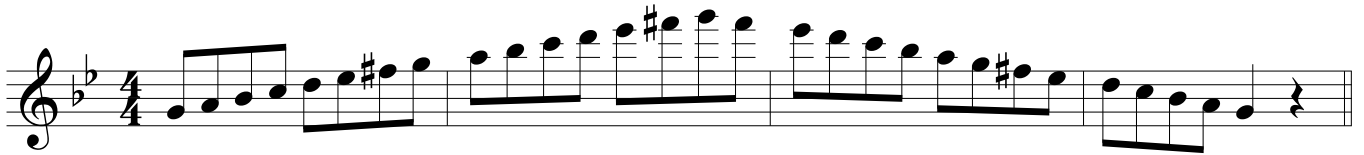


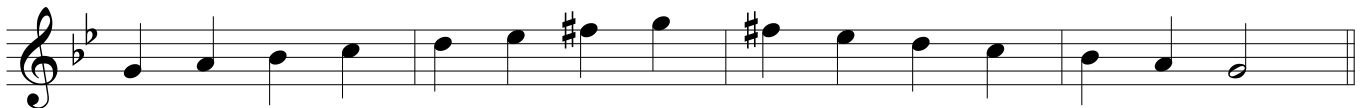
Mastering G harmonic minor scale

P Bartels

The two octave G harmonic scale seems to cause a bit of grief for many students so here are some ideas to help you master that scale. Here is the two octave scale:



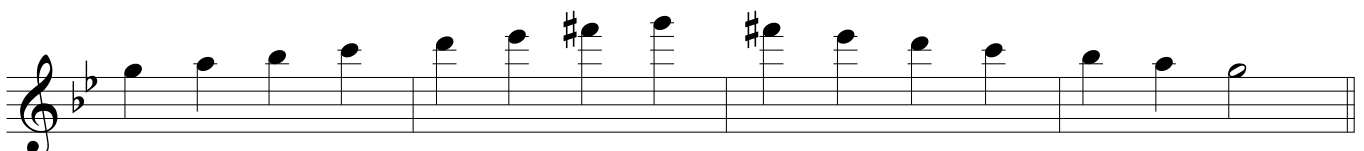
Practise just the lower octave first up so you are sure of the key signature and the raised 7th, F#.



Try this next Finger Buster exercise to consolidate the notes. Check out pages 7,8 & 9 of *Supercharge Your Flute Technique* for more Finger Buster exercises.



Now play just the second octave of the scale. Remember you cannot have your Bb thumb key on for the top F#. Use the note C as the point where you change your thumb from the Bb key to B natural key.



Mastering G harmonic minor scale

Try this exercise to really reinforce the second octave notes of the scale.

The first system consists of four staves of music in G harmonic minor (one flat, key signature). The notes are: G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F#, G. The exercise is written in a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It features four measures of eighth-note runs, each with a slur over the notes. The first measure covers the first octave (G4 to G5), the second measure covers the second octave (G5 to G6), the third measure covers the third octave (G6 to G7), and the fourth measure covers the fourth octave (G7 to G8). The notes are: G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F#, G.

Here is a bit more repetition of those top octave notes. Take your time, play it slowly making sure your fingerings are accurate. Remember no Bb thumb key for the top F#.

The second system consists of three staves of music in G harmonic minor (one flat, key signature). The notes are: G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F#, G. The exercise is written in a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It features three measures of eighth-note runs, each with a slur over the notes. The first measure covers the first octave (G4 to G5), the second measure covers the second octave (G5 to G6), and the third measure covers the third octave (G6 to G7). The notes are: G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F#, G.

Mastering G harmonic minor scale

Here is an exercise I call *The Original Scale Challenge* that will really start to test out your fingers. Of course you could start this exercise in the low octave and extend it over the whole two octaves. You can find *The Original Scale Challenge* on page 33 of *Supercharge Your Flute Technique*.

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the 'Original Scale Challenge' exercise in G harmonic minor, first octave. Each staff contains a sequence of eighth-note groups, each with a slur over it. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6. The first staff covers the first two measures, the second staff the next two, the third staff the next two, and the fourth staff the final two measures. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the scale is in G harmonic minor.

Now play the second octave of the scale. Is it easier?

The image shows a single staff of musical notation for the second octave of the G harmonic minor scale. The notes are: G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F#7, G7. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the scale is in G harmonic minor.

You should be ready to tackle the whole two octave scale successfully now.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation for the full two-octave G harmonic minor scale. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6, D6, E6, F#6, G6, A6, B6, C7, D7, E7, F#7, G7, A7, B7, C8, D8, E8, F#8, G8. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the scale is in G harmonic minor.

Check out my book *Supercharge Your Flute Technique* for more great ways to build your technique. Visit peterbartelsflute.com for more information.