

Notes and Rhythm

Note Naming



Rhythm

(As counted in 4/4 time)

		1	2	3	4
○	—	Whole note/rest	○		
♪	—	Half note/rest	♪	♪	
♪	♪	Quarter note/rest	♪	♪	♪
			1 &	2 &	3 & 4 &
♪	♪	Eighth note/rest	♪	♪	♪
			1 e & a	2 e & a	3 e & a 4 e & a
♪	♪	Sixteenth note/rest	♪	♪	♪

Triplets () are played with **3** notes in **1** beat.

You will need to recognize this rhythm: 

The Rule of the Dot:

A dot adds 1/2 the length of the note before.
A dotted note equals 3 of the next smaller note.

○.	=	○	+	♪	♩. = ♩ + ♩	♪. = ♪ + ♪
○.	=	♪	+	♪	♩. = ♩ + ♩ + ♩	♪. = ♪ + ♪ + ♪

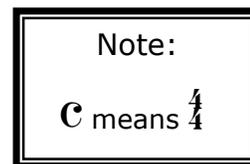
Time Signatures (Meter)

T = Top number (Number of beats in a measure)
B = Bottom number (What kind of note gets 1 beat)

$$2 = \text{♪}, 4 = \text{♪}, 8 = \text{♪}, 16 = \text{♪}$$

Shortcut: "There are T B notes per measure."

Example: $\frac{9}{8}$ "There are 9 eighth notes per measure."



Key Signatures

Order of Sharps and Flats

Sharps: **F**ather **C**hristmas **G**ave **D**ad **A**n **E**lectric **B**lanket

Flats: **B**lanket **E**xploded **A**nd **D**ad **G**ot **C**old **F**eet

Finding Major Key Signatures

Sharps: Last sharp → Go up a half-step

Flats: 2nd to last flat

Two to Memorize:

No flats or sharps = C Major

One flat = F Major

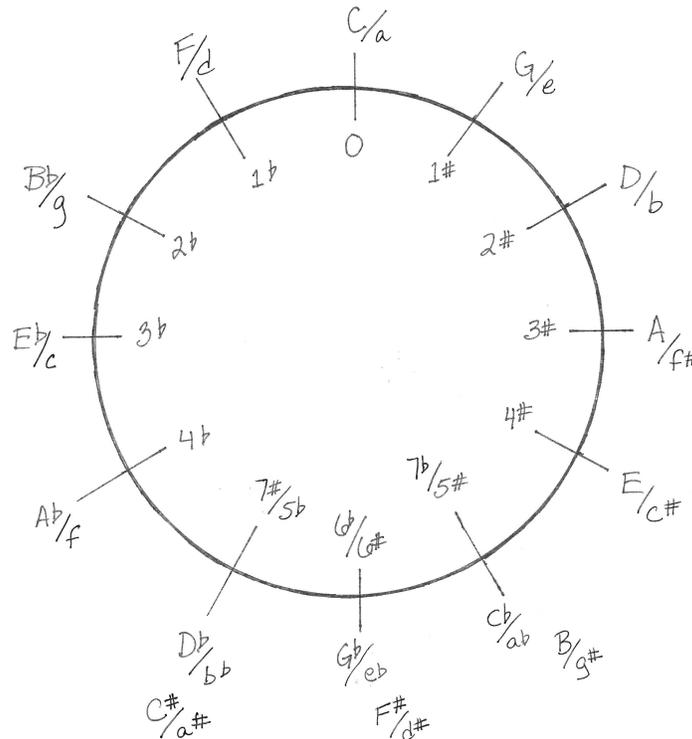
Finding Minor Key Signatures

Go back 2 letter names from the major key signature. (Use correct flats/sharps.)

Ex: A Major → F# minor

Bb Major → G minor

Another good way to remember these is to learn the **Circle of Fifths**.



Look for patterns to help remember the order.

In the major keys, do you see...

Father **C**harles **G**oes **D**own **A**nd **E**nds **B**attle?

BEAD (two places)?

that keys with the same letter name add to 7? (Bb + B)

Do you see the relationship between the major and minor circles?

Key Signatures

Steps to Naming a Key

What you are given: *The number of sharps or flats.*

1 Name the sharps or flats. (Use your saying.)	OR Draw a Circle of Fifths on the side of your test and find the major key .
2 Find the last sharp or 2 nd to last flat.	
3 Name the major key.	
4 Go back two letter names.	
5 Check this with your list of flats or sharps to see if it is flat or sharp.	
6 Name the minor key.	

Pat yourself on the back.☺

Steps to Giving a Key Signature

What you are given: *The name of a major key.*

Sharps

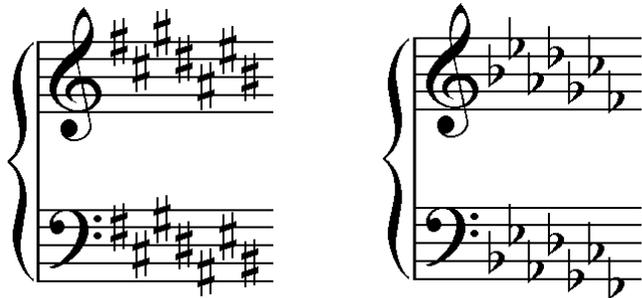
1. Name the sharp just below the name of the key.
2. Write the sharps in order up to (and including) that sharp.

Flats

1. Write the flats up to (and including) the name of the key.
2. Write one more flat.

Throw yourself a party for being so smart!

OR Use your Circle of Fifths and write the correct number of flats or sharps.



Intervals

Intervals

An interval is the distance between two notes. You can find the interval by counting the bottom note, every line and space between, and the top note. Did you notice that all odd-numbered intervals are from a line to a line or from a space to a space? All the even-numbered ones have one line and one space.



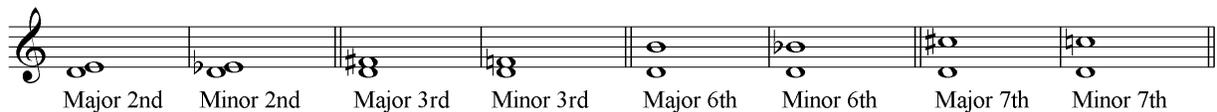
A musical staff in treble clef showing seven intervals starting from C4. The intervals are: Major 2nd (C4 to D4), Major 3rd (C4 to E4), Perfect 4th (C4 to F4), Perfect 5th (C4 to G4), Major 6th (C4 to A4), Major 7th (C4 to B4), and Perfect 8th/octave (C4 to C5).

When the top note is in the major scale of the bottom note, the interval is either *major* (2nds, 3rds, 6ths, and 7ths) or *perfect* (4ths, 5ths, and octaves).



A musical staff in treble clef showing four minor intervals starting from C4. The intervals are: Minor 2nd (C4 to B3), Minor 3rd (C4 to Bb3), Minor 6th (C4 to Ab4), and Minor 7th (C4 to Bb4).

For a *minor* interval, make a major interval one half-step smaller.



A musical staff in treble clef showing eight intervals starting from C4. The intervals are: Major 2nd (C4 to D4), Minor 2nd (C4 to B3), Major 3rd (C4 to E4), Minor 3rd (C4 to Bb3), Major 6th (C4 to A4), Minor 6th (C4 to Ab4), Major 7th (C4 to B4), and Minor 7th (C4 to Bb4).

Enharmonic Notes

Enharmonic notes look (are spelled) different but sound the same pitch.



A musical staff in treble clef showing two notes: C#4 and B4. Below the staff, the text reads "C# Major B Major".

