

# Keyboard Lessons In Western Style

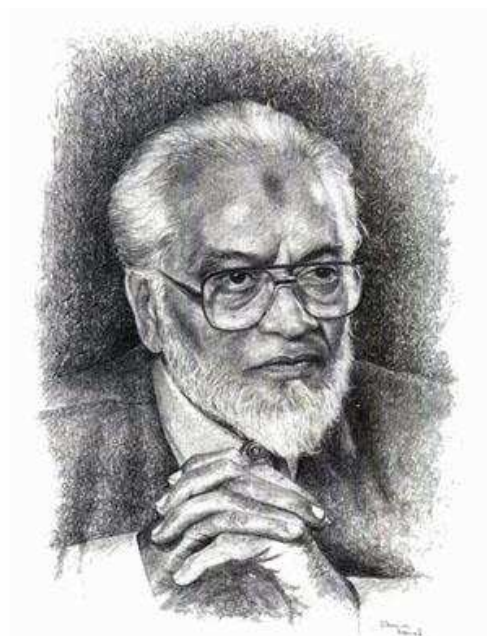


C D E F G A B C

**Lessons With Scales & Chords**

# KEYBOARD IN WESTERN STYLE

**Brought to you by**



## **Contributing Authors**

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## WESTERN STYLE MUSIC LESSONS

Western Style assumes you have no prior knowledge of music or playing the keyboard or you play without correct approach. This book will show you:

How to play keyboard in western style?  
 Difference between major and minor scales.  
 Scales and chords formation.  
 How chords are formed in film songs?  
 How to play Indian music notations with chords?  
 Vocal Training again and again

This book also features about scales and western style chords. All music players should know all of the information contained in this book. In this book we have provided detailed information about scales formation, fingering and chords with different methods repeatedly. We have also provided practical exercises for scales and fingering which is important for a beginner. The best and fastest way to learn is to use this book in conjunction with: Buying midi music of your favorite songs from the internet or [www.ragatracks.com](http://www.ragatracks.com). Practicing and playing with other musicians. Learning by playing your favorite Indian Pakistani midi music with free virtual music notes player. This virtual notes player will show real time notes being played while you practice any song. Be practical in the early stages, it is helpful to have the guidance of an experienced teacher. This will also help you keep a schedule and obtain weekly goals.

### CORRECT APPROACH TO PRACTICE

From the beginning you should set yourself a goal. Many people learn keyboard or piano because of a desire to play old songs of sub-continent. It is important to have a correct approach to practice from beginning. You will benefit more from short practices (15-30 minutes per day) than one or two long sessions per week. Correct approach is learning with the scales and chords concept in which melodious film songs are being composed. First learn octave names and names of notes. After learning notes its fingering practice in all three octaves is also necessary. In the beginning try to play songs in a particular scale and after that listen and learn chords and play songs with chords. Listen and play famous film songs with notations provided with the book. Do, not try to play chords in the early stage of your learning. While practice, try to take help from the book repeatedly. I am sure within few weeks you will be able to play your favorite tunes yourself without any help but chords require additional practice. In the end do not forget to learn rhythm theory along with melody. Gradually you will become master. If you want to become a sing-along singer then practice with karaoke music.

### USING THE COMPACT DISK

It is recommended that you have a copy of the accompanying download that includes all the notations and midi notes player software etc.. Midi music will sound identical to keyboard instruments in your computer if you play it with Yamaha sound cards. Midi music can also be played with a floppy or in USB equipped keyboards. Midi music is a digital music with 16 individual recorded tracks that you can edit or change in your own computer using Cubase software and Yamaha sound card. You may sing-along with midi music in your computers and record your own compact disk of your favorite songs using latest Yamaha PSR S-900 Keyboard.

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# Western Keyboard Music

Keyboard or piano have the same keys so, these lessons are for both instruments. Many websites claim to have courses that you can purchase that will teach you how to "play piano by ear" or "learn the chord method", this book contains the same information as those courses and what's best is explained in a simple manner. Lots of people really would like to play the keyboard or piano, the most popular instrument. They don't know one note from another. They do know they love music and want to learn how to use chords and scales to play popular tunes of Indo-Pak. Many, many music lessons, charts, books, and explanations are available in websites and in bookstores. Which to choose? With books, you have to stop, turn the page, go back to another page, and try to keep the pages from flipping if the book doesn't lie flat or not in spiral binding. Web sites need scrolling or clicking the "back" or "forward" buttons. This e.book will provide you practical information about music-playing, as well as detailed material on the most convenient charts and graphics so you, too, can play your favorites music now. Be happy and don't worry.

You cannot find all information about keyboard chords, scales and fingerings in a single book. Western music books are being sold in parts. You are bound to purchase part two or three. The most important thing you can do is to make a commitment to learn the piano or keyboard. This means putting in the effort over the course of several weeks to learn and practice the theory taught on these pages. This article was initiated along with a set of articles on Western and Indian form of Music. This is an attempt to explain things to a newbie who has just got a keyboard and wants to romance with it. In my opinion, both Western and Indian music forms are complex subjects and any simplification will indeed be a tough task. Frankly, my expertise in both forms is limited and through my constant exposure over the period of years I have learnt few basics of both. It is indeed a great pleasure to share the knowledge that I have acquired from different resources and tried to compile this comprehensive book.

Listening to music is a pleasure that most get from birth. This increases to a great extent when you understand the basics and appreciate. Music can be defined as collection of small pieces of regular sound played at predefined time interval. An ingenious collection of these notes played over a period of time results in a melody. Hence both western and Indian or for that matter any form of regular music has a set of basic notes from which they grow, something like alphabets. There is a new concept evolving called "computer music" where a musician explores beyond the basic notes that are defined in music. In cakewalk and Cubase SX3 it is possible to explore beyond basics.

Let us see more on Notes - "Notes" what are they? Note can be technically explained as a sound frequency. Actually the sound that is produced when you press a key on musical keyboard is called as "NOTE". It does not matter if you press the white key or the black key. Each key plays a predefined frequency. The note gets its shape by the amount of time you hold down the key and release it. This is called the note length or duration. Hence to make a "tune" or a "melody" or "song" you should play a bunch of these notes at proper duration and length. Before going more into it, let us explore the keyboard.

## Sound Waves

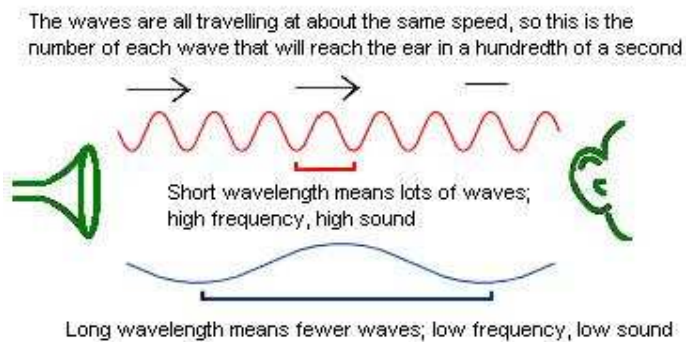
Musical notes, like all sounds, are made of sound waves. The sound waves that make musical notes are very evenly spaced waves, and the qualities of these regular waves - for example how big they are or how far apart they are - affects the sound of the note. A note can be high or low, depending on how often (how frequently) one of its waves arrives at your ear. When scientists and engineers talk about how high or low a sound is, they talk about its frequency. Frequency is the number of cycles per second.



## Keyboard In Western Style

The higher the frequency of a note, the higher it sounds. They can measure the frequency of notes, and like most measurements, these will be numbers, like "440 vibrations per second."

All sound waves are traveling at about the same speed, which is the speed of sound. So waves with a shorter wavelength arrive at your ear, quicker than longer waves.



