

MINOR 2-5-1 WORKOUT

E MINOR FOR ALTO • A MINOR FOR TENOR



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HARMONIC MINOR • LOCRIAN • ALTERED

ALTO SAX – E MINOR 2-5-1

F# $\emptyset$ 7 | **B7^{alt}** | **Em Δ 7**

SCALE	USE OVER	NOTES
1 E harmonic minor	All 3 chords	E F# G A B C D# E
2 F# Locrian	F# $\emptyset$ 7	F# G A B C D E F#
3 B altered	B7 ^{alt}	B C D Eb F G A B

TENOR SAX – A MINOR 2-5-1

B $\emptyset$ 7 | **E7^{alt}** | **Am Δ 7**

SCALE	USE OVER	NOTES
1 A harmonic minor	All 3 chords	A B C D E F G# A
2 B Locrian	B $\emptyset$ 7	B C D E F G A B
3 E altered	E7 ^{alt}	E F G Ab Bb C D E

WORKOUT STEPS

- 1 Play the harmonic minor slowly ascending
- 2 Play the harmonic minor ascending and descending
- 3 Play the Locrian scale over the ii $\emptyset$ chord
- 4 Play the altered scale over the V7^{alt} chord
- 5 Join all 3 sounds through the full progression
- 6 Improvise a simple phrase and make it musical

★ TIP



When in doubt, the harmonic minor scale works beautifully over the whole minor 2–5–1.

WHY THESE SCALES?



Locrian colours the ii $\emptyset$ chord, altered adds tension on the V chord, and harmonic minor resolves the sound clearly into the minor tonic.

