

Day 14

#TenThumbsBluesChallenge - Slides Blues Scale in G Shape 5



Tenthumbspro.com
For educational purposes only

Key: G

BPM of Vamp: 60

Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQA9fU7vfw0>

There is also an MP3 of a G7 vamp (meaning just a G7 chord played over and over) you can download that vamp to practice these licks in time.

Days 1-11 are designed to teach you rhythm. All the different ideas, chords, shapes, and licks and where you can put them.

Days 12-15 are going to shift gears to playing the lead. Today is shape 5 with some slides

The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first staff is labeled "G Minor Pentatonic - Shape 5" and has a "Root" label above the first note. The second staff is labeled "G Blues Scale - Shape 5" and has "Root" labels above the first and fifth notes, and a "b5th" label above the sixth note. Below the staves are two sets of guitar fretboard diagrams. The first diagram shows the fretboard from the 5th to the 10th fret, with fingerings: 5 on the 5th fret, 7 on the 7th fret, 8 on the 8th fret, 10 on the 10th fret, 8 on the 8th fret, and 10 on the 10th fret. The second diagram shows the fretboard from the 7th to the 10th fret, with fingerings: 7 on the 7th fret, 10 on the 10th fret, 7 on the 7th fret, 10 on the 10th fret, 8 on the 8th fret, 9 on the 9th fret, 10 on the 10th fret, 8 on the 8th fret, and 10 on the 10th fret.

Lets take a look at our first two licks.

The image shows two musical staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first staff shows a lick starting on the 3rd beat with a triplet of eighth notes (8, 10, 7) and a quarter note (8). The second staff shows a lick starting on the 4th beat with a quarter note (8), a quarter note (10), and a quarter note (7). The final note of the second lick is a slide from the 8th fret to the 10th fret, indicated by "sl." and a curved arrow.

- The first lick is just to get a vibe for the scale. Take your time and play it in time. That is very important.
- The second lick is the same as the first with a slide on the 4th beat.
- Make sure you don't start your slide before you play the note.
- Look where you are going not where you are starting, that will help prevent over sliding.
- It doesn't take as much force as you think, so try and be a little lighter than your first instinct.

Licks 3 and 4

- Here we have two slides, but it is the same count as the first licks, so it should feel familiar, take your time and play in time.
- In the second lick we introduce delayed slides, meaning you won't actually slide until the &
- Take your time and practice the first two beats of the second lick at first
- Practice the last two beats separate as well
- When you feel confident being able to play both halves then you can put them together.

Licks 5 and 6

- The first lick finishes on the &, this is something I don't think I have done a good job articulating. Your licks can finish on the off beat, this creates interest and movement.
- This lick also climbs the scale and skipping motion, forcing you to practice the scale out of order and it is a great way to get to know the scale better.
- The second lick of the two uses two ornamentations, the pull off and the slide. Combining these ideas creates flavor and movement that is very vocal. That is the goal, a good melody or lick should sound like the ukulele is singing the blues.

- Another thing I haven't done a good job of teaching, licks don't have to be one bar, they can be two, or more! It is really a breath idea. If you play a trumpet or flute you have to breath, so your lick should sound about as long as one breath, that isn't the best explanation but that is how you make it more vocal.

- This is a longer lick take your time and break it down in pieces, count it first, in the video you can see me struggling with the lick because I don't take the time to get the count right.
- Make sure you feel good with all these ornamentations individually before you try to combine them.

