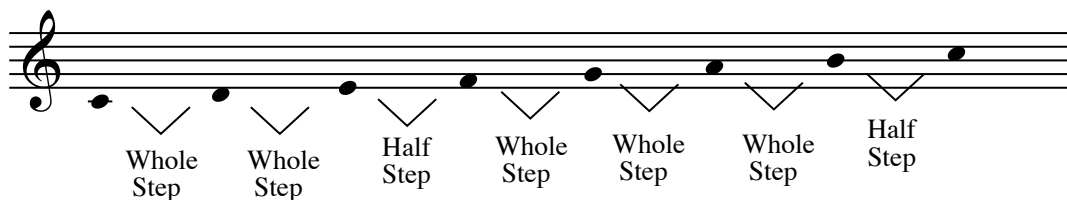


Major Scale Tips and Tricks

Javier Arau

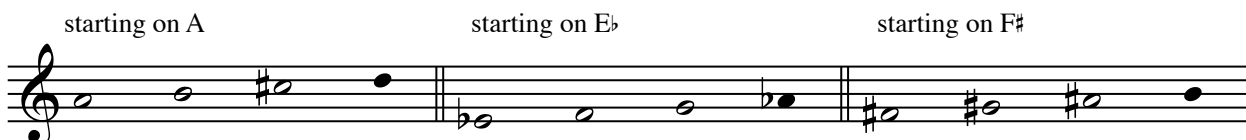
Traditional Major Scale Construction:



Symmetry within the Major Scale:



Try out "1 2 3 + half step" starting on other notes:



Every Major Scale Includes Parts of Two Other Major Scales:

C Major Scale (no sharps, no flats) (Notice the **WHOLE STEP** between the **BOTTOM Half** and **TOP Half** of the Scale.)

bottom half of C is the top half of F Major top half of C is the bottom half of G Major

F Major Scale (1 flat)

bottom half of F is the top half of C Major top half of F is the bottom half of G# Major

G Major Scale (1 sharp)

bottom half of G is the top half of D Major top half of G is the bottom half of A Major

The D Major Scale includes parts of the G Major and A Major Scales:

D Major Scale (2 sharps)

bottom half of D is the top half of G Major top half of D is the bottom half of A Major

G Major Scale (1 sharp)

bottom half of G is the top half of D Major top half of G is the bottom half of A Major

A Major Scale (3 sharps)

bottom half of A is the top half of E Major top half of A is the bottom half of B Major

Work on this Scale Fragment Exercise:



12 Major Scales

C Major Scale (no sharps, no flats)



G Major Scale (1 sharp)



F Major Scale (1 flat)



D Major Scale (2 sharps)



Bb Major Scale (2 flats)



A Major Scale (3 sharps)



Eb Major Scale (3 flats)



E Major Scale (4 sharps)



Ab Major Scale (4 flats)



B Major Scale (5 sharps)



Db Major Scale (5 flats)



F# Major Scale (6 sharps)



Tips and Tricks to Remember:

- 1. Major Scales are made from two groups of 4 notes:
1, 2, 3, + a half step**

C D E F, or D E F[#] G, or A^b B^b C D^b, etc.

- 2. These two groups are separated by a WHOLE STEP**

In C Major: C D E F - G A B C

- 3. The two embedded scales start on the 4th and 5th notes of the major scale.**

In the C Major Scale, the two embedded scales are F and G Major. F and G are the 4th and 5th notes of the C Major Scale.

- 4. The TOP HALF scale fragment also belongs to the scale that has ONE SHARP ADDED.**

In C Major (no sharps/no flats), the top half also belongs to G Major (1 sharp in the scale).
The bottom half belongs to F Major (1 flat in the scale).

- 5. The BOTTOM HALF also belongs to the scale that has ONE SHARP SUBTRACTED (or ONE FLAT ADDED).**

In D Major (2 sharps), the top half belongs to A Major (3 sharps).
The bottom half belongs to G Major (1 sharp).