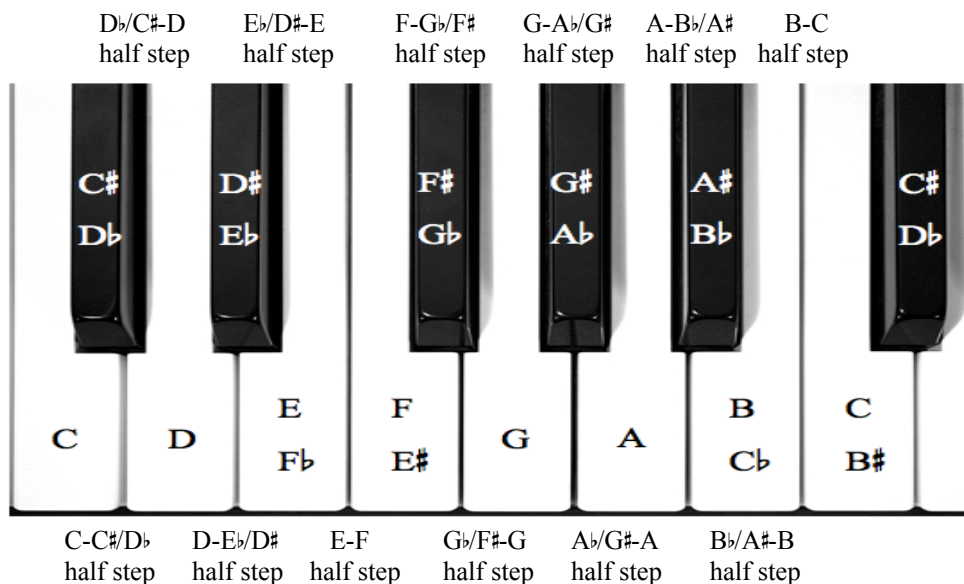
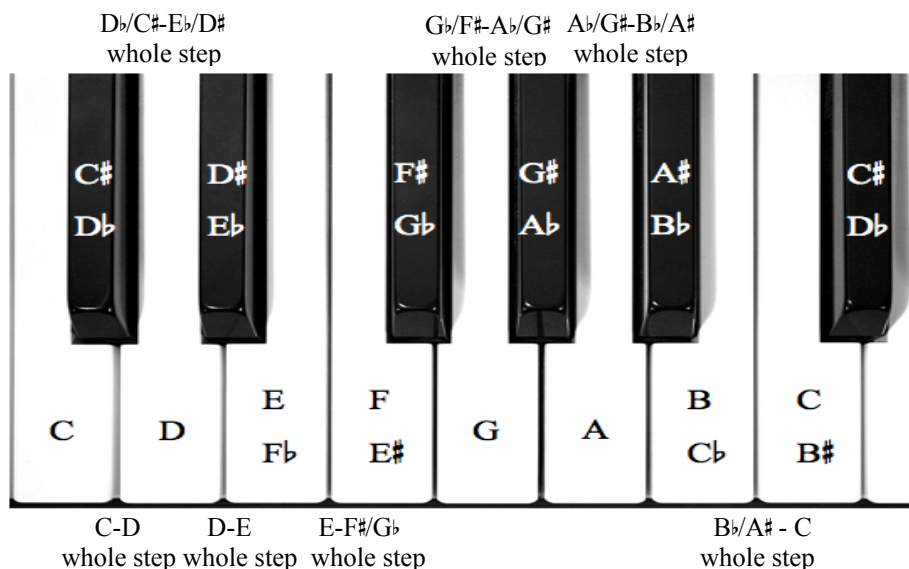


HALF STEPS AND WHOLE STEPS

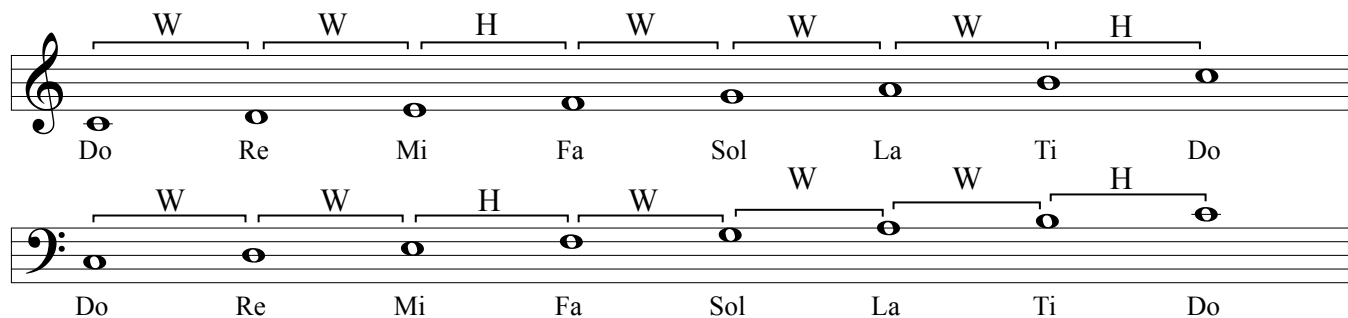
A Half Step is the distance between one pitch and the very next pitch, higher or lower. The piano below shows the half steps. Notice the "natural half steps" that occur between E-F & C-B



A Whole Step is the same as two half steps. In singing, Do-Re is a whole step. For example, in the key of C Major, C-D is Do-Re. There is one pitch, C \sharp or D \flat in between the two notes that make up a whole step. Look at the piano below to see the whole steps.



