

# Unlock the Enigmatic World of Fourths Tuning: A Comprehensive Dive into Scales and Arpeggios

In the vast and ever-evolving landscape of music theory, fourths tuning stands as a captivating and unconventional approach to melodic and harmonic structures. By tuning a guitar or other stringed instrument in perfect fourths—instead of the traditional perfect fifths—musicians unlock a universe of unique scales and arpeggios, opening doors to previously unexplored sonic territories.



## Fourths Tuning: Scales and Arpeggios by Graham Tippet

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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This comprehensive guide will delve into the enigmatic world of fourths tuning, shedding light on its captivating scales and arpeggios. From the dissonant allure of the Augmented Fourth scale to the ethereal beauty of the Whole Tone scale, we will explore the intricacies of these unconventional musical frameworks and uncover the boundless possibilities they offer.

## **Scales in Fourths Tuning**

The unique intervallic relationships inherent in fourths tuning give rise to a plethora of fascinating scales:

### **Augmented Fourth Scale**

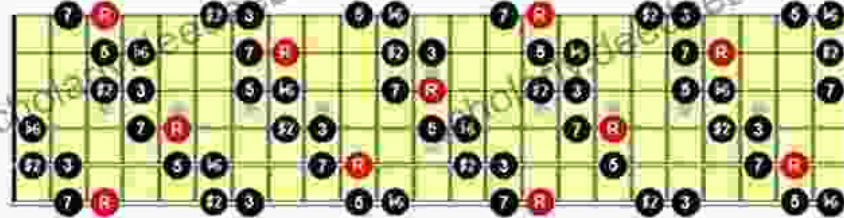
Consisting of augmented fourths (six semitones) and minor thirds (three semitones), the Augmented Fourth scale exudes a haunting and dissonant aura. Its distinctive intervallic pattern creates a sense of tension and unease, lending itself well to experimental and avant-garde compositions.

# THE AUGMENTED SCALE

(1, #2, 3, 5, b6, 7.)

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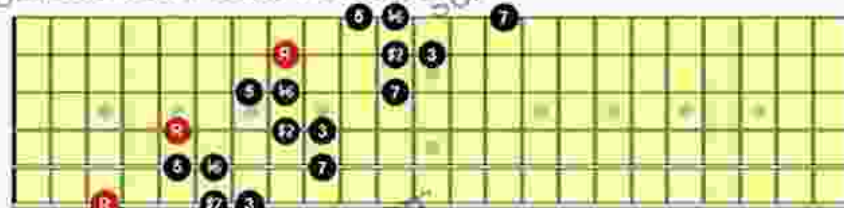
THE AUGMENTED SCALE- The whole fretboard.



AUGMENTED SCALE- 3 Octave Pattern.



