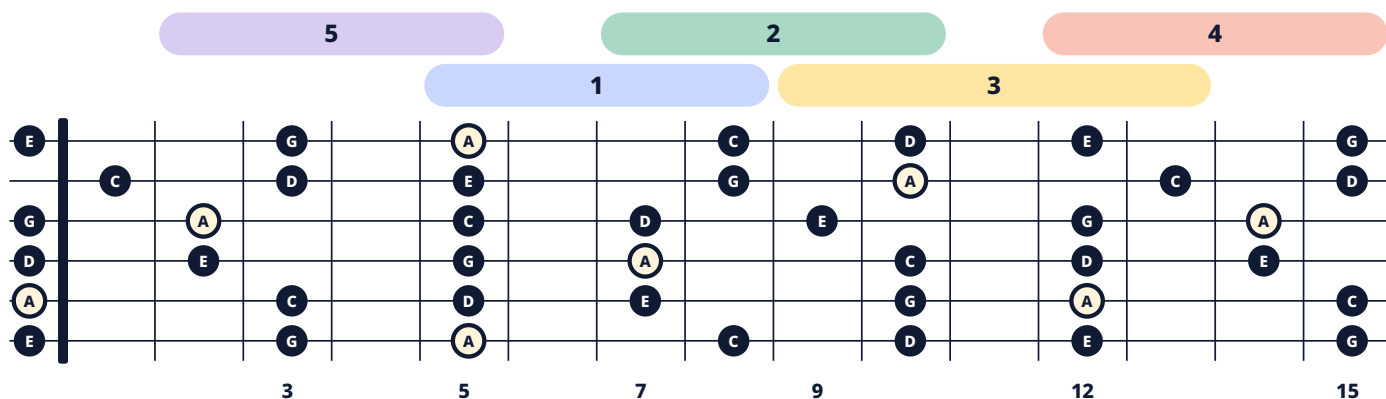
Frets 2–5



How to practise it

1. Play position 1 from the low E string to the high e and back, one note per click at 60 BPM. Start and end on a root.
2. Learn position 2 the same way, then move between the two through the notes they share.
3. Put on a slow backing track in A minor and improvise inside one box. End each phrase on a cream root.

All five on one neck



Each bracket is a position. Where brackets overlap, the boxes share notes: that is how you slide from one to the next.