Since the sounds are traveling at about the same speed, the one with the shorter wavelength arrives our ear faster because it has a higher frequency, or pitch. In other words, it sounds higher. The word that musicians use for frequency is pitch. The shorter the wavelength, the higher the frequency and the higher the pitch of the sound. In other words, short waves sound high and long waves sound low.

## Sound Pitches

The interval between two notes is the distance between the two pitches - in other words, how much higher or lower one note is than the other. This concept is so important that it is almost impossible to talk about scales, chords, without referring to intervals. So if you want to learn western music theory, it would be a good idea to spend some time getting comfortable with the concepts and practicing identifying intervals.

Scientists usually describe the distance between two pitches in terms of the difference between their frequencies. Musicians find it more useful to talk about interval. Intervals can be described using half steps and whole steps. For example, you can say, "B natural is a half step below C natural", or "E flat is a step and a half above C natural". But when we talk about larger intervals in the major/minor system, there is a more convenient and descriptive way to name them.

## Naming Intervals

The first step in naming the interval is to find the distance between the notes. Count every space in between the notes. This gives you the number for the intervals. To find the interval, count spaces between two notes as well as all the spaces in between. The interval between B and D is a third. The interval between A and F is a sixth. Seconds, thirds, sixths, and sevenths can be major intervals or minor intervals. The minor interval is always a half step smaller than the major interval.

\* Major and Minor Intervals 1 half-step = minor second (m2)

\* 2 half-steps = major second (M2)

## Keyboard In Western Style

- \* 3 half-steps = minor third (m3)
- \* 4 half-steps = major third (M3)
- \* 8 half-steps = minor sixth (m6)
- \* 9 half-steps = major sixth (M6)
- \* 10 half-steps = minor seventh (m7)
- \* 11 half-steps = major seventh (M7)

## Tonal Center

A scale starts with the note that names the key. This note is the tonal center of that key, the note where music in that key feels "at rest". It is also called the tonic, and it's the "do-re-mi". For example, music in the key of A major almost always ends on an A major chord, the chord built on the note A. It often also begins on that chord, returns to that chord often, and features a melody and a bass line that also return to the note A often enough that listeners will know where the tonal center of the music is, even if they don't realize that they know it.

## Learning the notes of the Keyboard

Before we can learn how to play scales chords it is vital that we learn the notes on keyboard and how they relate to each other. The best way to describe the notes on the keyboard is by comparing them to the notes of the alphabets. The first seven notes of the keyboard are ( A - B - C - D - E - F - G ). Each note differs with each other in sound. Below are all seven notes of the keyboard. Notice that the seven notes of keyboard repeat themselves over and over again. That the notes sound the same but the pitch differs. For example if you play C and move to the right until you find the next C, you will notice that if you play them simultaneously, both notes sounds the same but one is higher than the other.

Middle C marks the center of the keyboard. As you will notice the C Major is the easiest and simplest scale of the twelve. In C Major Scale you may play the song "ik pyar kaa nagma hai". It consists all the white keys from any starting C to the next. C. The diagram 1 below represents the C major scale in all three octaves. C major can be written as ( C maj, CM ).

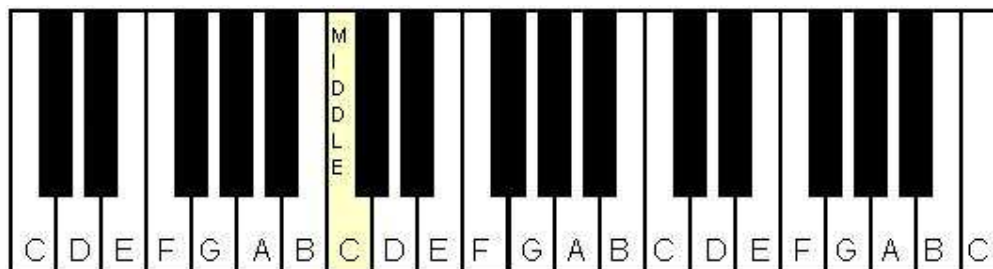


Diagram 1

◀◀ Left Octave    ▶▶ Middle Octave    ▶▶▶ Right Octave    ▶▶▶

## Keyboard In Western Style

A standard semi professional music keyboard has 48 keys. You will see 4 sets of 12 keys and total 48 keys. One of these 12 set of notes is technically called an octave. Western music is based on logarithmic division. An octave is divided into 12 equal intervals such that the logarithm of the frequency ratio of two neighboring intervals is the same. This interval is called a semi tone. There are 12 mutually exclusive half notes in the system. In Indian music “Sa” note is based on your reference note or the key you selected as starting point. After Sa the first note will be ‘Re’ komal and then ‘Re’ tiver and so on. You can start playing Indian or Pakistani song from any key and the first note will become ‘Sa’ elsewhere. The traditional Indian music is based on a 22 keys per octave. In Western music Middle C octave that is also called the Middle C scale etc starts from the first white key set to 240 Hz. On your keyboard, middle C octave is located somewhere near the middle. Once you figured out where this octave is, you can quickly identify the first key of this octave (set to 240 Hz). And because we know the ratio of the key frequencies now we can pretty much compute the frequency generated by any key. You will also notice that the keyboard has about three to four octaves (between 36 to 48 keys). The upper octave, starting from 480 Hz is the Upper C octave and the lower octave starting at 120 Hz is the Lower C octave etc.

Note: ‘Sa’ does not “map” always onto ‘C’ or ‘C#’. It could start at F and still form a S R G M P D N sargam. In the western music system the ‘C’ note” itself does not change and scales denote the pitch changes. Thus Western music system has an “absolute” (fixed) naming for the keys whereas in Indian the notation is “relative. Whereas in desi style lessons we have assumed Sa of Indian to C# of western, the first black key. A Scale is a set of 7 notes in a proper order and intervals or a scale is set of 7 notes with predefined intervals. The distance between each note is called as interval. It is to be noted that scales and ragas are not same. Apart from having seven different notes in both western and Indian music, there are not many similarities. There is a difference between an Indian scale and western scale. Indian scale is called a thaat. Just going across “C” to “C” in a Western scale can be called as a major scale. Only few Indian scales are similar to western scales. Ragas have many dimensions to it. First, it has an emotional overtone. A raga can have 5 or more notes with intervals. This kind of reduction of notes in a scale is called as modes in Western classical music. Experts believe proper training is required to play Ragas fluently. This comes by good practice and understanding of notes usage. A western trained top-notch musician will be able to play a phrase of 1/64 note at a good speed but will find it difficult to play raga without proper training.

## How to find Middle C

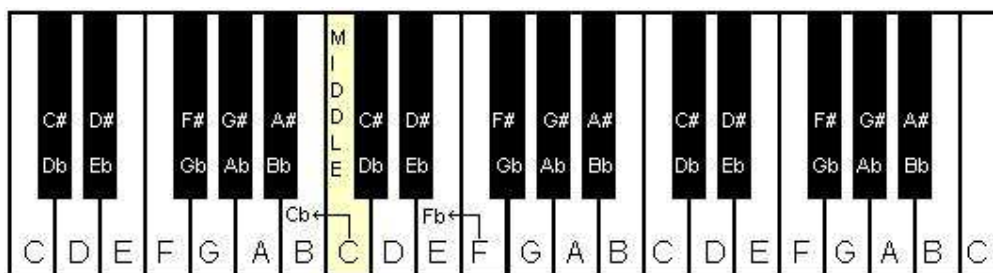
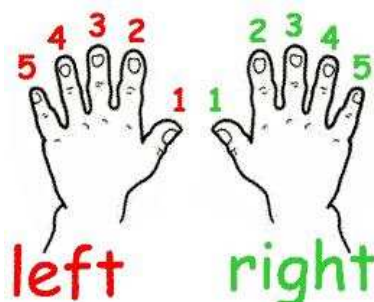


