

# Digging Deeper: Inside the Harmonic Minor Scale

By Shawn Persinger

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Fig. 1

The musical score for Fig. 1 consists of five systems, each with a treble clef staff and a guitar TAB staff. The time signature is 4/4. The key signature has one sharp (F#), indicating D harmonic minor. The TAB staff is labeled 'TAB' and 'B'.

**System 1:** Treble clef staff shows a sequence of eighth notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The TAB staff shows fret numbers: 5 7 8 5 7 8 6 7 | 4 5 7 5 6 4 5 7.

**System 2:** Treble clef staff shows a sequence of eighth notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The TAB staff shows fret numbers: 8 10 7 8 11 7 9 10 | 7 9 10 9 10 12 8 10.

**System 3:** Treble clef staff shows a sequence of eighth notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The TAB staff shows fret numbers: 10 12 13 11 12 9 10 12 | 9 10 9 10 12 8 10 12.

**System 4:** Treble clef staff shows a sequence of eighth notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The TAB staff shows fret numbers: 12 13 16 12 14 15 12 14 | 15 13 14 12 13 15 12 13.

**System 5:** Treble clef staff shows a sequence of eighth notes: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The TAB staff shows fret numbers: 16 17 14 15 17 14 15 18 | 14 16 17 15 17 18 16 17.

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Fig. 2

Am E Am

5 7 8 7 4 5 6 4 5

Fig. 3

Am Bm7(b5) C Dm Em F G

0 1 3 0 1 1 1 2 3 0 1 2 3 0 1 2 3

Fig. 4

Am B°7 C+ Dm E F G#°

0 3 1 1 0 1 3 1 2 3 0 1 2 3 4

Fig. 5

Am Am/C B°7 D°7 Am/C Am/E D°7 F°7

1 1 3 6 1 5 6 9 2 2 3 4 4 7 7 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

C/E Am/C D°7 B°7 Am/C F E7 D°7 C+ E7/B

5 1 6 3 1 1 5 5 1 3 7 4 1 3 7 4 1 3 7 5 3 2

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Fig. 6

Fig. 6 shows a melodic line in 4/4 time. The notes are: B<sup>°</sup>7, D<sup>°</sup>7, B<sup>°</sup>7, F<sup>°</sup>. The tablature below the staff is as follows:

T	2	3	1	3	2	5	6	4	6	5	2	3	1	3	2	8	9	7	9	8
A																				
B																				

Fig. 7

Fig. 7 shows a melodic line in 4/4 time. The notes are: C<sup>+</sup>, E, C<sup>+</sup>, E. The tablature below the staff is as follows:

T	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	0	0
A																		
B																		

Fig. 8

Fig. 8 shows a chordal line in 4/4 time. The chords are: Dm<sup>7</sup>, F<sup>°</sup>7, G<sup>#°</sup>7. The tablature below the staff is as follows:

T	5	5	5	X	X	5	X	5	X	5	5	X	X	4	4	4	X	X	7	X	7	X	7	7	X	X
A	6	6	6	X	X	6	X	6	X	6	6	X	X	3	3	3	X	X	6	X	6	X	6	6	X	X
B	7	7	7	X	X	7	X	7	X	7	7	X	X	4	4	4	X	X	7	X	7	X	7	7	X	X
B	5	5	5	X	X	5	X	5	X	5	5	X	X	3	3	3	X	X	6	X	6	X	6	6	X	X

Fig. 9

Fig. 9 shows a chordal line in 4/4 time. The chords are: E, Fmaj<sup>7</sup>(<sup>#</sup>11)/E, E, Fmaj<sup>7</sup>(<sup>#</sup>11)/E, E<sup>7</sup>, Fmaj<sup>7</sup>(<sup>#</sup>11)/E. The tablature below the staff is as follows:

T	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
B	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Fig. 10

Am(add9) E+ Am(add9) E+

TAB: | 3 3 2 0 1 0 2 | 7 6 5 0 5 6 | 3 3 2 0 1 0 2 | 11 9 7 6 5 3 2 |

Fig. 11

G#7

TAB: | 3 4 3 | 3 4 3 | 3 4 3 | 3 4 3 |