

Major Scale Construction

Scales are sets of notes that work together to provide the desired blend of harmony and dissonance. In this case, harmony is defined as notes that sound good together and dissonance is defined as notes that clash. Keep in mind that harmony and dissonance vary from person to person. Some scales are more widely used than others. Much of western music focuses on the use of the major scale.

C Major Scale – C, D, E, F, G, A, B

Let's see how the Major scale is built:

- From C to D is a whole-step
- From D to E is a whole-step
- From E to F is a half-step
- From F to G is a whole-step
- From G to A is a whole-step
- From A to B is a whole-step
- From B to C is a half-step

Notice the whole-step, whole-step, half-step constructions separated by a whole-step. This is an easy way to remember how the Major scale is constructed.

Exercises:

Construct all 12 Major scales below...

Fill in the notes for the C Major scale:

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Fill in the notes for the F Major scale:

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___