Diagram 2



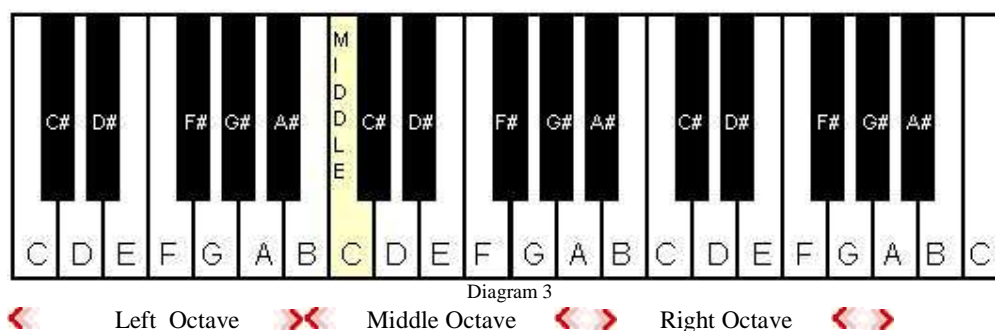
The first note you learn to play is Middle 'C'. Middle 'C' is the note closest to the middle of your keyboard. Place a 'C' sticker on the Middle C note. Play middle C with your right hand thumb. In the above picture of Keyboard we cannot show all 48 or 61 keys of a keyboard and we showed only left octave middle octave and part of right octave of the keyboard.

## Finger Numbers

The left and right hand fingers are numbered as shown above in the diagram. The thumb of each hand is counted as the first finger and has the number one. When a flat sign is placed after a note like Bb (B Flat) it means that you play the key immediately to the left side of note B. This note Bb will be black key just to left side and above the note B. So, any black key always have sharp and flat notes. When a sharp sign is placed after any note like C# it means that you play the key immediately just to its right. Note that C# is always a black key just after the white key "C" and B Flat key is black key just before white key "B".

From right hand in middle octave and from note of middle 'C' we play melody with our right hand and from left of Middle 'C' and in left octave of keyboard we play chords with our left hand.

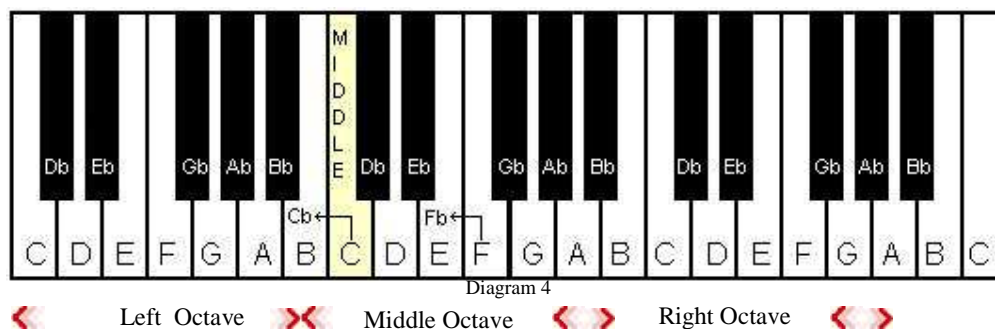
## Sharp Notes:



C# (C Sharp) means the note just after "C" note. D# is the note just after D and E# is the note just after "E" note and so on. Here C, D, & E notes are white keys. See diagram 3 shown above for sharp notes only and diagram 4 shown below for flat notes only.

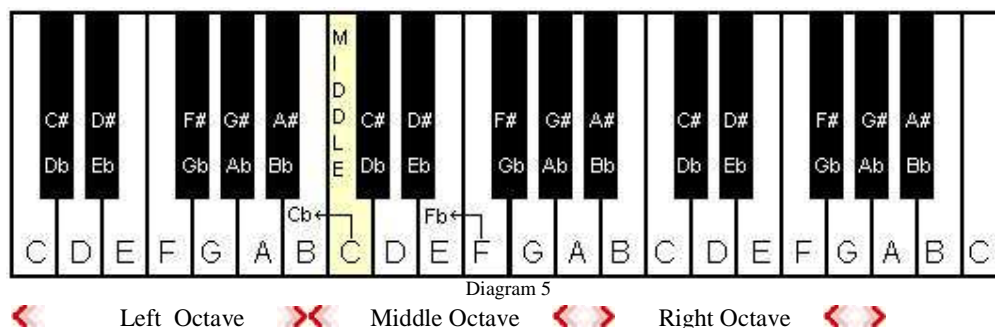


## Flat Notes:



Db (D flat) means the note just before note D that is here a black note. Eb (E flat) is the note just before note E and so on. See Diagram 4 above. There are also two notes Cb (C flat) and Fb (flat), which are notes just before C and F, which are white keys only. Note Cb is just attached to the left side of note C and Note Fb is just attached to the left side of note F.

## Sharp & Flat Notes Showing Together

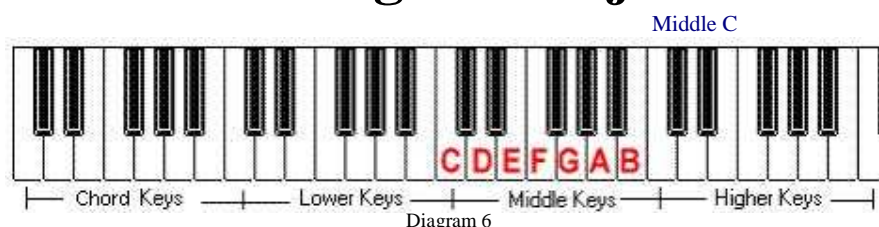


Notes of C# and Db are on the same key or we can say one note at the same time can be sharp or flat. If we want to locate C# note then it is the note just after note 'C' and when we want to locate Db (D flat) then it is the note just before note 'D'. In other words we can name flat or sharp note at the same time to a single note. In the above given diagram 4 we have shown both sharp and flat keys together. Any black key may be sharp or flat.

The best way to describe the notes on the keyboard is by comparing them to the notes of the alphabets. The first seven notes of the keyboard are ( A - B - C - D - E - F - G ). Each note differs with each other in sound. We start from the note "C" as C, D, E, F, G, A, B, for playing keyboards in western style.



# Introducing the Major Scale



For centuries, most Western music has been based on major and minor scales. That is one of the things that make it instantly recognizable as Western music. Most of the music of Eastern Asia is based upon *thaat* and *ragas*. A scale is a list of all the notes that begins with a specific key. Major scales all follow the same interval pattern. The simple, sing-along, nursery rhymes and folk songs we learn as children, the cheerful, toe-tapping pop and rock we dance to or Qomi Tarana, Pak Ser Zameen: Most music in a major key has a bright sound that people often describe as cheerful, inspiring, exciting, or just plain fun. In C Major Scale you may play the song "ik pyar kaa nagma hai". It consists all the white keys from any starting C to the next. C. Music in a particular key tends to use only some of the many possible notes available; these notes are listed in the scale associated with that key. The notes that a major key uses tend to build "bright"-sounding major chords. They also give a strong feeling of having a tonal center, a note or chord that feels like "home" in that key. The "bright"-sounding major chords and the strong feeling of tonality are what give major keys their pleasant moods. In this lesson we will learn all about the major scale. Although we will use a keyboard, the lesson should be of use to anyone who wants to learn about one of the most important and useful scales in music.

