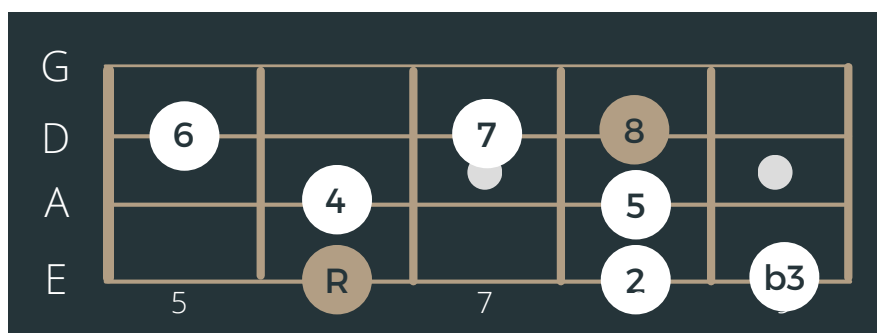




MELODIC MINOR SCALE IN ALTERNATING 7THS

The melodic minor scale is a minor scale with a flat 3rd but natural 6th and 7th.

Melodic minor intervals: root (1), 2, b3, 4, 5, 6, 7, octave (8)



It can be used to access the tension notes over dominant chords by starting the scale a semitone up from the root of the chord. e.g. over a B7 chord you could play the melodic minor scale starting from C; this would give you the b9, #9, #11 and b13 - all the tension notes!

Useful to know for this exercise:

Melodic minor scale

Major 7 and b7 interval shapes

In this exercise, we move through the melodic minor scale in alternating 7ths. i.e we ascend the first 7th interval (from the root to the 7th, then descend the second 7th interval (from the root octave to the 2nd) etc. Practicing scales in intervals rather than just linearly helps you internalise the sounds and leads to more creative soloing ideas.

The example provided is in the key of A# (or Bb). I recommend practicing this exercise in all 12 keys. It is also a good idea to practice over a drone or chord. For this exercise, a drone in A7 would work.

Musical score for bass guitar in 4/4 time, featuring a melody line and a corresponding fretboard diagram with fingerings. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The fretboard diagram shows fingerings for the left hand: 7-8, 5-6, 8-10, 12-14, 14-12, 10-8, 6-5, 8-7.



HAPPY BASSING!