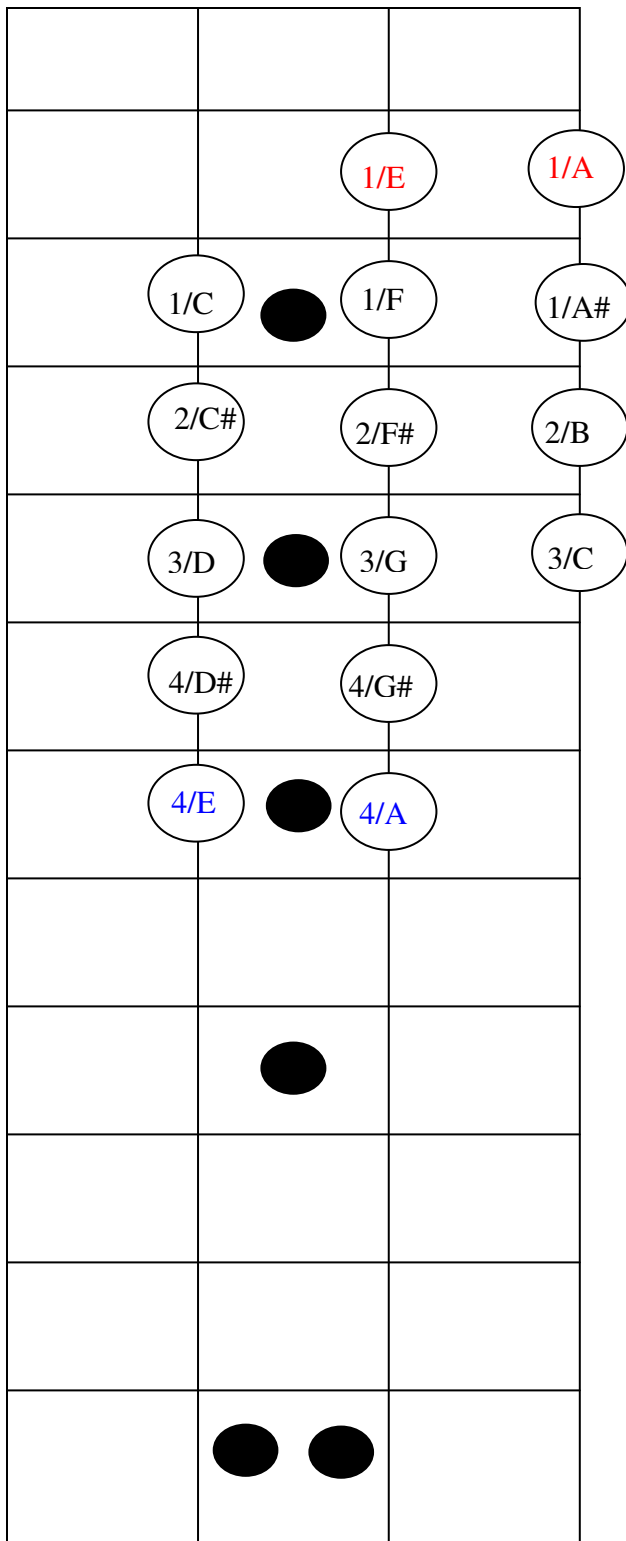


Chromatic Exercise



You can play every note of the chromatic scale with your hand in one place, with only two shifts of position. The example to the left is in the key of C, but you can move it to anywhere on the neck and you still will be able to play every note of the chromatic scale the same way.

This means that no matter where your hand is on the neck of your bass, you can reach any note that you might need to play (within an octave).

The **blue** and **red** notes are for two alternate positions.

Play the notes starting with your first finger on C and play 1 2 3 4. Then shift your hand over one fret and play 4 again (using the **blue** fingering).

Then move your hand back, go to the next string and play the same fingering again, 1 2 3 4 shift 4.

Move your hand back again and play 1 2 3 and you're done.

Now let's try the alternate fingering.

Start on your first finger on C and play 1 2 3 4. Shift one fret back and move to the next string. Play 1, then shift forward and play 1 2 3 4.

Now shift back again, go to the next string and play 1. Shift forward and play 123.

Summary:

Fingering one:

1 2 3 4 4
C C# D D# E

1 2 3 4 4
F F# G G# A

1 2 3
A# B C

Fingering two:

1 2 3 4
C C# D D#

1 1 2 3 4
E F F# G G#

1 1 2 3
A A# B C

My favorite exercise to do using one or the other fingering is to play:

C C# C D C D# C E C F C F# C G C G# C A C A# C B octave C.

Then I come back down starting on the upper C and ending on the lower one:

C B C Bb C A C Ab C G C Gb C F C E C Eb C D C Db C.

Now I am confident that I can reach any note I need to. If you sing along while you play, you are also developing your ear for hearing intervals at the same time as you are developing your fingers.