THE AUGMENTED SCALE- POSITION 1



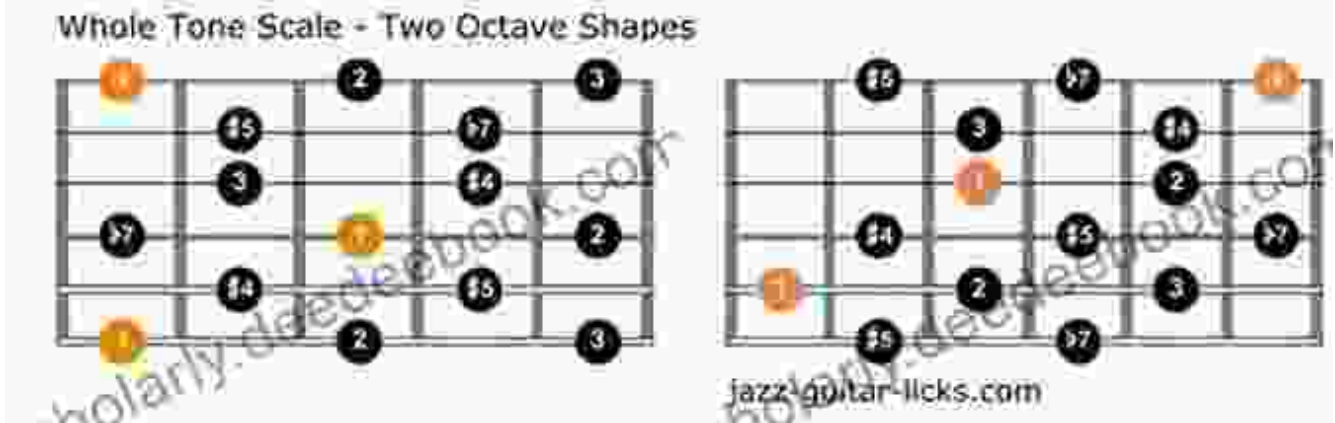
THE AUGMENTED SCALE- POSITION 2



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## Whole Tone Scale

In contrast to the dissonant nature of the Augmented Fourth scale, the Whole Tone scale is renowned for its ethereal and otherworldly sound. Comprised entirely of whole tones (two semitones), this scale produces a shimmering and celestial effect, evoking a sense of mystery and wonder.



## Tritone Scale

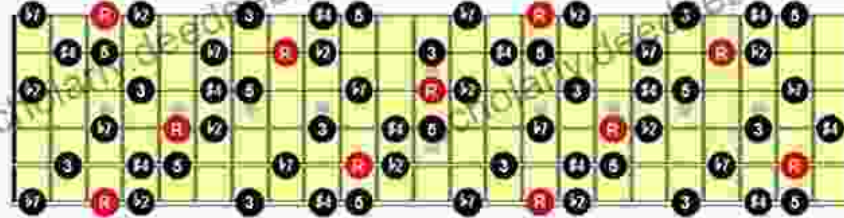
Named after the interval of a tritone (six semitones), this scale consists of alternating tritones and minor thirds. Its angular and disorienting intervals create a sense of unease and instability, making it a perfect choice for conveying tension and conflict.

# THE TRITONE SCALE

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(1,b2,3,#4,5,b7.)

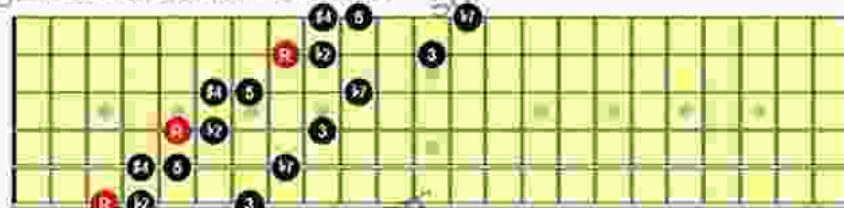
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## Arpeggios in Fourths Tuning

Just as scales form the foundation of melodies, arpeggios provide the harmonic underpinnings of music. In fourths tuning, arpeggios take on new and captivating forms:

