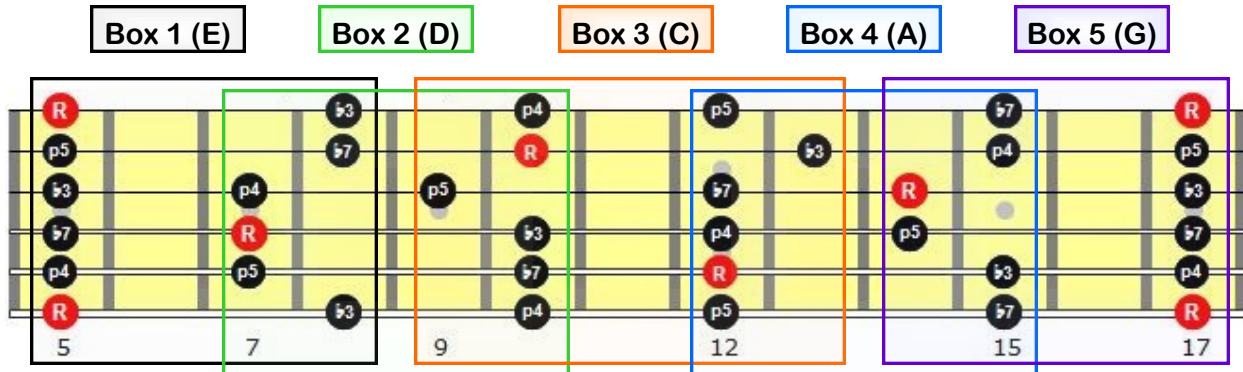


## Pentatonic Power — The 5 Boxes

Here's a quick rundown on the pentatonic boxes, and how they relate to the **CAGED system**. The major pentatonic sequence goes: R-2-3-5-6 (Box 2 in the example). However, since most rock and metal revolves around the minor pentatonic (Box 1, R-b3-4-5-b7), we'll focus on that when we start running sequences and patterns. Of course, when practicing those sequences and patterns, be sure to run them through all five boxes, in as many keys as possible.

In the example below, and in most of the pattern tabs, we'll use the familiar A minor boxes. Again, while you should hit all twelve keys when practicing patterns, the keys you will most likely encounter using the boxes are (in no particular order): Em, Am, Dm, Gm, F#m, Bm, C#m.

### A Minor Pentatonic (all boxes / CAGED shapes)



The individual boxes below show the optimal fingerings for each form. Most are pretty self-explanatory. The fingering for Box 3 can vary when you shift between the 2nd and 3rd strings (in either direction). Simple is usually the best way to go; play what's accessible and playable for you. The biggest challenge is to shift smoothly from one box to the next.

Remember, the boxes function as a cycle. So, for example, you could start Box 4 at the 1st fret, and cycle through them 4-5-1-2-3 up the neck.

