

# Day 13

## #TenThumbsBluesChallenge - Bends Blues Scale in G Shape 4



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Key: G

Chords used in backing track: G

BPM of backing track: 60 BPM

Video Tutorial: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLoG98hzbyo>

Days 1-11 are designed to teach you rhythm. All the different ideas, chords, shapes, and licks and where you can put them.

Days 12-15 are going to shift gears to playing the lead. We already know shape number 2, today we are going to learn shape 3 as well as hammer ons and pull offs

### G Minor Pentatonic Shape 4 & G Blues Scale Shape 4

The image shows two musical staves for the G Minor Pentatonic and G Blues Scale in Shape 4. The first staff is labeled "G Minor Pentatonic - Shape 4" and "Root". It shows a sequence of notes: G (3), A, Bb, C, D. The second staff is labeled "G Blues Scale - Shape 4" and "Root". It shows a sequence of notes: G (4), Ab (b5th), Bb, C, D. Below the staves are two sets of fretboard diagrams. The first diagram shows the fretboard for the G Minor Pentatonic scale with fingerings: 5-7, 5-7, 6-8, 5-8. The second diagram shows the fretboard for the G Blues Scale with fingerings: 5-6-7, 5-7, 6-8, 5-8.

Today's lesson will be exploring string bending. One of the hardest aspects of bending the strings on the ukulele is actually doing it in pitch. I used to think you just bent the string, but an articulate bend will actually bend into another note on the scale. DO YOUR BEST that is all you can do, don't get frustrated, I bent out of pitch for a year before I even knew that you were supposed to bend to a specific note.

This first two licks are just to get a vibe for the scale. You won't be able to use this in the entry, but DO use them in your jamming and playing.

The image shows two musical staves for two licks. The first staff is labeled "19" and shows a sequence of notes: G (5), A (8), Bb (7), C (6), D (7). The second staff is labeled "20" and shows a sequence of notes: G (5), A (8), Bb (7), C (6), D (7), E (5), F (7).

- All other licks moving forward qualify for your entry into the challenge.
- You can also make your own lick it must
  - o Use (but not be limited to) the shape 4
  - o Have a bend, if it is out of tune it is okay, don't worry, just try and bend the string
  - o Resolve on the G note, the 7<sup>th</sup> fret of the C string.
  - o If you know G notes from an other shape, feel free to use those for resolution too.
- In playing an actual solo you don't have to always resolve on the G note, that is just the most important resolution and the one I am trying to build good habits around.

This lick doesn't actually resolve on the G note, but the D note, still you can use it for the entry.

- When bending your strings a full step hit the note to frets above where you are bending so you can hear the sound you are going for.
- This lick resolves on the D note, the 5<sup>th</sup> of G, and that is another great, safe, stable resolution
- When bending use three fingers for strength and control

- This two licks are essentially the same, the second is just a flashier way to play what the first one is.
- When bending on the C string you have to bend the string down instead of up.

- This last lick actually resolves on the G note from shape 5, but still sounds great.