



Building Major Scales in Treble Clef

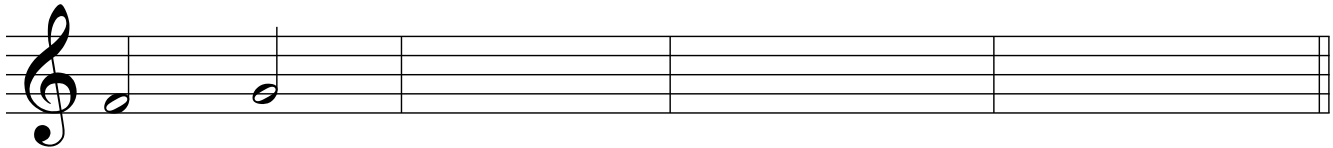
A scale is a ladder of notes that has a designated formula of whole and half steps. The formula for a major scale is: W-W-H, W-W-W-H. The half steps (H) are between the 3rd and 4th notes (degrees) and the 7th and 8th notes (degrees). All others are whole steps (W). Keep in mind that E to F and B to C are natural half steps (adjacent white notes on the piano) when building your scale.

Here is the “C” major scale. Note that it does not require any sharps or flats, because the natural half steps of E to F and B to C fall in the correct places of 3 to 4 and 7 to 8.

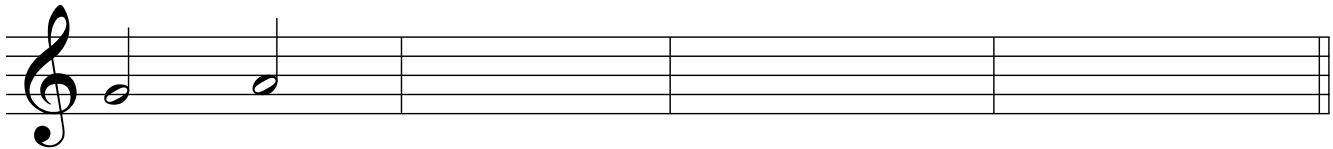


Below are additional staves for building F, G, B \flat and D major scales using the same formula. They will require some alteration using flats or sharps in order to maintain the formula. Add the proper key signature for each when completed. Good luck!

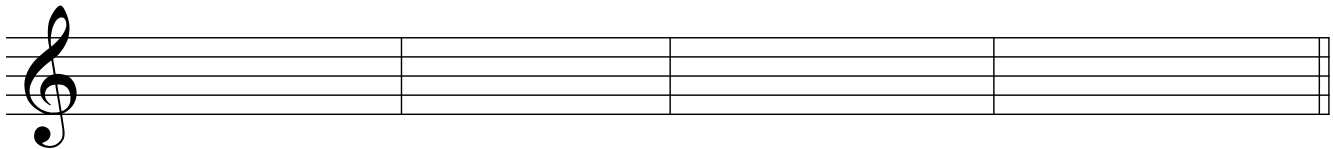
First, build an F major scale. The first two notes are given.



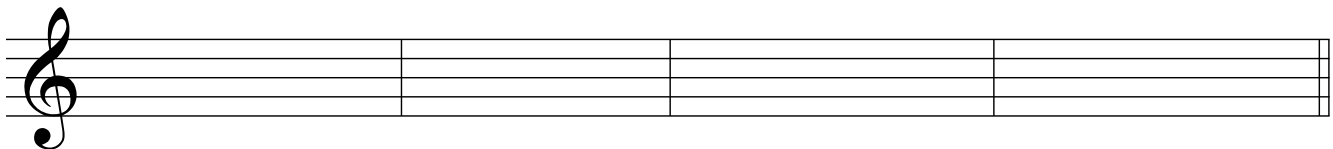
Build a G major scale. The first two notes are given.



Build a B \flat major scale.



Build a D major scale.



Check each scale by going note to note and asking: “Is this a whole step or a half step and is it in the correct location.” Remember: a whole step consists of two half steps and E to F and B to C are natural half steps.

