



Theory & Exercises: Stand By Me

1) We're playing *Stand By Me* in the key of C, so begin by reviewing the C major scale. Below, give the key signature for that key, then write out the associated scale by degree. Start by playing the scale in open position. If that is already easy for you, play it using each of the five CAGED scale forms. Whichever approach you take, make sure you can not only play the finger pattern, but recognize each note by letter name and scale degree.

	Scale Degrees						
Key Signature	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

2) In the table below you see all the chords used in this song. First provide the roman numeral indicating the chord's place in the key, then spell out that chord by indicating its root, 3rd, 5th and (where appropriate) 7th of each chord used in the song. Then play through each chord as an arpeggio. Start by playing the arpeggios in open position. If that is already easy for you, play them based on each of the five CAGED chord shapes. Whichever approach you take, make sure you can not only play the finger pattern, but recognize each note by letter name and scale degree.

Chord	Numeral	Root	3rd	5th
C				
Am				
F				
G				

3) Below you see the the Tab for the first solo to *Stand by Me*. Use it to do two things:

- Sing through the solo, naming each note.
- Name each note as a scale degree of the chord supporting it. Where you see diagonal lines, analyze the notes relative to the upcoming chord.

0-0-3 5 5-3 5-3-1 3-1-2 2-0 3-2-1-3-5 3-5-3 5-5

If this 3rd exercise is easy for you, try the same thing on one of the more challenging solos, adding one extra insight: whenever the solo is being played beyond open position, in addition to naming the notes as scale degrees of the chord providing the harmony, be sure to identify the CAGED shape that would give us that chord in the position on the fretboard where the melodic line is being played.