In a keyboard you will see the familiar repeating pattern of notes. Starting from one C and moving upwards to the next produces the notes: C D E F G A B C

Learn all the note names on a keyboard. The white key to the left of two black keys is always a C, now moving to the next white keys on the right we have D - E - F - G - A - B then back to C again. These note names just keep repeating. The name of the black keys (and some white keys as well) varies depending on whether it's a sharp or a flat. For example, the black key next to C may either be a C# or a Db. If you've played these C D E F G A B C notes on your keyboard - you've just played a Major Scale. This is the scale known as C Major. C Major is the most common scale in all Western music and there are eight notes in C Major scale. To simplify, you can memorize this formula to form a major scale:

Major Scale = whole step - whole step - half step - whole step - whole step - whole step - half step or **w - w - h - w - w - w - h** Or we can write

whole whole half whole whole whole half  
 step step step step step step  
 1 to 2 to 3 to 4 to 5 to 6 to 7 to 8

Now, assign numbers to each note of a major scale, always assign number one to the root note. For example, in the C major scale the root note is C with number 1 and other numbers will be assigned as follows:

C = 1  
 D = 2  
 E = 3  
 F = 4

## Keyboard In Western Style

G = 5  
A = 6  
B = 7  
C = 8

So, based upon this sequence a C major scale would be comprised of the following tones: C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C (in a single octave).

## Understanding Tones and Semitones.

To understand how to find other major scales we need to look more closely at the construction of our C Major Scale. Have a look at the keyboard again. By adding in the black notes, we can see that there are actually 12 notes between one C and the next. The distance from one of these 12 to its neighbor is known as a semitone. If you have a keyboard, try playing up the keyboard from one C to the next, playing all 12 notes.

Notice how some notes of the C major scale have another note in between them (eg. from C to D there is a black note in between), whereas some don't (e.g. from E to F). The gap from C to D consists of two semitones, and is known as a tone. This pattern of tones and semitones is how the scale gets its particular colour. The major scale is formed out of the following mixture of tones and semitones or we can say a major scale consists of 7 different notes. The intervals from note to note of the major scale in any key are:

tone - tone - semitone - **tone** - tone - tone - semitone

## Finding other major scales

To find any other major scale, you simply repeat the pattern of tones and semitones, starting from the note in question.

**For example, let's try D major Scale which is: D E F# A B C#**

1	First note	D
2	Tone higher:	E
3	Tone higher:	F#
4	Semitone higher:	G
5	Tone higher:	A
6	Tone higher:	B
7	Tone higher:	C#
8	Semitone higher:	D

(Just in case you're not clear, F# indicates the black note immediately above the F)

Many students of keyboards dread scales. But without the knowledge of scales, you will never be able to create your original melodies. Scales teach you correct fingering patterns.



Practice each hand separately, before attempting to play both hands! The fingering for the RH is: ascending 1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 and descending 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1. As you ascend, tuck your thumb under your third finger and complete the scale using finger numbers 1 2 3 4 5. When you descend, cross your third finger over your thumb and complete the scale using finger numbers 3 2 1. LH fingering: ascending 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1 and descending 1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5. The same instructions apply regarding tucking the thumb under the second finger when descending and crossing the third finger over the thumb when ascending.

Throughout your study of the keyboard, especially when you are learning new music, or an exercise, it is important that you practice each hand separately at first. Once your finger muscles have memorized the movement (s) you may then practice with both hands. But remember to practice slowly at first. How can you run, if you can't walk?

### Getting Use to Keyboard Finger Movements:

Place your right hand on a tabletop or your thigh. Slowly, tap each finger, starting with your thumb and proceed with fingers 2-5. (I.e. 1-2-3-4-5, 1-2-3-4-5 etc.)

### Repeat this at least ten times. Raise your fingers very high.

Now practice starting with your 5th finger and proceed with fingers 4-1. (i.e. 5-4-3-2-1, 5-4-3-2-1 etc.) Have you noticed that when you're tapping fingers 1-5, you are moving up; and on the other hand when you are tapping fingers 5-1, you are moving down. These 5-finger movements are needed to play the keyboard well. Now here's where the fun begins! Repeat the instructions above using your left hand. That's right. If you are "right-handed", your left hand is naturally weaker than your right. So, remember, a keyboardist is only as good as his weaker hand. Therefore, you must spend more practice-time using the weaker hand/fingers.

## 12 Major Scales With Flat Notes

1. **C major scale**  
C - D - E - F - G - A - B - C
2. **Db major scales**  
Db - Eb - F - Gb - Ab - Bb - C - Db
3. **D major scale**  
D - E - Gb - G - A - B - Db - D
4. **Eb major scale**  
Eb - F - G - Ab - Bb - C - D - Eb
5. **E major scale**  
E - Gb - Ab - A - B - Db - Eb - E

6. **F major scale**  
F - G - A - Bb - C - D - E - F
7. **Gb major scale**  
Gb - Ab - Bb - B - Db - Eb - F - Gb
8. **G major scale**  
G - A - B - C - D - E - Gb - G
9. **Ab major scale**  
Ab - Bb - C - Db - Eb - F - G - Ab
10. **A major scale**  
A - B - Db - D - E - Gb - Ab - A
11. **Bb major scale**  
Bb - C - D - Eb - F - G - A - Bb
12. **B major scale**  
B - Db - Eb - E - Gb - Ab - Bb

