

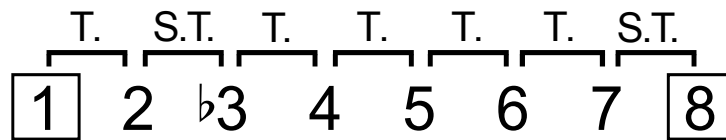
THE MELODIC MINOR SCALE INTRODUCTION

This scale traditionally ascends as 1 2 $\flat 3$ 4 5 6 7 8 then descends as 8 $\flat 7$ $\flat 6$ 5 4 $\flat 3$ 2 1. While this is the strict classical interpretation, in contemporary music, it's the same going both ways. This sometimes is known as the Jazz melodic minor.

Most modern improvisers think of the melodic minor to be the so called 'jazz' melodic minor scale version.

It's interval layout goes like this -

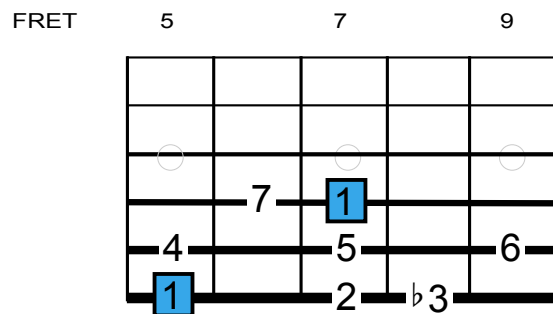
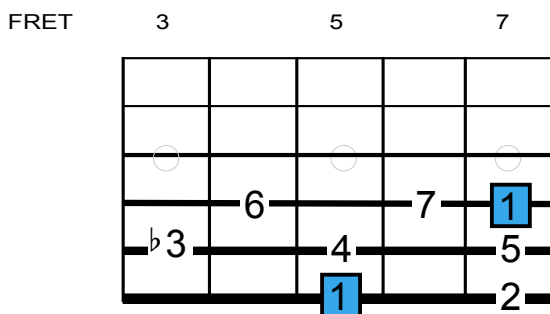
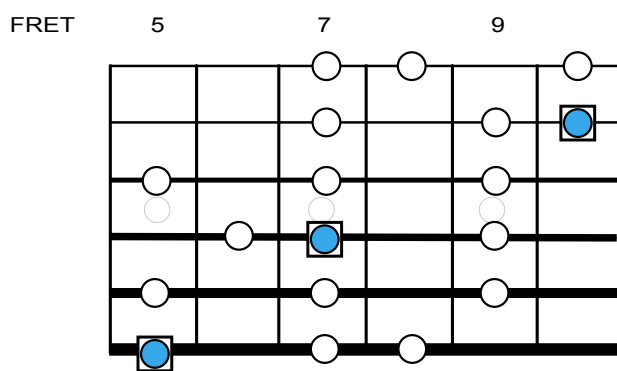
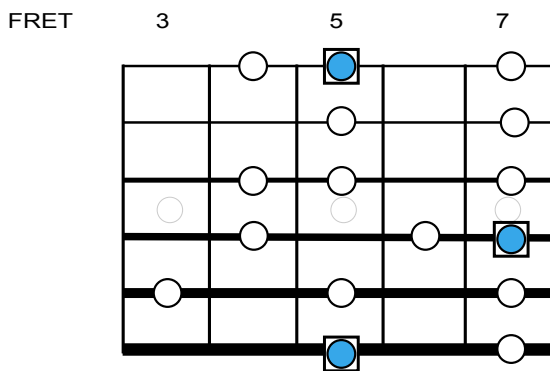
TONE. SEMI-TONE. TONE. TONE. TONE. TONE. SEMI-TONE.



As you may have noticed - it's pretty much a major scale with a minor 3rd ($\flat 3$ rd),

THE A MELODIC MINOR

Here's 2 versions of the A Melodic Minor using both the CAGED and 3 note per string systems.



This scale is a great option over a static A^{min7} chord vamp. Plus as it also contains 4 consecutive tones ($\flat 3$ 4 5 6 7) it can serve as a gateway into superimposing the whole tone scale to create some hip ear bending sounds. Scott Henderson is a master of this approach.