# Making The Most Of The Major Scale The Magic Of Modes

The major scale is one of the most important and versatile scales in music. It's the foundation for countless melodies, harmonies, and chord progressions. But did you know that there's more to the major scale than meets the eye?

In this article, we'll explore the seven modes of the major scale. Each mode has its own unique sound and character, and can be used to create a wide variety of musical effects.

#### What are modes?

Modes are simply different ways of organizing the notes of a scale. The major scale has seven notes, and each note can be used as the starting point for a mode. The mode that starts on the first note of the scale is called the **lonian mode**, and it's the same as the major scale itself. The other six modes are named after the notes they start on:



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**Modes** by Phil Fitzpatrick

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- Dorian mode starts on the second note of the scale
- Phrygian mode starts on the third note of the scale
- Lydian mode starts on the fourth note of the scale
- Mixolydian mode starts on the fifth note of the scale
- Aeolian mode starts on the sixth note of the scale
- Locrian mode starts on the seventh note of the scale

#### How to use modes

Modes can be used in a variety of ways, both melodically and harmonically. Melodically, modes can be used to create different moods and atmospheres. For example, the Dorian mode is often used in folk and blues music, while the Lydian mode is often used in jazz and classical music.

Harmonically, modes can be used to create different types of chords. For example, the Ionian mode produces major chords, while the Aeolian mode produces minor chords. The other modes produce a variety of other chord types, such as augmented, diminished, and suspended chords.

#### Examples of modes in music

Modes can be found in all types of music, from classical to jazz to rock. Here are a few examples of how modes have been used in popular music:

• The Beatles' song "Eleanor Rigby" uses the Dorian mode.

- The Rolling Stones' song "Sympathy for the Devil" uses the Phrygian mode.
- The jazz standard "So What" by Miles Davis uses the Lydian mode.
- The rock band Led Zeppelin used the Mixolydian mode in their song "Black Dog".
- The pop song "Billie Jean" by Michael Jackson uses the Aeolian mode.

#### Tips for using modes

Here are a few tips for using modes in your own music:

- Start by experimenting with the different modes to see how they sound.
- Use modes to create different moods and atmospheres in your music.
- Use modes to create different types of chords.
- Don't be afraid to break the rules! Modes are a great way to add some variety and interest to your music.

Modes are a powerful tool that can be used to create a wide variety of musical effects. By understanding how modes work, you can open up a whole new world of possibilities in your music.



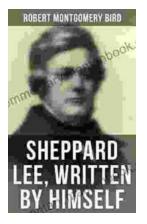
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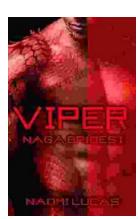
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