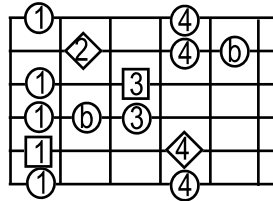
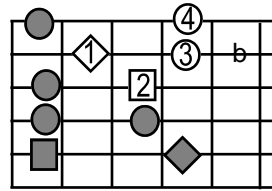


“BLUE” NOTE OF THE BASIC FIFTH STRING PATTERN

The “blue” note of the basic fifth string pattern is slightly “out of position” on the second string. Although you can accomplish bends and slides with your fourth finger, many of the great guitarists change position higher by one fret and use a more optimal or stronger fingering pattern.



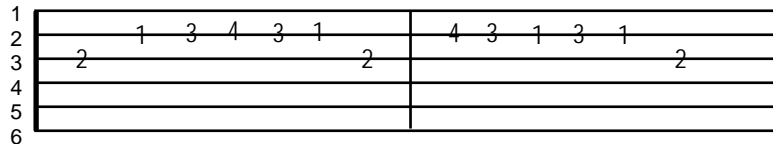
Basic fifth string root pattern with “blue” note.



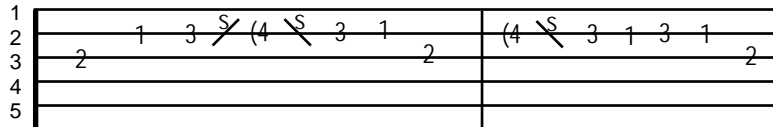
Fifth string pattern with position shift for optimal

Practice the following riffs beginning in 5th position plus one (D blues), 3rd position plus one (C blues), seventh position plus one (E blues), tenth position plus one (G blues) and twelfth position plus one (A blues).

This riff uses the blue note picked as just an added note.

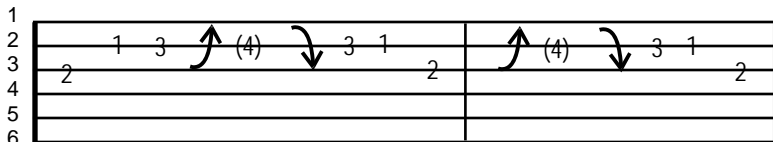


This riff uses the blue note in a slide.



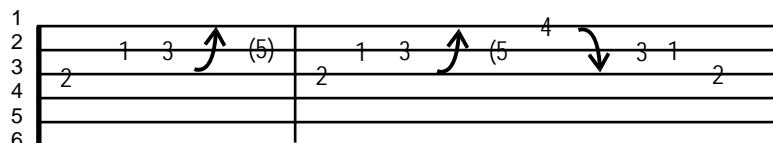
For this riff the third finger is used to slide up one fret to the blue note and back down. The (4) indicates the relative position of the fret but is played with the third finger.

This riff uses the blue note in a half step bend.



For this riff the third finger is used to bend the string one half step up (from relative three to four) and down. In the second riff the string is bent prior to beginning.

This riff moves through the blue note in a whole step bend. This riff (and its variations) is one of the most popular riffs in contemporary lead guitar.



For this riff the third finger is used to bend the string one whole step up (from relative three to five). In the second riff, the fourth finger plays the same fret as the third finger as in the diagram at the top of page while holding the bend with the third.