

Now that we've tackled the keys C, C#/Db, D, Eb, E, F, G, and Ab, it's time for the next key, A. Here it is:

Major Scale

A major scale: A=1 B=2 C#=3 D=4 E=5 F#=6 G#=7

Scale Degree Chords

1 = A-C#-E, C#-E-A, E-A-C#
2 = B-D-F#, D-F#-B, F#-B-D
3 = C#-E-G#, E-G#-C#, G#-C#-E
4 = D-F#-A, F#-A-D, A-D-F#
5 = E-G#-B, G#-B-E, B-E-G#
6 = F#-A-C#, A-C#-F#, C#-F#-A
7 = G#-B-D, B-D-G#, D-G#-B

I see not too many people are fond of this key, LOL. This is one of those keys that you either love or hate to play in. There really isn't much middle ground.

Here are some tips for playing in this key:

1. **Watch out for G#** - If you've played in the keys G and D, then you should already be used to F# and C#. The odd note in this key is G#. Pay close attention to it now so that it doesn't trip u up later.
2. **Chording** - Since there are an uneven distribution of white and black notes, almost every chord you play in this key will contain at least 1 black and 1 white note. So, if you come across a chord that is all black or white notes, it probably means u have played a chord incorrectly. There are exceptions, but that's the general rule.
3. **Runs** - I ain't gonna lie to you, runs are HARD (tricky) in this key. You're fingering has to be on point or it will sound sloppy. Any kind of run u want to do in this key has to be practiced super slow then build speed little by little. Trying to do it fast to start off with will frustrate you.

Basic Progressions

1-5-1

A / A-C#-E (1)
E / E-G#-B (5)
(repeat)

A / A-C#-E (1)
E / G#-B-E (5)
(repeat)

A / C#-E-A (1)
E / B-E-G# (5)
(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)
E / E-G#-B (5)
(repeat)

1-V7-1 progression

A / A-C#-E (1)
E / E-G#-B-D (5)
(repeat)

A / A-C#-E (1)
E / G#-B-D-E (5)
(repeat)

A / C#-E-A (1)
E / B-D-E-G# (5)
(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)
E / D-E-G#-B (5)
(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)
E / E-G#-B-D (5)
(repeat)

1-4-1 progression

A / A-C#-E (1)

D / D-F#-A (4)

(repeat)

A / A-C#-E (1)

D / A-D-F# (4)

(repeat)

A / C#-E-A (1)

D / D-F#-A (4)

(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)

D / F#-A-D (4)

(repeat)

1-4-5-1 progression

A / A-C#-E (1)

D / D-F#-A (4)

E / E-G#-B (5)

(repeat)

A / A-C#-E (1)

D / A-D-F# (4)

E / G#-B-E (5)

(repeat)

A / C#-E-A (1)

D / D-F#-A (4)

E / B-E-G# (5)

(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)

D / F#-A-D (4)

E / E-G#-B (5)

(repeat)

1-4-V7-1 progression

A / A-C#-E (1)
D / D-F#-A (4)
E / E-G#-B-D (5)
(repeat)

A / A-C#-E (1)
D / A-D-F# (4)
E / G#-B-D-E (5)
(repeat)

A / C#-E-A (1)
D / D-F#-A (4)
E / B-D-E-G# (5)
(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)
D / F#-A-D (4)
E / E-G#-B-D (5)
(repeat)

A / E-A-C# (1)
D / F#-A-D (4)
E / D-E-G#-B (5)
(repeat)

Dominant 7th chord to 4

A / A-C#-E-G
D / D-F#-A (4 of A)
(repeat)

A / A-C#-E-G
D / A-D-F# (4 of A)
(repeat)

A / C#-E-G-A
D / D-F#-A (4 of A)
(repeat)

A / E-G-A-C#
D / F#-A-D (4 of A)
(repeat)

A / G-A-C#-E
D / F#-A-D (4 of A)
(repeat)

7-3-6 progression

G# / G#-B-D (7)
C# / C#-E-G# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
(repeat)

G# / G#-B-D (7)
C# / E-G#-C# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
(repeat)

G# / G#-B-D (7)
C# / G#-C#-E (3)
F# / A-C#-F# (6)
(repeat)

