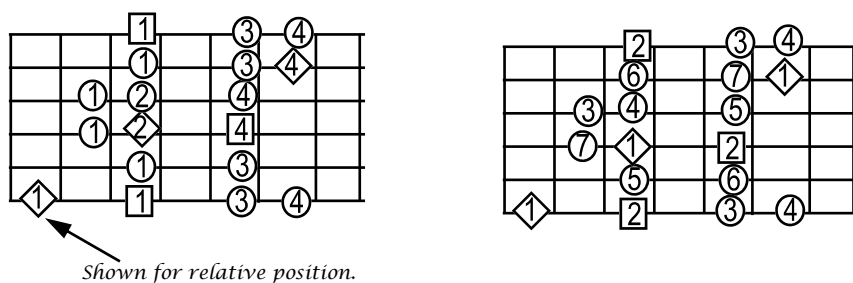


The previous section on diatonic scales presented the patterns showing the sixth degree as a minor tone center as well as the first degree major. The sixth degree Aeolian mode is also referred to as “Ancient Minor”. Since it is the relative minor of the major scale of the tonic, it is perhaps most important and most often used. Aeolian mode is sometimes used for improvising contemporary guitar leads. It is also used as the basis for determining the more commonly used minor scales called “Harmonic” and “Melodic” minor.

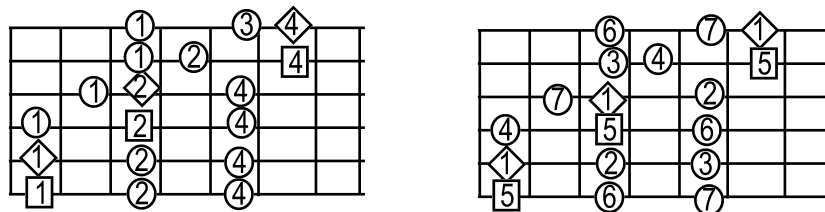
In addition to Aeolian, the following represent basic options for the other more often used modes.

DORIAN MINOR MODE



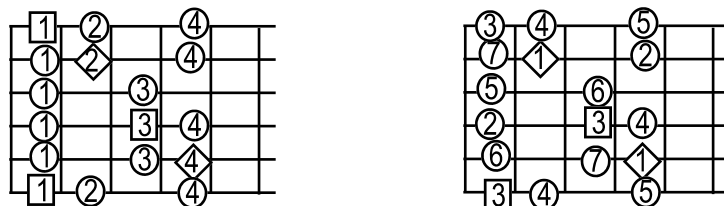
The tone center for “Dorian” mode is denoted by the square and shows the relationship of it as the second degree of the diatonic scale. All other diatonic patterns would also work if you concentrate on the second degree as the tone center.

MIXOLYDIAN MODE



The root note of the “Mixolydian” mode which is the fifth diatonic degree is denoted by the square (used for contrast although it is a major mode). The above pattern which is the fifth string root stretch diatonic pattern works especially well. Mixolydian mode works well for improvisations over any dominant seventh chord.

PHRYGIAN MINOR MODE



“Phrygian” minor is relative to the third degree of the diatonic scale and has a particularly “Spanish” flavor. All other diatonic patterns will also work by using the diatonic scale of the third degree tone center.