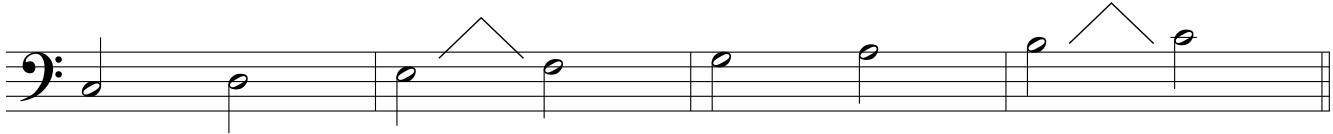




Building Major Scales in Bass Clef

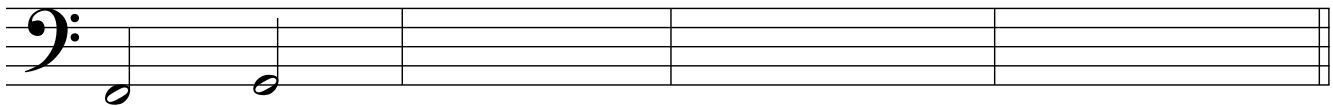
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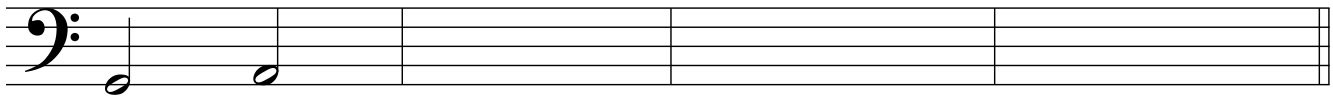


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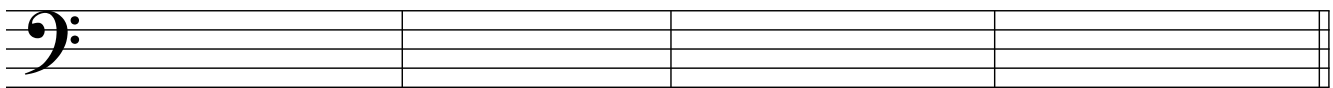
First, build an F major scale. The first two notes are given.



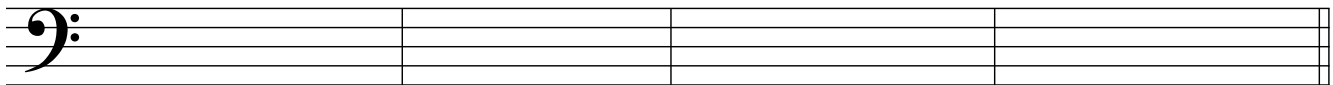
Build a G major scale. The first two notes are given.



Build a B \flat major scale.



Build a D major scale.



Check each scale by going note to note and asking: “Is this a whole step or a half step and is it in the correct location.” Remember: a whole step consists of two half steps and E to F and B to C are natural half steps.





The Chords of a Key in Treble Clef

Much of our ear training is related to hearing the various chords of a given key. The tonic or home chord is perhaps the most important as we use it to hear our starting pitches. The other chords are important as the song progresses because the melody is often a chord tone and the intervals are related. Creating the chords of any key is easy if you have the major scale of that key. Merely stack thirds above each of the notes of the scale as demonstrated below.

C Dm Em F G Am Bdim C

Write an F major scale. Stack thirds above each note and name each chord. Note the chord type – major, minor and diminished – will be the same as the C major scale above. Add the proper key signature for each when completed.

Write the chords in the key of G.

Write the chords in the key of B \flat .

Write the chords in the key of D.





The Chords of a Key in Bass Clef

Much of our ear training is related to hearing the various chords of a given key. The tonic or home chord is perhaps the most important as we use it to hear our starting pitches. The other chords are important as the song progresses because the melody is often a chord tone and the intervals are related. Creating the chords of any key is easy if you have the major scale of that key. Merely stack thirds above each of the notes of the scale as demonstrated below.

C D m E m F G A m B dim C

Write an F major scale. Stack thirds above each note and name each chord. Note the chord type – major, minor and diminished – will be the same as the C major scale above. Add the proper key signature for each when completed.

Write the chords in the key of G.

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