

Phrygian Mode: The Patterns



As we dive into more modes that are derived from the Major scale, it is best to think of each mode stemming from the C Major scale, as it is the only scale with no accidental markings (sharps or flats). When thinking of the Phrygian Mode it is best to think about it as starting the C Major scale on its third degree “E” and continuing through the scale from there and finishing on the next octave “E”. So, in essence the E Phrygian scale is: E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E. When converting a different Major scale key, however, it is important to note that the following degrees **MUST** be flattened: 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 7th. Phrygian Mode in steps is: Half, Whole, Whole, Whole, Half, Whole, Whole.

*** Things to know before attempting ***

Root: Refers to the 1st degree or first note of the Major scale.

Phrygian Mode: is the third mode derived from the Major Scale and it has a “minor” tendency with a lowered (flat) 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th degree when compared to the Major Scale.

Whole and Half: refers to the step intervals between sequential notes in the pattern.

Phrygian
MODE
PATTERN:

3rd String 1
Octave

Phrygian
MODE
PATTERN:

5th String 1
Octave

Phrygian
MODE
PATTERN:

6th String 2
Octave 3
Notes Per
String