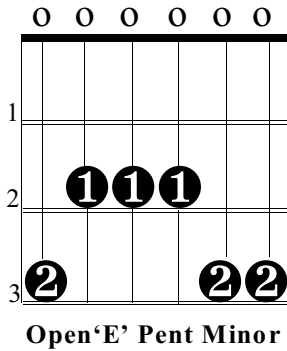


Open 'E' Blues Riffs

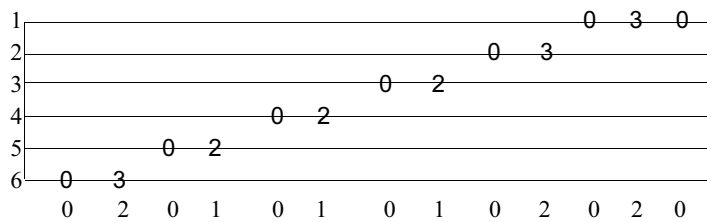
The standard Pentatonic Minor box pattern in 'E' is located along the *open* or 'zero' fret position on the guitar. What is unique about playing 'E' Blues along the open position is that the open strings do not need to be fretted, which 'frees-up' various combinations of the stronger first, second, and third fingers to fret with. The following sections will review the *open 'E' Blues* box pattern as well as introducing some standard Blues riffs played along the open position in 'E'.

Open 'E' Box Pattern

Below are box pattern and Tab examples of 'E' Pentatonic Minor box Pattern played along the open or 'zero' fret position. Note the use of the stronger, first and second fingers used for fretting.



'E' Pentatonic Minor - Ascending



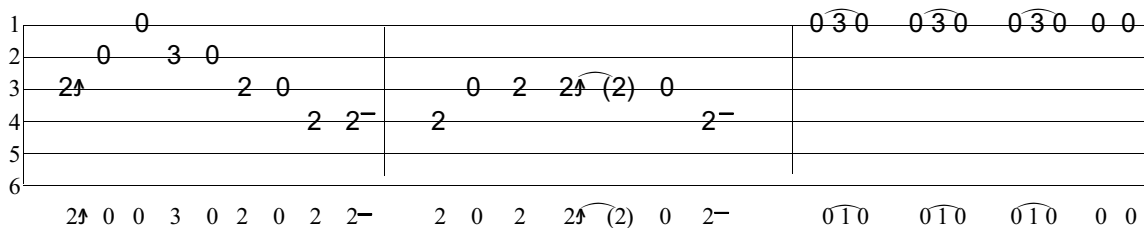
Open 'E' Blues Riffs

Becoming familiar with playing *open 'E' Blues Riffs* is essential as many Blues riffs and songs are in the Key of 'E' Blues. For both 'The Blues Riff' and 'The Bend & Release Riff' in 'E' (below), the first and second fingers are used together to apply bending and vibrato technique. For the 'Hammer/Pull-Off Riff', only the first finger needs to be used. (All riffs are on audio/video example)

'The Blues Riff'

Bend & Release Riff

Hammer/Pull-Off Riff



More Open 'E' Blues Riffs

Note how each riff has a *root note focus* by ending on an 'E' root note. All of the open 'E' Blues riffs can be played along with the audio rhythm tracks in the Key of 'E' Blues (as on audio/video example).

Descending Riff

Passing Tones Riff

Doublestop Riff

