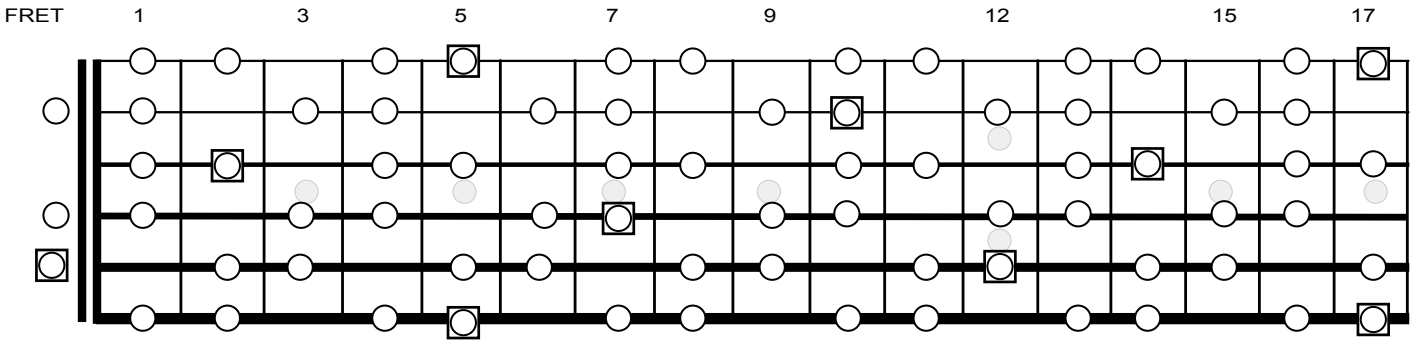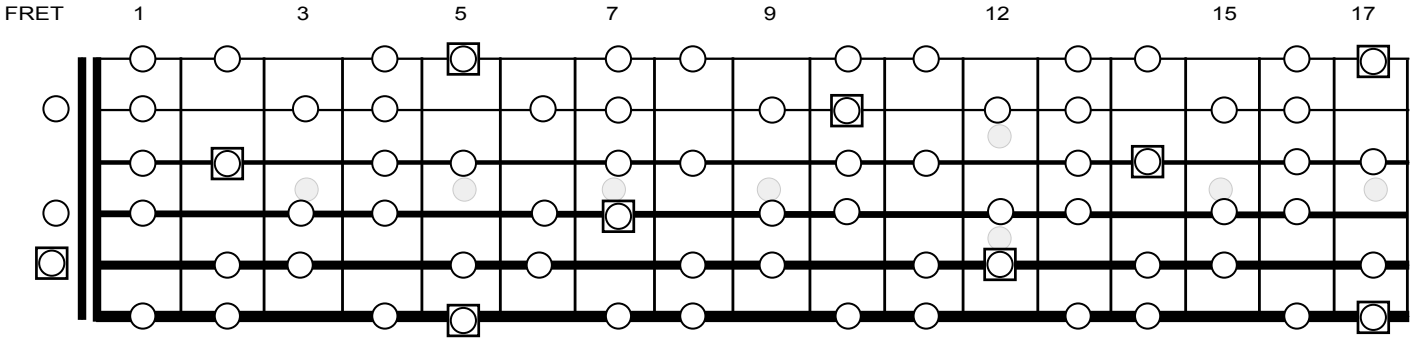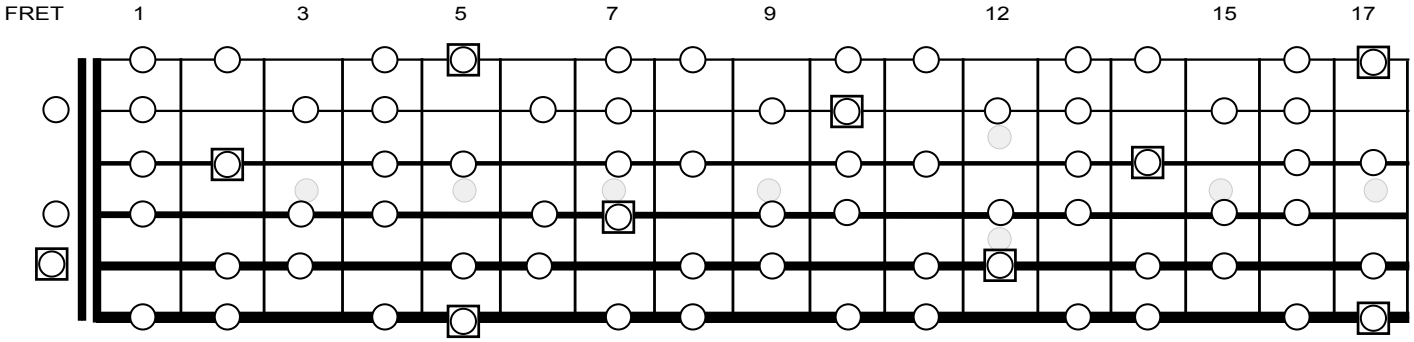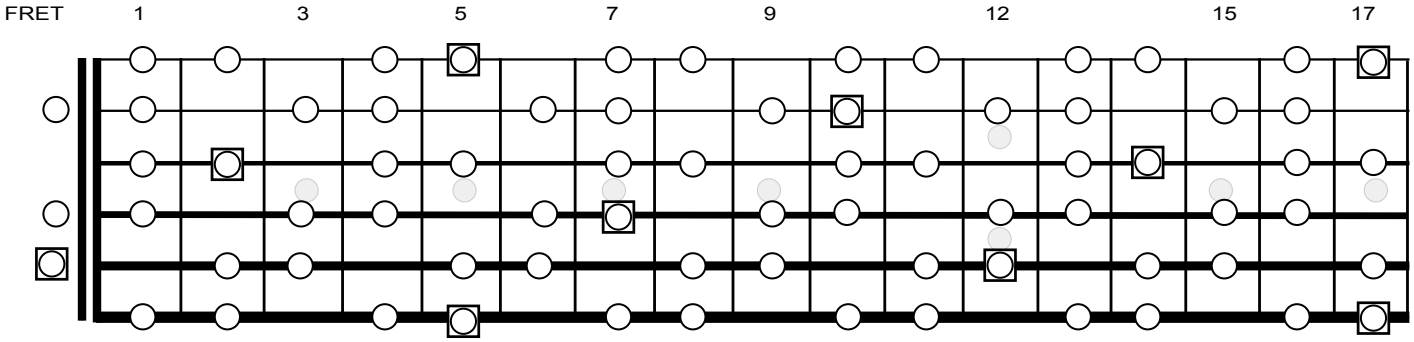A DIMINISHED SCALE