

# The Blues Scale

The **Blues Scale**, as shown in the exercise below, is one of the most predominant scales used.

first position  
alternating picking

The following exercise will help you get acquainted with the **Em Blues Scale**.

# Symbols

**Bend** - The bend is produced by holding the note down and pushing upward. This technique results in a change of pitch or sound. In the example below, place your third finger on the third fret and bend (push up) the string. You may use your first and second fingers to help you push also. This technique may be challenging to perform at first, but with practice, your fingers will develop more dexterity and it will become easier.

**Pull-Off** - The pull-off is produced by plucking the first note and simply snapping your finger off the fretted note. This produces the pitch of the second note (the note in parenthesis) without actually plucking it. When a note is in parenthesis, you *pull-off to the note*, instead of plucking it.

**Slide** - The slide is produced by plucking the first note (on the third fret in this example) and sliding your finger up to the note in parenthesis (the fifth fret in this example), producing a *sliding up to the note* effect.

**Vibrato** - Vibrato is probably one of the most important techniques for the guitarist. It is achieved by shaking your wrist, which creates a vibrating or singing sound. Vibrato is a very personal technique and there are many ways to use it. Practice vibrato in the example below.

The diagram shows a musical staff in 4/4 time with a treble clef. The staff contains five notes. The first note is on the third fret and has an upward-pointing arrow labeled "bend" above it. The second note is on the second fret, with a slur over it and a "2" below it, followed by a parenthesis containing "0" below it, labeled "pull off". The third note is on the third fret, with a slur over it and a "3" below it, followed by a parenthesis containing "5" below it, labeled "slide". The fourth note is on the fifth fret, with a wavy line below it labeled "vibrato". The fifth note is on the fifth fret. Below the staff, the letters "T", "A", and "B" are stacked vertically. The fret numbers "3", "2", "3", and "5" are also indicated below the staff.

# Em Blues Scale Riffs Part 1

use alternating picking

Brian Turner

First system of music notation and guitar tablature. The staff shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The first measure contains a single note on the 3rd string, 0th fret. The second measure contains a quarter note on the 2nd string, 0th fret, followed by a quarter note on the 3rd string, 2nd fret, and a quarter note on the 2nd string, 0th fret. The third measure contains a quarter note on the 3rd string, 0th fret, followed by a quarter note on the 2nd string, 2nd fret, and a quarter note on the 3rd string, 2nd fret. The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each string: T (Treble) 0 3 0, A (4th) 2 0 2, B (5th) 0 3. A 'bend' annotation with an arrow points to the 2nd fret on the 3rd string in the third measure.

Second system of music notation and guitar tablature. The first measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The second measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The third measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each string: T 3 0 3 0, A 3 2 0 2, B 2 0 2 0 1 0 3 0.

Third system of music notation and guitar tablature. The first measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The second measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The third measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each string: T 0 2 0 2 2 3 2, A 3 (0) 0 2 (0) 2, B 0 2 0 2 2 2 3 2. 'pull off' annotations are placed above the 3rd and 2nd frets on the 3rd string in the second measure.

Fourth system of music notation and guitar tablature. The first measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The second measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The third measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each string: T 0 3 2 0 2, A 2 0 2 3 0 2, B 0 3 2 0 2 3 0.

Fifth system of music notation and guitar tablature. The first measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The second measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The third measure shows a sixteenth-note scale: 3rd string (0, 2, 3), 2nd string (0, 2, 3), 1st string (0, 2, 3). The tablature below shows the fret numbers for each string: T 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0, A 2 1 0 3 0 2, B 2 1 0 3 0 2. The system ends with a double bar line.

# Em Blues Scale Riffs Part 2

Brian Turner

Sheet music for guitar, featuring six systems of musical notation (treble clef) and guitar tablature (TAB) for the electric blues scale in E minor (Em).

The music is written in 4/4 time and consists of six systems, each with a musical staff and a corresponding TAB staff. The TAB staffs are labeled T (Treble), A (Acoustic), and B (Bass).

Key features include:

- System 1:** Musical staff with notes G4, A4, B4, C5. TAB: 2 (4) 3, 2 (4) 3 4, 2 (4) 3 0. Includes a "slide" instruction over the first measure.
- System 2:** Musical staff with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. TAB: 2 (4) 3 0 3 (0) 3 0, 2 (4) 3 0 3 4 0 2, 1 (2) 0.
- System 3:** Musical staff with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. TAB: 1 (2) 0 2 0 2, 1 (2) 0 2 1 2 3 2, 3 (4) 2.
- System 4:** Musical staff with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. TAB: 0 (1) 0 3, 3 (4) 2 0 1 2 0 2, 0 (1) 0 3 3 (4) 3 5. Includes a "hammer" instruction over the last measure.
- System 5:** Musical staff with notes G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. TAB: 0 0 3 0 3 0 3 2, 0 2 1 (2) 0 1 0 3, 0 2 0 2 1 0 3 0.

# Em Blues Scale Riffs Part 3

first position

Brian Turner

The score consists of six systems of guitar notation. Each system includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The first system includes a 'slide' instruction over a triplet of notes (3, 5) on the third string. The second system includes a 'bend' instruction over a note on the second string and a 'pull-off' instruction over a note on the second string. The third system includes a 'vibrato' instruction over a note on the fifth string. The tablature (TAB) lines are labeled 'T' (Treble) and 'B' (Bass) and contain fret numbers and rhythmic markings such as accents and slurs. The final system ends with an E7 chord symbol.