

B minor pentatonic and B Dorian style jam ideas

What is the B Minor Pentatonic?

- The B minor pentatonic is a five note scale that sounds great over a chord progression in the key of B minor (while also functioning well in other circumstances in other keys, although more sparingly).
- The intervals comprising the minor pentatonic are 1 (root) b3, 4, 5, and the b7
- For B minor pentatonic this would be B, D, E, F#, A
- The following is shape one and some other notes I use as extensions when improvising in B minor, note all the notes in the scale anywhere on the neck are available.

- B minor pentatonic shape 1 review

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A|-----2-5----  
E|-----2-5-----  
C|-2-4-----  
g|-----
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- B minor pentatonic extension notes (in red)

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A|-----0-2-5-7--  
E|-----0-2-5-7-----  
C|-2-4-----  
g|-----
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What is the B Dorian?

- Dorian is a modal approach to music with the following intervals, 1, 2, b3, 4, 5, 6, b7
- Right of the bat you can see that all of our pentatonic notes are there, we are just adding two more. We will be focusing the most on the 2nd interval, which in B dorian is the Db note.
- In this particular jam track, the Db is the 2nd or 9th of Bm, the 7th of the D chord, 5th of the F#m and 6th of the E major, meaning it works over all the chords, giving you very unique colors and sounds outside of the Pentatonic that while mostly minor, also can give you sweet major tones in the process. Lets look at the B minor with the added Db note.

- B minor pentatonic with added 2 (or six note B Dorian scale) 2 interval in Red

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A|-----2-4-5----  
E|-----2-5-----  
C|--1-2-4-----  
g|-----
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So the idea is to take that note and lay it all over this chord progression, look at it, get to know it, get familiar and have fun with it. It is such a great sound and a lot of fun for people looking to break out of the pentatonic box. For great examples of these check out the intro to Black Magic Women by the great Carlos Santana or the solo in Layla Unplugged by the great Eric Clapton.