## Augmented Fourth Arpeggio

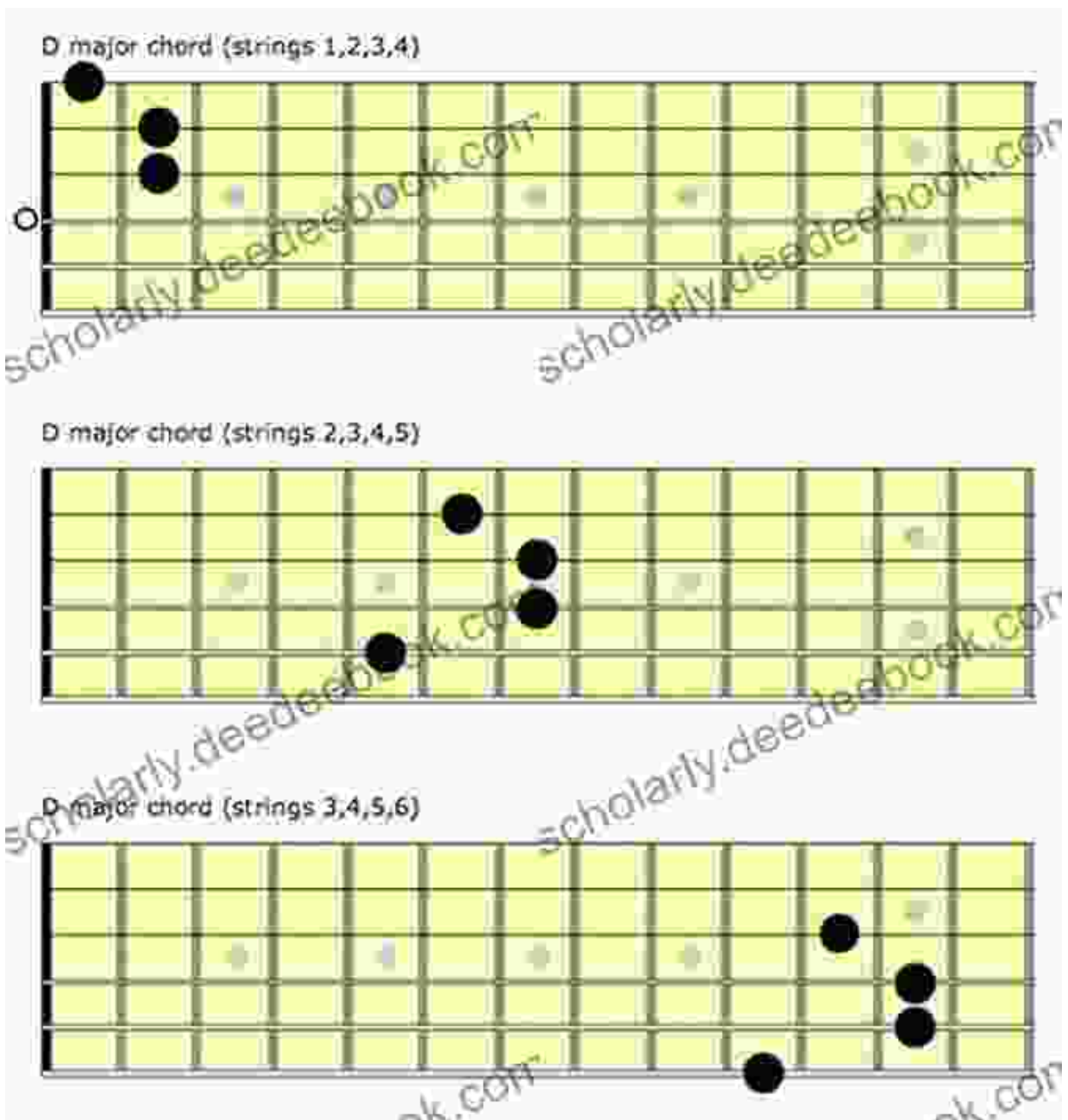


otherworldliness to chord progressions.



### **Tritone Arpeggio**

Corresponding to the Tritone scale, this arpeggio features alternating tritones and minor thirds. Its dissonant and unstable nature adds a sense of tension and conflict to harmonic constructions.



## Practical Applications

The scales and arpeggios of fourths tuning offer a wealth of creative possibilities for musicians:

**Contemporary Music:** These unconventional scales and arpeggios add a touch of intrigue and dissonant beauty to experimental and avant-garde



compositions.

**Jazz and Fusion:** The unique intervallic relationships found in fourths tuning can inspire fresh and innovative harmonic ideas in jazz and fusion.

**Film and Television Scoring:** The ethereal and unsettling qualities of fourths tuning scales and arpeggios lend themselves well to creating atmospheric and evocative soundtracks.

**Guitarists:** Fourths tuning offers guitarists a new and unconventional approach to playing, opening up a world of novel chord voicings and melodic possibilities.

The world of fourths tuning is a realm of musical exploration and sonic discovery. By embracing the unique scales and arpeggios it offers, musicians can unleash a torrent of unconventional melodies and harmonies. From the dissonant allure of the Augmented Fourth scale to the ethereal beauty of the Whole Tone scale, fourths tuning invites us to reimagine the boundaries of music.

As musicians continue to delve into the depths of fourths tuning, its captivating scales and arpeggios will undoubtedly inspire countless musical innovations and artistic breakthroughs in the years to come.



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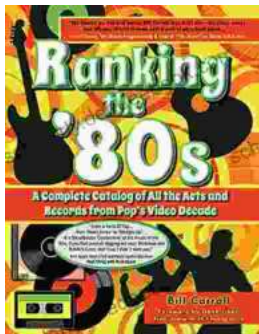
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