Here Ab is called A flat major

Gb is called G flat major

Ab is called A flat major

Db is called D flat major

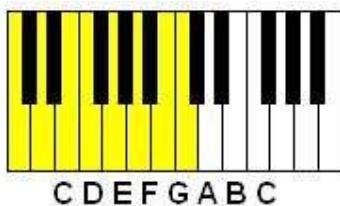
Eb is called E flat major

Bb is called B flat major

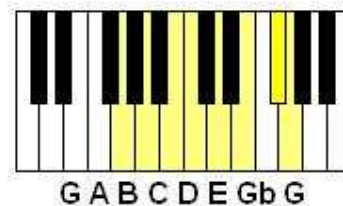


# 12 Major Scales With Flat Notes

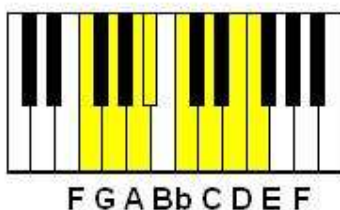
C Major



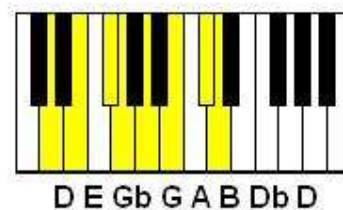
G Major



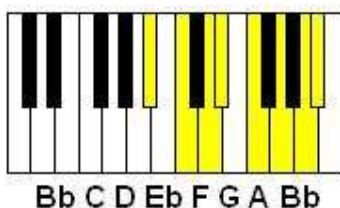
F Major



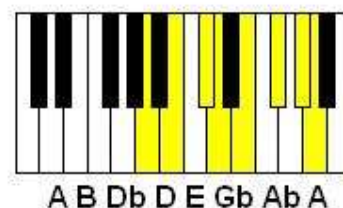
D Major



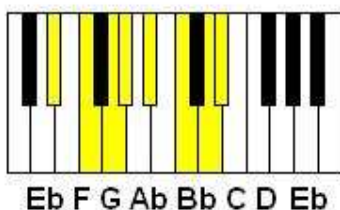
Bb Major



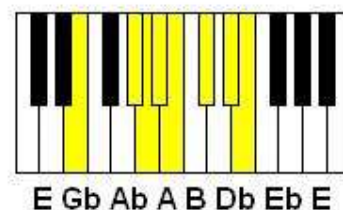
A Major



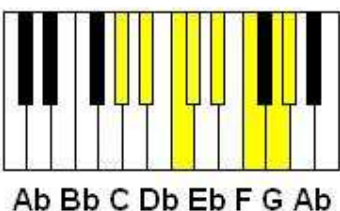
Eb Major



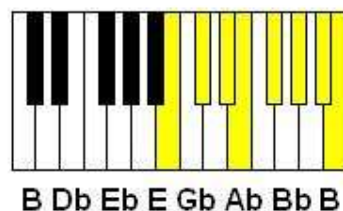
E Major



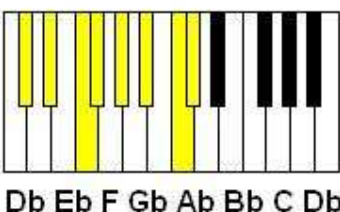
Ab Major



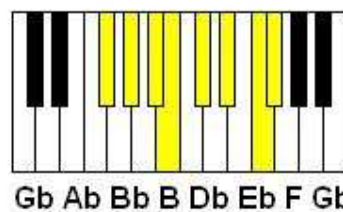
B Major



Db Major



Gb Major



# 12 Major Scales With Sharp Notes

1. **C major scale**  
C - D - E - F - G - A - B - C
2. **C<sup>#</sup> major scales**  
C<sup>#</sup> - D<sup>#</sup> - F - F<sup>#</sup> - G<sup>#</sup> - A<sup>#</sup> - C - C<sup>#</sup>
3. **D major scale**  
D - E - F<sup>#</sup> - G - A - B - C<sup>#</sup> - D
4. **D<sup>#</sup> major scale**  
D<sup>#</sup> - F - G - G<sup>#</sup> - A<sup>#</sup> - C - D - D<sup>#</sup>
5. **E major scale**  
E - F<sup>#</sup> - G<sup>#</sup> - A - B - C<sup>#</sup> - D<sup>#</sup> - E
6. **F major scale**  
F - G - A - A<sup>#</sup> - C - D - E - F
7. **F<sup>#</sup> major scales**  
F<sup>#</sup> - G<sup>#</sup> - A<sup>#</sup> - B - C<sup>#</sup> - D<sup>#</sup> - F - F<sup>#</sup>
8. **G major scale**  
G - A - B - C - D - E - F<sup>#</sup> - G
9. **G<sup>#</sup> major scale**  
G<sup>#</sup> - A<sup>#</sup> - C - C<sup>#</sup> - D<sup>#</sup> - F - G - G<sup>#</sup>
10. **A major scale**  
A - B - C<sup>#</sup> - D - E - F<sup>#</sup> - G<sup>#</sup> - A
11. **A<sup>#</sup> major scale**  
A<sup>#</sup> - C - D - D<sup>#</sup> - F - G - A - A<sup>#</sup>
12. **B major scale**  
B - C<sup>#</sup> - D<sup>#</sup> - E - F<sup>#</sup> - G<sup>#</sup> - A<sup>#</sup> - B

Here F<sup>#</sup> is called F sharp major

C<sup>#</sup> is called C sharp major

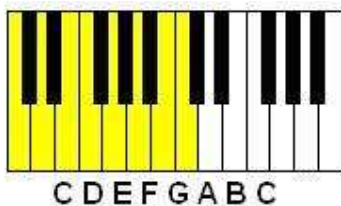
D<sup>#</sup> is called D sharp major

G<sup>#</sup> is called G sharp major

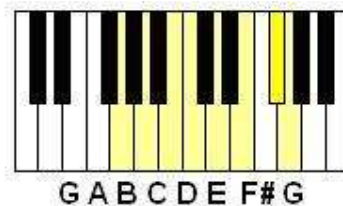
A<sup>#</sup> is called A sharp major

# 12 Major Scales With Sharp Notes

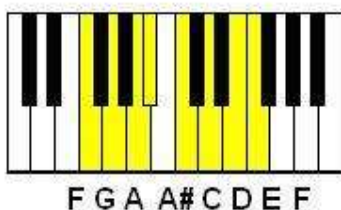
C Major



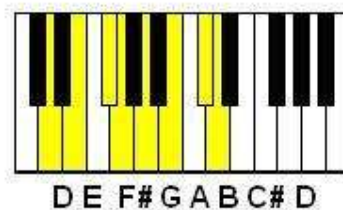
G Major



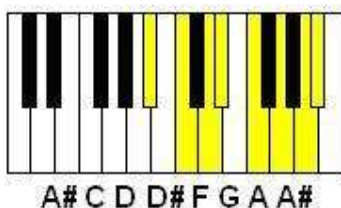
F Major



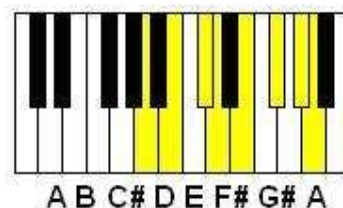
D Major



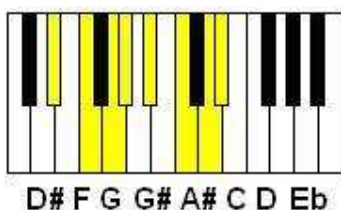
A# Major



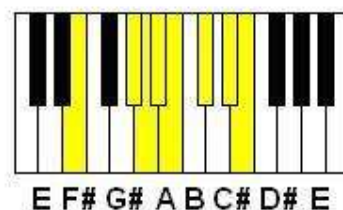
A Major



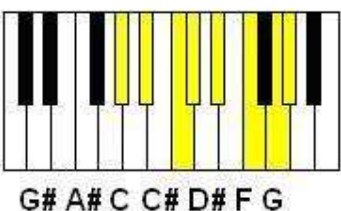
D# Major



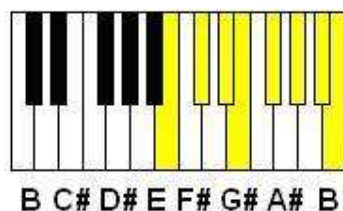
E Major



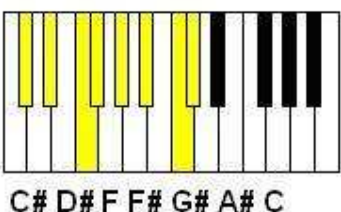
G# Major



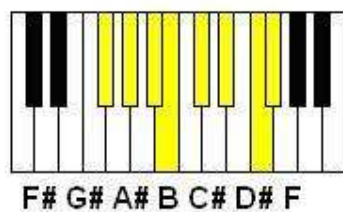
B Major



C# Major



F# Major



## How Minor Scales Are Formed

The sound of the minor scale generally makes people think of "Indian music" - although in truth, the scale isn't used much in that genre. A natural minor scale consists of 7 different notes. These intervals from note to note are:

**tone - semitone - tone - tone - semitone - tone - tone**  
 1        2        3        4        5        6        7

If we learn the formula of building all major and minor scales then we can make chords ourselves. Learn scales that are fundamentals of music and play songs with them. A natural minor piano scale is also known as a relative or related minor scale. To find the relative minor scale of any major scale, locate the 6th tone (note) in a major scale and you will have found it's related minor. For example, C major scale is composed of C, D, E, F, G, **A**, B, C (octave). The 6th note of the C major scale is A. Therefore A minor is the relative or related minor of a C major scale. This means that both A minor and C major are comprised of the same tones or notes. If you start at A on any on the keyboard and play all the white notes to next octave A, then you can count the series of whole and half steps which make up a natural minor scale. The sequence is whole step, half step, whole step, whole step, half step, whole step, and whole step.

To simplify, you can memorize this formula to form a minor scale = whole step - half step - whole step - whole step - half step - whole step - whole step or **w - h - w - w - h - w - w**.

Practice these keyboard scales with both hands until you can move smoothly or not necessarily quickly from beginning to end and back again in all 12 keys. When you practice your scales, you should use the fingering technique outlined in these lessons. This technique works with major and minor keyboard scales and will help with your finger movements and control. So get to it and practice these natural and minor scales. While the Major scale is considered the foundation of western music theory, the next most important is probably the Minor scale, also known as the Pure Minor or Natural Minor scale. The terms "major" and "minor" are essential concepts in music, and as with chords, they arise from the third degree of the scale. All major scales and chords include a major third degree (four semitones), giving them a strong, assertive feel.

