

# Class 1: Introduction to Music Theory

# Notes in Music:

1. There are two types:
  - a. Natural Notes : [ A , B, C , D , E , F , G ]
  - b. Accidental notes: [ A# , C# , D# , F# , G#] OR [ Bb , Db , Eb , Gb , Ab]
2. Frequency of A# = Frequency of Bb = 466.16Hz
3. Although the frequency is the same, the use of sharps(#) and flats(b) should be appropriate with the main key of the song.



#### TREBLE CLEF:

violin, flute, oboe, bagpipe, cor anglais, all clarinets, all saxophones, horn, trumpet, cornet, vibraphone, xylophone, mandolin, and recorder.



#### BASS CLEF:

cello, euphonium, double bass, bass guitar, bassoon, contrabassoon, trombone, baritone horn, tuba, and timpani

NOTE : THERE ARE MORE TYPES OF CLEFS.I HAVE ONLY MENTIONED THOSE THAT ARE CURRENTLY RELEVANT .FOR ADDITIONAL INFO FOLLOW THIS LINK:

<https://www.musicnotes.com/now/tips/a-complete-guide-to-musical-clefs-what-are-they-and-how-to-use-them/#:~:text=A%20musical%20clef%20is%20a.the%20notes%20written%20on%20it.&text=There%20are%20many%20types%20of.Bass%2C%20Alto%2C%20and%20Tenor.>

# HARMONY

**Harmony, in music**, the sound of two or more notes heard simultaneously. In practice, this broad **definition** can also include some instances of notes sounded one after the other.

Some key terms:

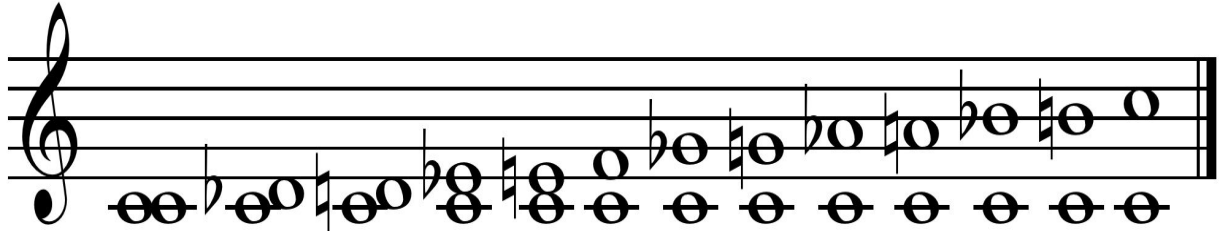
1. Intervals : an interval is the difference in pitch between two sounds.
2. Scales : In music theory, a **scale** is any set of musical **notes** ordered by fundamental frequency or **pitch**. A scale ordered by increasing pitch is an ascending scale, and a scale ordered by decreasing pitch is a descending scale.
3. Chords : a group of (typically three or more) notes sounded together, as a basis of harmony.

# INTERVALS:

A. It is the difference in pitch between two sounds.

B. Types:

1. Unison
2. Minor 2nd
3. Major 2nd
4. Minor 3rd
5. Major 3rd
6. Perfect 4th
7. Tritone
8. Perfect 5th
9. Minor 6th
10. Major 6th
11. Minor 7th
12. Major 7th
13. Octave



A musical staff in treble clef showing 13 intervals. The notes are: C4 (unison), C#4 (minor 2nd), D4 (major 2nd), D#4 (minor 3rd), E4 (major 3rd), F4 (perfect 4th), F#4 (tritone), G4 (perfect 5th), G#4 (minor 6th), A4 (major 6th), Bb4 (minor 7th), B4 (major 7th), and C5 (octave). Each interval is labeled with its corresponding symbol below the staff.

U m2 M2 m3 M3 P4 TT P5 m6 M6 m7 M7 P8

# C Major Scale:

1. Let's start with C Major because it is the easiest.
2. It contains all natural notes.
3. Using the formula below, we can derive any Major scale.
4. The characteristic note of C Major is E(Major 3rd).
5. The scales should have all sharps or all flats. It needs that syntax. It will be more practical.

I.e;        C - D - E - F - G - A - B - C

              R -M2-M3 -P4-P5-M6-M7-O

# Example:

- Let's derive the major scale of D.
  - a. First, write down all notes and mark intervals.

D - D# - E - F - F# - G - G# - A - A# - B - C - C# - D

R - m2 - M2- m3 -M3- P4 - TT -P5 - m6 - M6- m7-M7 - O

Major scale formula: R -M2-M3 -P4-P5-M6-M7-O

D Major = D E F# G A B C# D

# Relative major and minor:

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

1. The relative minor of C major is A minor.
2. The relative major of A minor is C major

This is because C major and A minor share the same set of notes. This means if i play A minor scale over C major chord, it will sound no different from C major scale.

We will explore the subtle difference between the two scales in an advanced class.



# ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Derive the major scale in

1. G
2. F
3. E
4. Ab
5. Db

B. What are the relative minors for the same?

Answers will be provided before next class.

# What will we cover in the next few lessons?

1. Sub-division of time.
2. Time signatures.
3. Reading rhythms and notes.
4. Harmony of a major scale.
5. Modes within the major scale.
6. Introduction to melodic and harmonic minor.
7. Pentatonic scale
8. Chord progressions
9. Arpeggios
10. Analysis of jazz standards.