

Soloing in Minor Keys

Improvise a solo using pattern #1 or pattern #2 of the E natural minor scale. Again, listen to what you play and try to make your notes match the notes in the chords accompanying you. With that said, you don't want to just play random notes, even if those notes do match the chords being played. That's like speaking nonsense words – the individual words may be all in English, but put together, they do not form a coherent phrase or sentence—it's just gibberish. The same applies to music. When soloing, you want to create musical sentences – melodies that flow, have shape, and have movement. Strive to make your solos melodically and rhythmically interesting. Of course, you need to be comfortable with your scales and technique before you can be freed up to spontaneously create solos that are musical and confident. So, be patient with yourself. Again, for a few, soloing comes more natural. For most, soloing is not so intuitive. How do you get better? *By listening.* This is the *most* important thing to learn—even more important than learning scales and technique.

E Minor Progression

The E Minor Progression is shown across four staves of music in 4/4 time. Each staff contains a guitar chord diagram and a corresponding musical staff with a slash indicating a solo line. The chords and their positions are:

- Staff 1: Em (open position)
- Staff 2: Am (open position) and Em (open position)
- Staff 3: Bm (open position) and Am (open position)
- Staff 4: Bm (open position), Am (open position), and Bm (open position)

A Minor Progression

The A Minor Progression is shown across two staves of music in 4/4 time. Each staff contains a guitar chord diagram and a corresponding musical staff with a slash indicating a solo line. The chords and their positions are:

- Staff 1: Am (5fr.), F (open), Am (5fr.), F (open)
- Staff 2: G (3fr.), Em (5fr.), G (3fr.), G#7 (3fr.), Am (5fr.)