

The “Jazz Melodic Minor” scale is based on the Major scale with a lowered 3 (b3) and it retains the major 7<sup>th</sup> scale degree. This scale is a workhorse in jazz because it’s used extensively over harmonic structures (changes) familiar to the improviser especially against the dominant 7<sup>th</sup> altered chords – specifically, dom. 7<sup>th</sup> b5 (or #11). When you practice the melodic minor use the same Diatonic scale exercises you are already familiar with – just remember to lower the 3<sup>rd</sup> and retain the major 7<sup>th</sup>. While the Harmonic minor gives you a somewhat “Spanish” sound, the Melodic minor gives you a “Jazzy” sound.

Most common “improvisational” use for playing the melodic minor scale is against the dominant 7<sup>th</sup> chord one-half step up from the chord -- for example, playing G Melodic Minor for F#7 will produce the following alterations: 1 – b2 – b3 – b4 (3) – b5 – b6 – b7 (F# – G – A – Bb – C – D – E)

**Based on G minor (Key of Bb)**

**Jazz Melodic Minor mode 1 – Gmin/maj7**

**Jazz Melodic Minor mode 2 - Dorian b2 or Phrygian #6 - Am7 (also called A susb9)**

### Jazz Melodic Minor mode 3 – Lydian Augmented – Bbmaj7#5

7

TAB: 6-8-10 | 7-9-10 | 7-8-10 | 8-10-11 | 8-10-12-12-10-8 | 11-10-8 | 11-9-7 | 10-8-7 | 10-9-7 | 10-8-6

### Jazz Melodic Minor mode 4 – Lydian b7 (or Lydian Dominant) – C7

11

TAB: 8-10-12 | 9-10-12 | 8-10-12 | 9-11-12 | 10-11-13 | 10-12-14-14-12-10 | 13-11-10 | 12-11-9 | 12-10-8 | 12-10-9 | 12-10-8

### Jazz Melodic Minor mode 5 – Mixolydian b6 (or Dominant Augmented) – D7

4

TAB: 10-12-14 | 10-12-13 | 10-12-14 | 11-12-14 | 11-13-15 | 12-14-15-15-14-12 | 15-13-11 | 14-12-11 | 14-12-10 | 13-12-10 | 14-12-10

### Jazz Melodic Minor mode 6 – Locrian #2 (or Half Diminished) – Emin7b5

This musical score is for the Jazz Melodic Minor mode 6, also known as Locrian #2 or Half Diminished, associated with the chord Emin7b5. It is written in a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The score consists of a melodic line in the treble clef and a guitar tablature line in the bass clef. The melodic line features a sequence of eighth notes with various accidentals (sharps and naturals) and is divided into four measures. The guitar tablature line shows fret numbers for each string, with triplets of notes indicated by a '3' above the notes. The fret numbers are: 12-14, 10-12-13, 10-12-13, 11-12-14-15, 13-15-17, 14-15-17-17-15-14, 17-15-13, 15-14-12, 16-14-12, 15-13-12, and 15-14-12.

### Jazz Melodic Minor mode 7 – Super Locrian or Altered – F#min7b7

This musical score is for the Jazz Melodic Minor mode 7, also known as Super Locrian or Altered, associated with the chord F#min7b7. It is written in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The score consists of a melodic line in the treble clef and a guitar tablature line in the bass clef. The melodic line features a sequence of eighth notes with various accidentals (sharps, naturals, and flats) and is divided into four measures. The guitar tablature line shows fret numbers for each string, with triplets of notes indicated by a '3' above the notes. The fret numbers are: 14-15-17, 13-15-17, 14-16-17, 14-15-17, 15-17-19, 15-17-18-18-17-15, 19-17-15, 17-15-14, 17-16-14, 17-15-13, and 17-15-14.