G# / B-D-G# (7)
C# / C#-E-G# (3)
F# / C#-F#-A (6)
(repeat)

G# / D-G#-B (7)
C# / E-G#-C# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
(repeat)

2-5-1 progression

B / B-D-F# (2)
E / E-G#-B (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

B / F#-B-D (2)
E / G#-B-E (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

B / B-D-F# (2)
E / B-E-G# (5)
A / C#-E-A (1)
(repeat)

B / D-F#-B (2)
E / E-G#-B (5)
A / E-A-C# (1)
(repeat)

3-6-2-5-1 progression

C# / C#-E-G# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
B / B-D-F# (2)
E / E-G#-B (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

C# / E#-G-C# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
B / F#-B-D (2)
E / G#-B-E (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

C# / G#-C#-E (3)
F# / A-C#-F# (6)
B / B-D-F# (2)
E / B-E-G# (5)
A / C#-E-A (1)
(repeat)

C# / C#-Eb-G# (3)
F# / C#-F#-A (6)
B / D-F#-B (2)
E / E-G#-B (5)
A / E-A-C# (1)
(repeat)

7-3-6-2-5-1 progression

G# / G#-B-D (7)
C# / C#-E-G# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
B / B-D-F# (2)
E / E-G#-B (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

G# / G#-B-D (7)
C# / E-G#-C# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
B / F#-B-D (2)
E / G#-B-E (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

G# / G#-B-D (7)
C# / G#-C#-E (3)
F# / A-C#-F# (6)
B / B-D-F# (2)
E / B-E-G# (5)
A / C#-E-A (1)
(repeat)

G# / B-D-G# (7)
C# / C#-E-G# (3)
F# / C#-F#-A (6)
B / D-F#-B (2)
E / E-G#-B (5)
A / E-A-C# (1)
(repeat)

G# / D-G#-B (7)
C# / E-G#-C# (3)
F# / F#-A-C# (6)
B / F#-B-D (2)
E / G#-B-E (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

MORE ADVANCED PROGRESSIONS

Key A

7-3-6 progression

G# / F#-B-D (7)

C# / F-A-B-E (3)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

(repeat)

G# / F#-B-D (7)

C# / E#-G#-B-D (3)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

(repeat)

G# / F#-B-D (7)

C# / D-E#-G#-B (3)

F# / C#-F#-A (6)

(repeat)

G# / D#-F#-A#-C# (7)

C# / F-A-B-E (3)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

(repeat)

2-5-1 progression

B / D#-F#-A-C# (2)

E / D-E-A-B (5)

E / D-E-G#-B (5)

A / C#-E-A (1)

(repeat)

B / E#-A-B-D (2)

E / E-A-C# (5)

E / D-E-A-B (5)

E / D-E-G#-B (5)

A / C#-E-A (1)

(repeat)

B / D#-F#-A-C (2)
E / D-F#-G#-c or E / D-E-G#-B (5)
A / G-C#-F#-A or A / G-C#-E-A (1)
(repeat)

B / G#-C#-E# or B-A / G#-C#-E# (2)
E / A-D-F# (5)
A / A-C#-E (1)
(repeat)

2-3-4-5-1 progression

B / F-A-B-D (2)
C# / E-A-C# (3)
D / F-A-B-D (4)
E / E-A-C# (5)
E / D-E-A-B (5)
E / D-E-G#-B (5)
A / C#-E-A (1)
(repeat)

7-3-6-2-5-1 progression

G# / F#-B-D (7)
C# / F-A-B-E (3)
F# / E-A-C# (6)
B / E#-A-B-D (2)
E / E-A-C# (5)
E / D-E-A-B (5)
E / D-E-G#-B (5)
A / C#-E-A (1)
(repeat)

7-3-6-2-3-4-5-1 progression

G# / F#-B-D (7)

C# / F-A-B-E (3)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

B / F-A-B-D (2)

C# / E-A-C# (3)

D / F-A-B-D (4)

E / E-A-C# (5)

E / D-E-A-B (5)

E / D-E-G#-B (5)

A / C#-E-A (1)

(repeat)

6-2-5-1 progression

F# / E-A-C# (6)

