

Phrygian #3

5th mode of Harmonic Minor. Sometimes called Spanish Phrygian.

Parent mode: Perfect 5th below 1st scale degree. Or 4th note of Phrygian #3 scale.

For example: E Phrygian #3 is the 5th mode of A Harmonic Minor.

(See #2 under ways to think about the scale)

Interesting or defining features:

Minor 2nds between scale degrees 1 & 2, 3 & 4, 5 & 6

Augmented 2nd between scale degrees 2 & 3

Chords that may be used with this scale: (examples in C Phrygian #3)

Dominant 7 (C-E-G-Bb) or Dominant 7 sus (C-F-G-Bb) Major 7(b5) on 2nd scale degree (Db-F-G-C)

Major triad on 2nd degree of Phrygian #3 (Db-F-Ab) Dominant 7 sus on 2nd degree (Db-F-G-Bb)

A common chord progression in Phrygian #3 is I-bII-bIII (C triad, Db triad, Eb triad).

(The Eb triad works because even though Eb is not in the scale, its other two notes are)

Here are two ways to think about the Phrygian #3 scale:

1-Compare it to other scales

For example:

E Aeolian	E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E
E Phrygian	E	F	G	A	B	C	D	E
E Phrygian #3:	E	F	G#	A	B	C	D	E

Note the differences all occur on scale degree 2 & 3. Why?

Phrygian is like Aeolian with a flatted (lowered) 2nd scale degree.

Phrygian #3 is, as the name implies, a Phrygian scale with a sharped (raised) 3rd scale degree.

2-Think of the notes of the parent scale and invert it

For example: A Harmonic Minor:	A	B	C	D	E	F	G#	A
E Phrygian #3:	E	F	G#	A	B	C	D	E

Here are the 12 Phrygian #3 scales:

		Aug 2nd						
	C	Db	E	F	G	Ab	Bb	C
	C#	D	E#	F#	G#	A	B	C#
Half-steps between notes:	D	Eb	F#	G	A	Bb	C	D
1-3-1-2-1-2-2	D#	E	Fx	G#	A#	B	C#	D#
	E	F	G#	A	B	C	D	E
	F	Gb	A	Bb	C	Db	Eb	F
	F#	G	A#	B	C#	D	E	F#
	G	Ab	B	C	D	Eb	F	G
	G#	A	B#	C#	D#	E	F#	G#
	A	Bb	C#	D	E	F	G	A
	Bb	Cb	D	Eb	F	Gb	Ab	Bb
	B	C	D#	E	F#	G	A	B