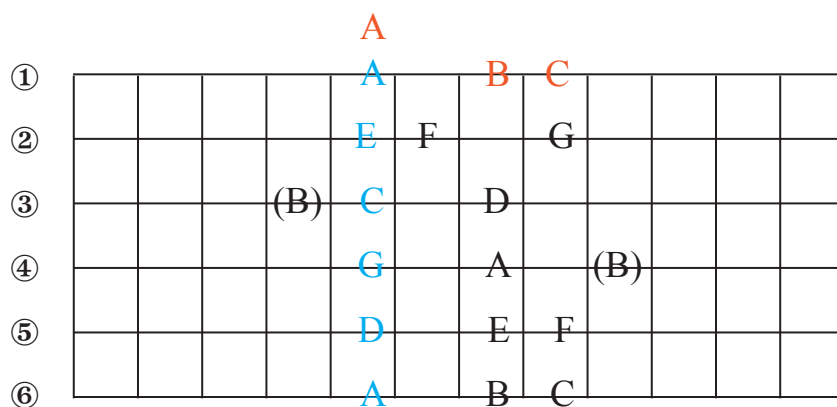


The Natural Scale and Notation in Fifth Position on the Guitar

By Mary Jo Disler

- All of the notes of the first position on the fretboard reoccur in fifth position on the next lower string. The exceptions are the notes of frets 1 through 4 on string ⑥.
- In addition, high “A, B & C” are added on the first string in fifth position.
- The staff notation is the same for notes in fifth position that sound at the same pitch level as their counterparts in the first position.
- To learn the fifth position scale of letters:
 1. Name the letters across fret 5, as they relate to tuning the next higher open string.
 2. The result is “A D G C E A.”
 3. Place your hand in fifth position, with fingers lined up at frets 5 - 6 - 7 - 8.
 4. Name the letter at fret 5 (first finger), string ⑥.
 5. Use the whole- half-step connections to locate and name the letters that connect alphabetically to fret number 5 on the next higher string.
- The diagrams below show the completed natural scale in fifth position, and the corresponding staff notation. Note that the middle “B” must be fingered either one fret higher than the position on the fourth string, or one fret lower on the third string. (Both “B’s” sound at the same pitch level.)



A B C D E F G A B C D E F G A B C

String ⑥ String ⑤ String ④ String ③ String ② String ①

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