In any Major Scale, the pattern of half steps and whole steps is: Whole-Whole-Half-Whole-Whole-Whole-Half



FLAT KEY SIGNATURES

♭ - The order of flats in a key signature are: B, E, A, D, G, C, F. You can use the following saying to remember the order of the flats: **BEAD - Gum Candy Fruit**. The order of flats also happens to be in the opposite order of the sharps.

- F C G D A E B ♭ - B E A D G C F

In order to tell what key a song is in (how many flats it has) look at the second to the last flat and that's the key. The only key this rule will not work for is F Major, because it only has one flat.

In the example below, there are four flats. The second to last flat is A♭, therefore the key signature is A♭ Major.

A♭ - This is the second to the last flat, so it is the key.

If you are asked to name the flats in a key, name the musical alphabet letter before the key, then add one more. For example:

Question: How many flats are in the key of G♭?

Answer: G♭ is the second to last flat, so the flats in the key of G♭ Major are: B♭, E♭, A♭, D♭, G♭ & C♭

Here are the Major Flat Key Signatures, with their flats listed below.

Here are the names of the Major Flat Key Signatures (C is also included).

Fun fact: C Major has no #/b - C# Major has all of the sharps - C♭ Major has all of the flats!

RHYTHMIC SIGHT-SINGING

In order to learn a song, singers learn to read rhythmic patterns and notes on the staff. Singing a melody for the first time is called "Sight-singing." Below are some examples of rhythmic patterns using the notes introduced so far.

Hint: When singing rhythmic examples, take a breath on the rests: then you won't miss them! Tap and say the beats, then sing the examples on a La (choose any pitch that suits your voice).



La La - La La La - - La La La La La La La - - -
 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 & 2 & 3 4 1 2 3 4



La - La La La La La - La La La La - La La (shh)! La La -
 1 2 3 & 4 1 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4



La - - - La - La La La La La La - (shh)! La La -
 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 & 3 4 1 2 3 4



La La La La La La La La La La La La La - La - - La La La La La La
 1 e & a 2 & 3 4 1 2 & 3 4 1 2 3 4 & 1 2 3 4



La La (shh)! La La La La La La La La La La La - La La - - La
 1 2 3 4 & 1 e & a 2 3 & 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4



La La - - La - La La La La La La La La La La - - -
 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 & 4 1 2 & 3 & 4 1 2 3 4

SPOTLIGHT ON COMPOSERS

An important part of music education is learning about the history of music. Studying composers allows for understanding the music we sing and why it was written the way it was. In this level, you will learn about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Felix Mendelssohn.

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in the Classical period of music on January 27, 1756 in Salzburg, Austria. His father began to teach him piano when he was four years old, and he was already composing pieces by the age of five. Mozart's father, Leopold, took his family on several European tours, showing off his incredibly talented children, Wolfgang and his sister Nannerl. Leopold took Mozart on a tour to Italy beginning in 1769. Mozart wrote his first opera, *Mitridate, re di Ponto* which was a success. He wrote more operas and the famous motet *Exsultate, jubilate, K. 165*, all between 1769-1772.

Mozart became court musician in Salzburg for Prince-Archbishop Colloredo and composed symphonies, sonatas, and some operas, to name a few. In 1781, Mozart's opera *Idomeneo* premiered with some success. Soon thereafter, Mozart left his job in Salzburg and decided to move to Vienna to be an independent composer and performer. He quickly gained the reputation of the best keyboard player in Vienna. In 1782, Mozart married Constanze Weber. They had six children, only two of whom survived beyond infancy.

Mozart studied Johann Sebastian Bach and George Frederic Handel, who influenced his compositional style. Some of his "Baroque" elements can be heard in his opera *Die Zauberflöte*. (The Magic Flute) In 1782, Mozart met Franz Joseph Haydn, and they became friends. Mozart also wrote several piano concertos and gave frequent concerts.

In 1785, Mozart began working with the librettist Lorenzo Da Ponte on the first of many operas they would write together, *The Marriage of Figaro*. Da Ponte also wrote the libretto for Mozart's operas *Don Giovanni* and *Così fan tutte*.

Mozart began to have some financial and health problems around 1786. During the last year of his life, however, he composed some of his most well-known pieces. He wrote the opera *The Magic Flute* and his *Requiem* K. 626, which he was unable to finish before he died. Mozart died on December 5th, 1791 at the age of 35. The cause of death is unknown. Although he was buried in a common grave, there were several memorial services and concerts held in his honor.

Best Known Vocal Works:

23 Opera's including: ***Le Nozze di Figaro, Don Giovanni, Così Fan Tutte, Die Zauberflöte***

Hundreds of concert arias and songs including: **"Dans un Bois Solitaire," "Die Zauberer," "Das Veilchen," "Als Luise die Briefe ihres ungetreuen Liebhabers verbrannte," "Ridente la Calma," "An die Freude"**

Other Significant Works:

Hundreds of pieces for keyboard, string instruments, chamber groups and full symphony orchestras.

Film about Mozart: ***Amadeus*** (1984) - won over 40 awards, including 8 Academy Awards.

MUSIC THEORY FOR SINGERS