

A Minor Pentatonic + 1 Blues Note and Intervals

21 Oct 26	A Minor Pentatonic Scale + 1 Blue Note © 2026 Copyright Alan Anderson Music	Rev 1.0
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FRETBOARD STRING SCHOOL

- Dobro – Lap Steel – Guitar – Weissenborn -



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Notes	Intervals
5th String G B D G B D	5th String G B D G B D
4th String G B D G B D	4th String G B D G B D

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Notes	Intervals
G B D G B D (G)	G B D G B D (b7)

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Workshop Notes

Learning Objectives:

- Learn the A Minor Pentatonic Blues scale on the Dobro fretboard in GBDGBD tuning.
- Learn the 4 movable shapes of the A Minor Pentatonic Blues scale on the Dobro fretboard.
- Establish ear/pitch recognition and tonal qualities of A Minor Pentatonic Blues scale and be able to identify each pitch with the interval quality.
- Learn how to move the root note from string to string and various fret locations.
- Learn how to navigate up and down the fretboard using the A Minor Pentatonic Blues scale to create interesting solos, intros, outros and fills.

Activities:

- Play each of the scales in the workshop diagrams on the strings indicated.
- Play and recognize the pitch, with your ear, the intervals in each diagram and its location. Notes are not as important as learning the intervals and their locations in the shapes. Later on, as you move the shapes from key to key, the interval and their recognition will be much more important than knowing the note names of the A Minor Pentatonic Blues scale.
- Pick a simple song and play it in each position/shape. If you can hum it, it's a good pick for this activity. If you can't hum it, pick something easier. It's OK to pick something that isn't a Blues song and make it Bluesy! Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, You Are My Sun Shine, Row, Row, Row Your Boat, Ode to Joy, etc. Experiment, there are no sacred cows.