



The Super Locrian (Altered) Scale -

The Super Locrian scale (also known as the altered scale) is the 7th mode of the melodic minor scale. If we take a C melodic minor scale and start it on the 7th degree, we get the following -

B C D Eb F G A

This scale is often referred to as The Altered Scale as it is commonly used to improvise on a dominant chord with several alterations. Below, you will find the notes listed one more time with information about how they relate to a B7 chord.

B = Root

C = b9

D = #9

Eb = 3rd

F = b5

G = #5

A = 7th

We can see that we have the essential building blocks of a B7 chord (shown in bold) along with several alterations (shown in red). In the scale we do not have a perfect fifth (F#), only a b5 and #5. This means that the super locrian scale can be used to improvise over any dominant 7th chord with combinations of b9, #9, b5 and #5. One common chord type to use the scale on is B7#5#9. Where a composer has intended the altered scale to be played, they will often notate the chord as B7(alt).