

Modes:

Early on in music there was seven scales that musician's used to compose. These were the Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian and the Locrian. Over time composers favored two scales. The Ionian and the Aeolian, these became the **Major scale** and **minor scale** respectably. But using only these two scales limits your coverage on the fret board. So think of the modes as extensions of the main two scales.

Another way to think of modes is that they are all the same scale. The notes within the modes do not change, the order does. If you look at the table you can see the only sharp is F#. Think of all of these modes in the key of G Major, starting on A or B etc...

<u>I</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	F#	<u>G</u>								
<u>D</u>		<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	F#	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>							
<u>P</u>			<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	F#	<u>G</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>						
L				C	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C					
<u>M</u>					D	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D				
<u>A</u>						E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E			
LOC							F#	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#		

Since the order of whole steps and half steps change you will hear a different flavor or sound to the scales. Later we will get into using the modes for specific chords but for now think of them as extensions of the major scale or better yet more fingerings for the same scale.

You may have noticed that five of the above modes are underlined. These modes will be the main ones we will concentrate on for now.

- The I is short for Ionian. (Major Scale)
- The D is short for Dorian.
- The P is short for Phrygian.
- The M is short for Mixolydian.
- The A is short for Aeolian. (Natural Minor Scale)

Like everyone who hears these names for the first time I found them to be hard to remember. So I devised this silly (silly things stay memorized) saying for them.

I Do Play Monday Afternoons. Below are the fingerings I suggest.

Name			I	O	N	I	A	N								
String	E	—	A	—	—	D	—	—	G	—	—	—	—			
Note	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E			
Finger	2	4	1	2	4	1	3	4	1	1	2	4	1			
Fret	III	V	VII	VIII	V	VII	IV	V	II	IV	V	VII	IX			

Name			D	O	R	I	A	N					
String	E	—	—	A	—	D	—	—	G	—	—	—	—
Note	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#
Finger	1	3	4	1	3	1	2	4	1	2	4	1	3
Fret	V	VII	VIII	V	VII	IV	V	VII	IV	V	VII	IX	XI

Name			P	H	Y	R	G	I	A	N			
String	E	—	—	A	—	—	D	—	—	G	—	—	—
Note	B	C	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
Finger	1	2	4	1	3	4	1	3	4	1	1	3	4
Fret	VII	VIII	X	VII	IX	X	VII	VII	VIII	VII	IX	XI	XII

Name		M	I	X	O	L	Y	D	I	A	N
String	E	—	A	—	—	D	—	—	G	—	—
Note	D	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
Finger	2	4	1	2	4	1	2	4	1	3	4
Fret	X	XII	IX	X	XII	IX	X	XII	IX	XI	XII

Name			A	E	O	L	I	A	N		
String	E	—	—	A	—	—	D	G	—	—	—
Note	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G	A
Finger	1	3	4	1	3	4	1	3	1	2	4
Fret	XII	XIV	XV	XII	XIV	XV	XII	XIV	IX	XII	XIV