

Get **20% off** annual membership before your trial ends – **Only 1 day left**

Back to all courses

# Harmony

Guitar Skills

✓ Recently viewed



 Theatre mode

Practice summary

+ Add

You haven't logged any practice time for this lesson yet. There's no time like the present to [start](#)

## Essential Theory

UNIT 1 • LESSON 1 NEXT >>

Lesson notes

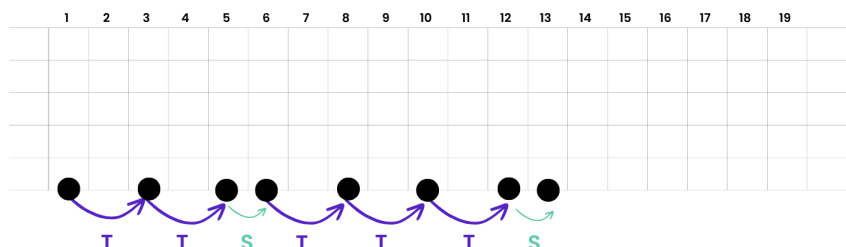
Diagrams

### The Major Scale

This scale is the absolute base and foundation of all western music, and it's all built using one simple formula. This formula needs to be etched into your brain, and it looks like this:

*tone, tone, semitone, tone, tone, tone, semitone*

This is how we say it over in our part of the world, but it's also well known as being called “whole whole half, whole whole whole half”, with whole meaning “whole step” and half meaning “half step”. It's another way of describing exactly the same thing. On the guitar, starting from F (fret 1 on the E string), it looks like this:



### The C Major Scale

## Course navigation

### UNIT 1

## Essential

0%



## Theory

In this unit we get to a fundamental baseline in music theory.

Lessons:

- The Major Scale
- Harmonising The Notes
- The Beautiful Diminished
- The m7b5 Chord
- Using Shapes

### UNIT 2

## Fretboard Mapping

0%



### UNIT 3

## Major Progressions

0%



### UNIT 4

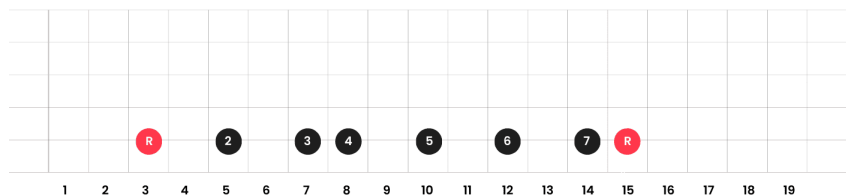
## Minor Progressions

0%



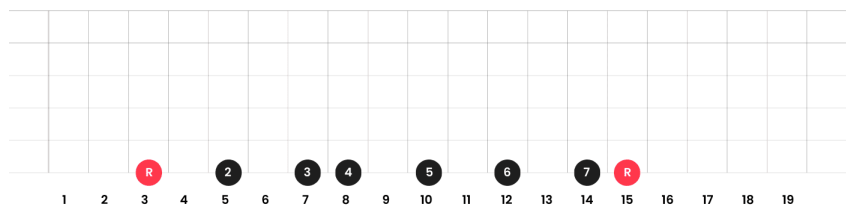
Let's test this formula and try to build the C major scale, as our first example. Using your new formula, here is how that would look:

C Major Scale on 1 String



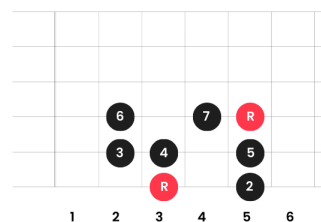
Notice how the notes are referred to as **"1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7"** rather than "C, D, E, F, G, A, B & C". We call these numbers our scale degrees. This is important, as we are acknowledging that the major scale has absolutely no altered degrees. It's the absolute base scale and no matter what note you start from, we still count it as 1-7 with no sharp or flat numbers. Let's see this starting from G instead:

G Major Scale on 1 String



Notice also how you can take these exact same notes and play them in a scale "shape" which simply groups the notes into one more convenient place to play them!

G Major Scale in a shape...



“

To get used to this major scale formula, I

want you  
to pick any  
note on the  
neck and  
play the  
major  
scale on  
that string.  
Keep  
calling out  
the  
formula  
and  
getting it  
memorised  
as you do  
it. Best of  
luck!

**Franco**



**All  
done?**

Click here to mark this lesson as  
complete.

Not quite done? Check the toolbox for more practice options.

**Next lesson**

# guitar club

Made with ❤️ by Your Guitar Academy © 2025



## COURSES

- Guitar Skills
- Player Studies
- Theory Lab
- Challenges
- Masterclasses

## TOOLS

- Scale Builder
- Practice History

## PRICING

- Subscriptions
- Prepaid

## BLOG

- Latest Posts
- All Posts

## ACCOUNT

- Settings
- Manage subscription
- Order history
- Logout

## COMPANY

- Terms & Conditions
- Privacy Policy
- Cookie Preferences

## GET IN TOUCH

[contact@guitarclub.io](mailto:contact@guitarclub.io)

Currency: £GBP \$USD