All minor scales and chords include a minor third degree (three semitones) instead, giving them a gentle, melancholy or sad feel. When the Major scale was introduced earlier, you may have wondered why the key of C has the special privilege, compared to the other keys, of containing only natural notes.

Why not for example, the key of A, which is our first alphabetical letter? Also, why do single semitone intervals occur only between B/C and E/F, while there are two semitones between all the other natural notes? It seems that centuries ago, when letters were first given to notes, the Natural Minor scale was considered the most important. Note letters were therefore allocated to suit the intervals of the Natural Minor scale. As you can see above, this means that the A Natural Minor scale contains all natural notes, the same as the C Major scale. The Natural Minor scales with other root notes all have at least one sharp or flat note. This makes a lot more sense. It also offers insight why it has the name of "Natural" minor, compared to the other minor scales, which have different names, and different patterns of intervals.

## Accidentals Or Key Signatures

What are Key Signatures? Ever notice all those funny sharps and flats at the beginning of music? You know, the ones you are supposed to remember and use throughout the entire piece of music. Sometimes there are a couple sharps, other times you see some flats (and decide to not play that piece of music). That is a key signature. It is kind of like the thumb print for a key. So the key of "G" for instance has a

key signature with one #, namely "F#." No other key has that signature, only "G." Now if you know a key's signature you can figure out its scale. If we have the key of "G" and know that its signature is "F#" then the scale contains the notes: G A B C D E F# G. In other words, it has one of each letter name ("A" through "G") and accidentals (sharps or flats) in the signature are thrown in too. Here is another example "Bb" ("B - flat"). It has a key signature of two flats "Bb" and "Eb". So its scale is: Bb C D Eb F G A Bb. Also notice that key signatures never use both sharps AND flats, it is either sharps OR flats. That will be crucial in remembering them. Here goes...

## How to Memorize Key Signatures

First, lets look at the sharp keys:

**C: no sharp or flats**

**G: F#**

**D: F# C#**

**A: F# C# G#**

**E: F# C# G# D#**

**B: F# C# G# D# A#**

**F#: F# C# G# D# A# E#**

**C#: F# C# G# D# A# E# B#**

Notice a pattern here? First off, notice that there is a certain order sharps appear in. You will never see a key signature with only "A#", the signature would always start with "F#" and proceed through the order of the sharps (big fancy term) until it got to "A#". So if you know the number of sharps in a key (e.g. E has 4) then you know what sharps it has (E has "F# C# G# D#"). The pattern can be remembered by the acronym: Fat Cats Go Down And Eat Bananas But wait... there's more! Notice anything about the last sharp in a key and the key name, for example "F#" is the last sharp in the key of "G", "C#" is the last sharp in the key of "D", "G#" is the last sharp in the key of "A", etc. Do you see it? Yes, it is always one below the name! "F#" is one below "G", "C#" is one below "D", and "G#" is one below "A" (in the musical alphabet). So what?. Well given that sharps appear in a certain order, and we know what the last sharp in a signature is going to be we can easily remember the signature. Take "B" as an example. What is one below "B"? "A#" (If you got that wrong we're in trouble). Now go in the order until you get to "A#"...Fat Cats Go Down And or F# C# G# D# A#, there it is! Now for flats, you know, they look like the letter "b" Here they are:

**F: Bb**

**Bb: Bb Eb**

**Eb: Bb Eb Ab**

**Ab: Bb Eb Ab Db**

**Db: Bb Eb Ab Db Gb**

**Gb: Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb**

**Cb: Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb Fb**

Once again we have a pattern, and just like the sharps we have an order of the flats. Compare the order of the flats to the order of the sharps. Notice any similarities? It may not be obvious at first glance, but the order of the flats is the same as the order of the sharps backwards. So you could think: Bananas Eat And Down Go Cats Fat (just a little joke). Another way to remember them is to think of the order as the word "Bead" and then add "gcf", which works but is not quite as convenient as the sharps. The trick where you look at the last # doesn't work with the flats. There is another trick though, that works with all the flat keys except "F" ("F" you just have to memorize). Take a look at the second to last flat for any



flat key (this is why "F" doesn't work, it only has 1 flat). Compare the second to last flat to the name of the key. For "Bb" it's "Bb", for "Eb" it's "Eb", for "Ab" it's "Ab", etc. Very convenient. Now to get the key signature for a flat key all you have to do is go in the order until you get to the name of the key and then go one further. Take "Gb" for example. Think "Bead" + gcf. You go until you get to the "Gb" that's "Bb Eb Ab Db Gb". Then add one more from the order and you get "Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb".

## Mastering Scales

To be a proficient pianist, one needs to master the basic of piano scales. Do you know that all chords are derived from scales? Knowing how to play piano scales effectively will help you improvise as well as making up melodies of songs.

There are two types of scales: Major and Minor. There are 12 major scales, and each major scale has its relative minor scale (also called the natural minor scale). Beside the 12 natural minor scales, they are also 12 harmonic minor scale and 12 melodic minor scale. Sounds too much? Do not be overwhelmed! Let's take a look at each type of scale.

## Major Scales Formation

In the previous lessons we have learned to form a scale using a simple formula:

**whole : whole : half : whole : whole : whole : half**

\*half step is the closest key to any key. C to B is a half step down. C to C# is a half step up.

\*whole step is two half steps. C to D is a whole step up. D is also two half steps up from C.

## C major scale

Let's say we want to form the C major scale, we can plug in this formula starting with:

**C** >

**D** (D is a whole step from C)

**E** (E is a whole step from D)

**F** (F is an half step from E)

**G** (G is a whole step from F)

**A** (A is a whole step from G)

**B** (B is a whole step from A)

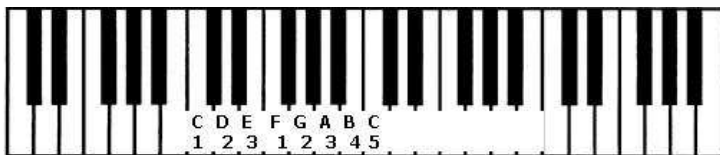
**C** (C is an half step from B)

Always ask yourself what is a whole step from the note you want to form a piano scale. Asking questions based on the formula (whole whole half whole whole whole half).

Remember there are 8 notes in a scale. You may also remember the scale notes by a roman numeral.

C major: C > D > E > F > G > A > B > C  
           I   II   III   IV   V   VI   VII   VIII

## Fingering for scales



After playing the E (3rd finger), placed thumb (1st finger) under to reach and play F note.

(LH) 5 4 3 2 1 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 3 2 1

After playing the G note (1st finger), 3rd finger (long finger) crossed over to reach and play A note.

Repeat playing the scale until you can play relatively fast and smooth!

Remember after you are done playing with the thumb (1st finger), you need to let third or fourth finger cross over to reach the next

note. If you are done playing with third or fourth finger, you need to let the thumb go under to reach the next note.

Tip: Thumb under, finger over!

Remember there are 12 major keys. Let's talk about each one of them briefly!

### Db major scale

Db major scale consists of: Db > Eb > F > Gb > Ab > Bb > C > Db (notice Db major has 5 flats; Bb Eb Ab Db Gb)

Rule: The scale needs to be made up of every letter (the letter can be a sharp or flat). For example: You may not

say D# is part of Db major since Eb is also called D#. By saying so, you end up with two types of D (Db and D#), and short of an E note.

### Fingering:

Db > Eb > F > Gb > Ab > Bb > C > Db

RH 2 3 1 2 3 4 1 2

LH 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 2

Question: Why does Db major scale start with a second finger instead of a thumb?

Answer: Generally, we do not use thumb to play black note. The structure of the thumb makes it hard and slow to

reach for a black note. Whenever possible, use 2nd, 3rd, or 4th fingers to play black note.