B / D#-A-C# (2)

E / D-G-B (5)

A / C#-G-B (1)

(repeat)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

B / D#-F#-A-C# (2)

E / D-G-B (5)

A / C#-E-G-B (1)

(repeat)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

B / D#-G#-B# (2)

E / D-G-B (5)

A / C#-F#-A# (1)

(repeat)

F# / E-G#-A-C# (6)

B / D#-G#-A-C# (2)

E / D-F#-G-B (5)

A / C#-F#-G-B (1)

(repeat)

F# / E-G#-A-C# (6)

B / D#-F#-A-C# (2)

E / D-F#-G-B (5)

A / C#-E-G-B (1)

(repeat)

6-b6-5-1 progression

F# / E-A-C# (6)

F / Eb-Ab-C (b6)

E / D-G-B (5)

A / C#-G-B (1)

(repeat)

F# / E-A-C# (6)

F / Eb-Ab-C (b6)

E / D-G-B (5)

A / C#-F#-A# (1)

(repeat)

F# / E-G#-A-C# (6)

F / Eb-G-Ab-C (b6)

E / D-G-B (5)

A / C#-G-B (1)

(repeat)

6-2-5-1-4 progression

F# / E-A-C# (6)

B / D#-A-C# (2)

E / G-B-D-F# (5)

A / G-B-C#-E or A / G-B-D#-F# (1)

D / F#-A-C#-E (4)

(repeat)

2-1-b7-b6-5 progression

B / A-D-F# (2)
A / B-E-G# (1)
G / C-F-A (b7)
F / D-G-B (b6)
E / E-A-C# (5)
(repeat)

B / D-F#-A (2)
A / E-G#-B (1)
G / F-A-C (b7)
F / G-B-D (b6)
E / A-C#-E (5)
(repeat)

B / F#-A-D (2)
A / G#-B-E (1)
G / A-C-F (b7)
F / B-D-G (b6)
E / C#-E-A (5)
(repeat)

4-3-2-3-4-6-2-3 progression

D / C#-F#-A (4)
C# / B-E-G# (3)
B / A-D-F# (2)
C# / B-E-G# (3)
D / C#-F#-A (4)
F# / B-E-G# (6)
B / A-D-F# (2)
C# / B-E-G# (3)
(repeat)

D / F#-A-C# (4)
C# / E-G#-B (3)
B / D-F#-A (2)
C# / E-G#-B (3)
D / F#-A-C# (4)
F# / E-G#-B (6)
B / D-F#-A (2)
C# / E-G#-B (3)
(repeat)

D / A-C#-F# (4)
C# / G#-B-E (3)
B / F#-A-D (2)
C# / G#-B-E (3)
D / A-C#-F# (4)
F# / G#-B-E (6)
B / F#-A-D (2)
C# / G#-B-E (3)
(repeat)

3-4-5-6 progression

C# / Aadd9 (3)
D / Dadd9 (4)
E / Aadd9 (5)
F# / Dadd9 (6)
(repeat)

C# / B-C#-E-A (3)
D / A-D-E-F# (4)
E / A-B-C#-E (5)
F# / E-F#-A-D (6)
(repeat)

4-4-3-6-5 progression

D / F#-A-C# (4)

D / E-G#-B (4)

C# / E-G#-B (3)

F# / E-G#-B (6)

E / C#-F#-A# (5)

(repeat)

6-3-4-5-b6 progression

F# / C#-F#-A (6)

C# / B-E-G# (3)

D / C#-F#-A (4)

E / B-E-G# or E / D-F#-A (5)

F / B-D-F-G# (b6)

(repeat)

Just a quick lil progression I like in A:

A/ E-G#-C#

B/ F#-A-D

C#/A-C#-E

D/A-C#-F#

Db,B/-- (passing)

C#/G#-C-C#-F

D#/C#-F#-A#

F/C-F-G#

F#/C#-F#-A

F#,E,Eb/-- (passing)

and then carry on from there as you feel :-)

This is how I view this progression:

it is a 1-4 walk-up in the initial major key (being A in this case).

Then you resort to

the 5th of the minor 6th of that major key (in this case being an F#min.)

so you play a 5-6-7-1.

Enjoy