

Bb Blues Scale

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The image shows the Bb Blues Scale in 3/4 time, spanning two octaves. The notes are Bb, Db, Eb, E, F, Ab, Bb, Ab, F, E, Eb, Db, Bb. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. The scale is written in two staves: Treble and Bass.

The term blues scale is used to describe a few scales with differing number of pitches and related characteristics. The more popular of the blues scales is a six note scale.

A major feature of the blues scale is the use of blue notes (flattened 3rd, 5th, and 7th notes). At its most basic, a single version of this "blues scale" is commonly used over all changes (or chords) in a twelve bar blues progression.

Make sure that you follow the fingering as written above each note. Remember, your thumbs are "1" and you number out from there to your pinky fingers which are "5".

Start with the right hand first. Once you feel comfortable with that, move to the left hand. After that play the scale with both hands.

Once you have mastered playing just one octave, move on to playing 2 octaves. Pay attention to your fingering as you move into the second octave.

Play around with this scale. The notes in this scale can give your improvising that "bluesy" sound.