

# Theory and Application



## Patterns in Music: Scale Patterns 1

**I** THINK scales are important to practice and learning your way around your instrument. It helps your fingers feel comfortable with the fretboard and that's essential. However, I'm

also aware that it can seem a little boring when you're itching to learn new tunes. Scales don't have to be just running up and down the scale in one or two octaves:

### The G Scale

Ex.1

Ex.2

Practising scales like this is valuable, especially for the learner; once a scale is learned, you can concentrate on your right hand - pick direction for example, or keeping your left hand fingers down while ascending or descending. After a while, however, they can get rather uninteresting. If we were to analyse the notes in *Ex. 2*, we'd see groups of four notes together, each note of the scale being sounded

four times, then the next four and so on. In *Ex.3* we're still going up the G scale, but instead of hitting each note four times, we're playing the first note of the scale, going up one note, then another, and then going back to the first note. We have created a consistent scale pattern, and the pattern moves up the scale and makes doing scales a little more palatable.

### Scale Patterns in G

Ex.3