### D major

Applying the same formula "whole whole half whole whole whole half" gives you the following:

D > E > F# > G > A > B > C# > D (Notice D major has 2 sharps; F# and C#)

I II III IV V VI VII VIII

## Keyboard In Western Style

D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#	D
Right Hand Fingering 1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
Left Hand Fingering 5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

### Eb Major

Eb > F > G > Ab > Bb > C > D > Eb (three flats for Eb major; Bb, Eb, Ab)

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
								Eb
Eb	F	G	Ab	Bb	C	D		
RH. 2	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	
LH. 3		2	1	4	3	2	1	2

### E Major

E > F# > G# > A > B > C# > D# > E (E major has 4 sharps; F# C# G# D#)

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#	E	
RH 1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	
LH 5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	

### F Major

F > G > A > Bb > C > D > E > F (F major has one flat, Bb)

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII
F	G	A	Bb	C	D	E	F	
RH 1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
LH 5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1	

### Gb Major

Gb > Ab > Bb > Cb > Db > Eb > F > Gb (Gb major has 6 flats; Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb)

Gb	Ab	Bb	Cb	Db	Eb	F	Gb
RH 2	3	4	1	2	3	1	2
LH 4	3	2	1	3	2	1	2

## Keyboard In Western Style

### G Major

G > A > B > C > D > E > F# > G (G major has one sharp, F#)  
 I II III IV V VI VII VIII

G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
RH 1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH 5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

### Ab Major

Ab > Bb > C > Db > Eb > F > G > Ab (Ab major has 4 flats; Bb, Eb, Ab, Db)  
 I II III IV V VI VII VIII

Ab	Bb	C	Db	Eb	F	G	Ab
RH 2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
LH 3	2	1	4	3	2	1	2

### A Major

A > B > C# > D > E > F# > G# > A (A major has 3 sharps; F#, C#, G#)

I II III IV V VI VII VIII

							A
A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#	
RH 1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5
LH 5	4	3	2	1	3	2	1

### Bb Major

Bb	C	D	Eb	F	G	A	Bb
RH 2	1	2	3	1	2	3	4
LH 3	2	1	4	3	2	1	2

### B Major

B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#	B
RH 1 2		3	1	2	3	4	5
LH 4 3		2	1	4	3	2	1

Make sure to practice one major scale at a time. Since they are 12 major scales, you may devote one month of a year to practice just one major scale. The following needs to be done when working out major scale:

1. Understand what notes belongs to that particular scale.
2. What are the key signatures (sharps or flats) of that scale.
3. What are the recommended fingering of that scale.
4. What are the I, IV, and V notes of that particular scale.
5. Once familiar with the I, IV, V notes of the scale, figure out the chords of those note. **(NOTE)**

For example: The I, IV, V notes of D major scale is D, G, and A. The respective chords are D chord (DF#A), G chord (GBD), and A chord (AC#E).

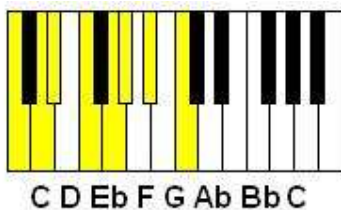
## Minor scales with flat notes

1. **C minor scale**  
C - D - Eb - F - G - Ab - Bb - C
2. **Db minor scale**  
Db - Eb - E - Gb - Ab - A - B
3. **D minor scale**  
D - E - F - G - A - Bb - C - D
4. **Eb minor scale**  
Eb - F - Gb - Ab - Bb - B - Db - Eb
5. **E minor scale**  
E - Gb - G - A - B - C - D - E
6. **F minor scale**  
F - G - Ab - Bb - C - Db - Eb - F
7. **Gb minor scale**  
Gb - Ab - A - B - Db - D - E - Gb
8. **G minor scale**  
G - A - Bb - C - D - Eb - F - G
9. **Ab minor scale**  
Ab - Bb - B - Db - Eb - E - Gb - Ab
10. **A minor scale**  
A - B - C - D - E - F - G - A
11. **Bb minor scale**  
Bb - C - Db - Eb - F - Gb - Ab - Bb
12. **B minor scale**  
B - Db - D - E - Gb - G - A - B



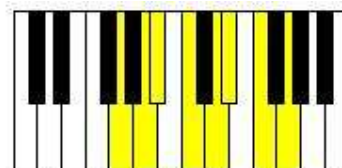
# 12 Minor Scales With Flat Notes

C Minor



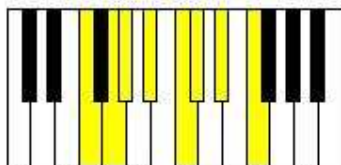
C D Eb F G Ab Bb C

G Minor



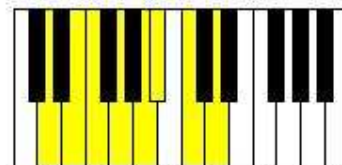
G A Bb C D Eb F G

F Minor



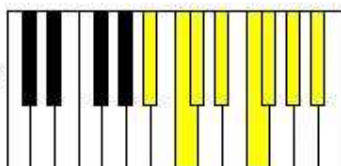
F G Ab Bb C Db Eb F

D Minor



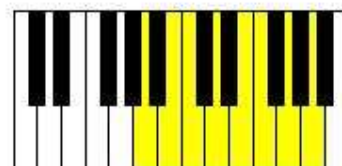
D E F G A Bb C D

Bb Minor



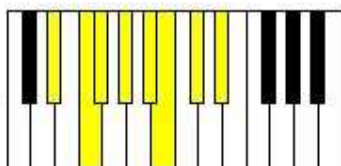
Bb C Db Eb F Gb Ab Bb

A Minor



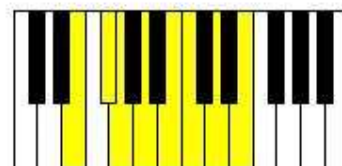
A B C D E F G A

Eb Minor



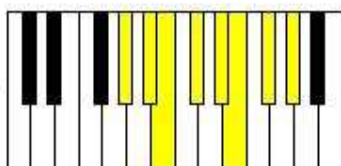
Eb F Gb Ab Bb B Db Eb

E Minor



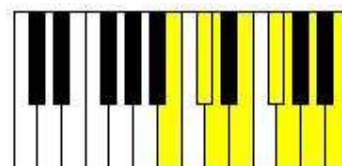
E F G Ab B C D E

Ab Minor



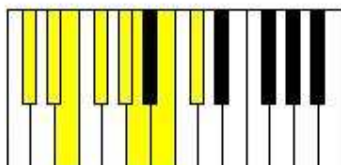
Ab Bb B Db Eb E Gb Ab

B Minor



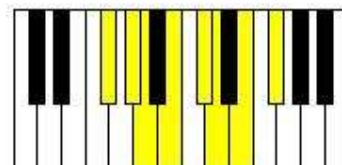
B Db D E F G Ab B

Db Minor



Db Eb E F Gb Ab A Db

Gb Minor



Gb Ab A B Db D E Gb

# 12 Minor Scales With Flat Notes

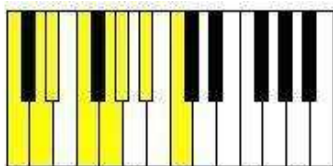
1. **C minor scale**  
C - D - Eb - F - G - Ab - Bb - C
2. **Db minor scale**  
Db - Eb - E - Gb - Ab - A - B
3. **D minor scale**  
D - E - F - G - A - Bb - C - D
4. **Eb minor scale**  
Eb - F - Gb - Ab - Bb - B - Db - Eb
5. **E minor scale**  
E - Gb - G - A - B - C - D - E
6. **F minor scale**  
F - G - Ab - Bb - C - Db - Eb - F
7. **Gb minor scale**  
Gb - Ab - A - B - Db - D - E - Gb
8. **G minor scale**  
G - A - Bb - C - D - Eb - F - G
9. **Ab minor scale**  
Ab - Bb - B - Db - Eb - E - Gb - Ab
10. **A minor scale**  
A - B - C - D - E - F - G - A
11. **Bb minor scale**  
Bb - C - Db - Eb - F - Gb - Ab - Bb
6. **B minor scale**  
B - Db - D - E - Gb - G - A - B





