

Major Scale Pattern 1: E Major

Here's the first pattern for the major scale. Figuring out which finger to use for which note is generally pretty easy once you apply this one guideline: one finger goes to one fret. For example, in the following tab, the pinky will play notes only on the 7th fret, for any string. The third finger will play notes on the sixth fret for any string, and so on. To help you understand this, numbers are placed under the first few bars of each scale pattern, to show you which finger to use.

Fingering: 4 2 1 4 2 1 3 1 2

Major Scale Pattern 2: D Major

Here's the second pattern for the major scale. Watch out for the first finger stretch to the 3rd fret on the high E string. Don't move your hand when you do this stretch. Merely stretch your finger. It might seem unnatural at first, but you'll grow into it.

7 5 3 7 5 7 6 7 7 7 6 4 7 5 4 7 5 5

Fingering: 4 3 1 4 2 4 3 4 4

4 6 7 7 4 5 7 4 5 7 7 5 3 5 7 4 5 5 7

Fingering for Major Scale Pattern 2

Major Scale Pattern 3: C Major

AS with the previous scale pattern, this one involves a stretch. This time, the stretch is by the pinky (finger 4) and it's on the D string. As before, stretch your finger, but don't move your hand.

8 7 5
 T 8 6 5
 A 7 5 5 5
 B 9 7 5 8 7 5 8 8

Fingering: 4 3 1 4 2 1 3 1 1 1 4 2 1 4 3 1 4 4

T
 A 5 7 5 5 7 9 5 5
 B 8 7 5 7 8 5 7 5 8 8 5 7 8

Scales, caged 3
 Fingering for Major Scale Pattern 3

Major Scale Pattern 4: A Major

The first part of the A Major scale pattern is shown in a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notes are: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), and A5 (half). Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram for strings T (Treble), A (Acoustic), and B (Bass). The notes are: T (open), A (2nd fret), B (2nd fret), C# (3rd fret), D (3rd fret), E (4th fret), F# (5th fret), G (5th fret), and A (5th fret).

Fingering: 4 2 1 4 2 4 3 1 4

The second part of the A Major scale pattern is shown in a treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notes are: A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C#5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), E5 (quarter), F#5 (quarter), G5 (quarter), and A5 (half). Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram for strings T, A, and B. The notes are: T (open), A (2nd fret), B (2nd fret), C# (3rd fret), D (3rd fret), E (4th fret), F# (5th fret), G (5th fret), and A (5th fret).

