

EXERCISE 3

If you're unfamiliar with the mode, here are two fingerings to get you started – a basic 'box' pattern for E Locrian, as well as the same pattern extended into a three note per string fingering. Ultimately, you can use any fingering for any of the major modes as long as you keep the root note the same.

The image shows two musical exercises for E Locrian. The first is labeled "E Locrian 'box' pattern" and the second is "E Locrian 3 note per string pattern". Both are written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first exercise consists of a single melodic line with a corresponding guitar tablature below it. The second exercise is similar but extends the pattern across all six strings, with a three-note-per-string fingering indicated in the tablature.

EXERCISE 4

This is an ascending hammer-on/pull-off Locrian lick that could be used over the riff from Exercise 2. Note how it ends on a sustained b5 to really bring out the 'evil' sound of the Locrian mode. However, Locrian is just one scale choice here. In a metal context, you can pretty much get away with using any scale you like over this type of riff.

The image shows a musical exercise for E minor (Em) in 4/4 time. It features a melodic line with a corresponding guitar tablature. The lick starts with a series of eighth notes, followed by a series of hammer-ons and pull-offs. The final note is a sustained Bb, which is the b5 of the E minor mode. The tablature includes a "full" instruction for the final note.

Listen out for Locrian on your favourite thrash and death metal albums, and try coming up with your own Locrian riffs and solos. Until next time, keep shredding!