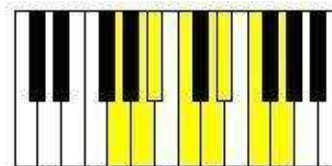
# 12 Minor Scales With Sharp Notes

C Minor



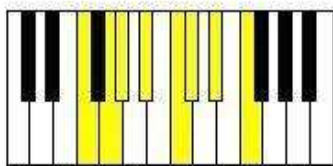
C D D# F G G# A# C

G Minor



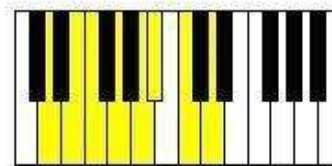
G A A# C D D# F G

F Minor



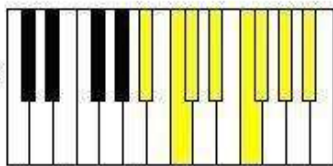
F G G# A# C C# D# F

D Minor



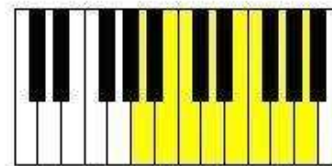
D E F G A A# C D

A# Minor



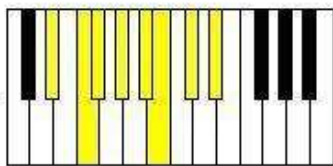
A# C C# D# F F# G# A#

A Minor



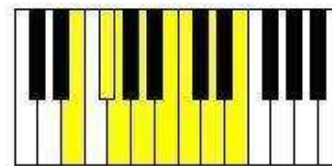
A B C D E F G A

D# Minor



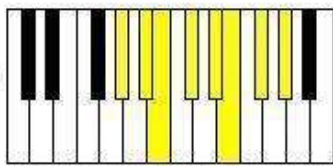
D# F F# G# A# B C# D#

E Minor



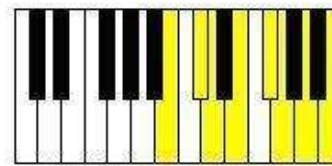
E F# G A B C D E

G# Minor



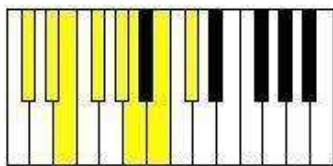
G# A# B C# D# E F# G#

B Minor



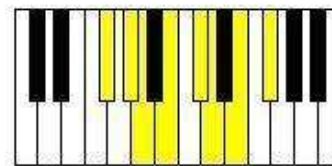
B C# D E F# G A B

C# Minor



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

F# Minor



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



# Fingering Scales

## I. More General Fingering Rules

1. The fingering always alternates 123 1234 (or 321 4321) so that the same fingering pattern repeats every octave.
2. The thumb always stays on the white keys and never on black keys.
3. The fourth finger always plays a black key (when there is a black key to be played in the scale).
4. The fifth finger is only used in practice of scales in all 3 octaves together.
5. When working out scale passages in the literature, consider alternatives that put the fingering patterns in alignment between the hands (thumbs happening together somewhere in the scale).

## II. The Fingerings

1. These are just the fingering patterns: Feel free to use finger 5 when appropriate (first note, last note, turning around).
2. Feel free to revert to traditional fingerings, especially when performing the melodic minor scale ascending and descending.
3. In western scale “C” major contains white keys only, so we also use fifth finger in practice of scales.



# Indian songs notations with chords

## 1. Aa lauT ke aajaa mere miit, tujhe mere giit bulaate hai.n

**Movie Name:** Rani Roopmati

**Actor(s)/Actress(es):** Bharat Bhushan, Nirupa Roy

**Singer(s):** Lata Mangeshkar, Mukesh

**Music Director(s):** S.N. Tripathi

lauT ke aa                      lauT ke aa    lauT ke aa

**D C A D(UPPER OTACVE).....C A G A..... E C E D.....**

**Dm                      C                      Dm**

aa lauT ke aajaa mere miit tujhe mere giit bulaate hai.n

**D DC C C D ED E EEG E DDC CDE D**

**C    Dm**

meraa suunaa pa.Daa re sa.ngiit tujhe mere giit bulaate hai.n

**DD(HIGH)DCD D C A AGA EDC E D DC CDE D**

**Dm                                      C                      Dm**

barase gagan mere barase nayan dekho tarase hai man ab to aajaa

**DDD D D DDC CCC CCC AG AA AG AGE E G G AA**

**Dm                      C                      F OR Dm**

shiital pavan ye lagaae agan

**C C C C CA ACCDC**

**C**

o sajan ab to mukha.Daa dikhaa jaa

**EE EAAAG EGE DD C DDD (TRY TO FIT NOTES ON WORDS ...)**

**Dm TO C TO Dm (CHORDS REVOLVE AROUND THESE CHOICES)**

tuune bhalii re nibhaaii priit

tuune bhalii re nibhaaii priit tujhe mere giit bulaate hai.n

aa lauT...

ek pal hai ha.Nsanaa ek pal hai ronaa kaisaa hai jiivan kaa khelaa

ek pal hai milanaa ek pal bichha.Danaa

duniyaa hai do din kaa melaa

ye gha.Dii na jaae biit

ye gha.Dii na jaae biit tujhe mere giit bulaate hai.n

aa lauT...

Western Scale	Asthayee Notes	Antra Notes	Style Category	Style	Tempo
Dminor	Start on D	Start on upper octave D	Latin	Rumba	105
Special Notes:	Use Oriental pads to suit var 4 on latin Rumba , also try Cajun 2 IN CHORDS TRY TO USE Dsusp pentagone raag chords (notes:DEA / DGA)				

## Keyboard In Western Style

## 2. Aajaa re, ab meraa dil pukaaraa, ro ro ke gam bhii haaraa

Movie Name: Aah

Actor(s)/Actress(es): Raj Kapoor, Nargis

Singer(s): Lata Mangeshkar, Mukesh

Music Director(s): Shankar, Jaikisan

aajaa re

C C Ab

Fm

aajaa re, ab meraa dil pukaaraa

C C Ab AbAb GAbBb AbBb G G G

Fm Db C7

ro ro ke Gam bhii haaraa

G FG Ab GAb G GF F

C7 Db Fm

badanaam naa ho pyaar meraa

F E FG FG F C C BbAb (low)

C7 Fm

aajaa re

C C Ab

Fm

ho o o ghabaraaye haay ye dil – 2

Bb C E DD Bb Dd Bb Db C C

Fm C Bb Bbm Fm

sapano.n me.n aake kabhii mil – 2

G Ab Bb C Ab G F F C

C7 Fm

maut merii taraf aane lagii

Fm C7 Fm

jaan terii taraf jaane lagii

As Above

bol shaam-e-judaai kyaa kare – 2

aas milane kii ta.Dapaane lagii

aajaa re ...

aapane bIbaar-e-Gam ko dekh le

ho sake to tU hamako dekh le

tUne dekhaa naa hogaa ye samaa - 2

kaise jaataa hai dam ko dekh le

aajaa re ...

Western Scale	Asthayee Notes	Antra Notes	Style Category	Style	Tempo
F minor	Start on C	Start on F	Latin	Rumba	100
Special Notes:	Add Rumba/Soka on Pad 1, use sounds on Violins/Saxophone/Madolin/Accordion Use Intro 2 & 3, but and fill ins on Asthayee & Antra begin/end				

**End Of DemoWestern Style Music Lessons**

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