

Kyrene Instrumental Ensemble Enrichment for Middle School At-Home Learning

ENRICHMENT:
Building Major Scales

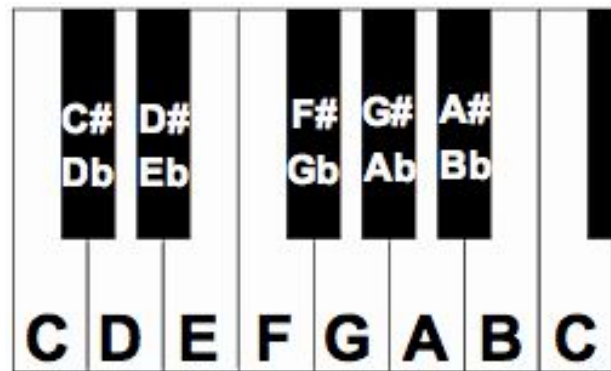


**SHORT
DESCRIPTION:**

A major scale is a common pattern of notes used in Western music. It is diatonic, meaning that it is made up of five whole steps and two half steps.

MATERIALS:
Worksheet (attached), pencil

OPTIONAL:
Instrument, recording device (such as a camera or phone)



INSTRUCTIONS:

- Review the “Terms to Know”
- Complete the attached worksheet: *Building Major Scales*
- OPTIONAL: Perform your major scales for a friend or family member.
 - Share the video of your performance with your teacher!

TERMS TO KNOW:

Major Scale - arrangement of eight notes made up whole steps *except* for half steps between the third and fourth and seventh and eighth degrees

Diatonic - relating to a major or minor scale using five whole steps, or tones, and two half steps, or semitones

Whole Step - equivalent to two half steps; sometimes called a whole tone

Half Step - smallest distance between two notes commonly used in Western music; it is also the smallest distance between two keys on a piano; sometimes called semitone

LINKS TO LEARN MORE AND EXPLORE:

Check out Brad Harrison’s video lesson about major scales!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v44NY4fyxHA>

No instrument? Need to check your work? Try playing your major scales using this online piano!

<https://virtualpiano.net/>

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Building Major Scales

All major scales are made up using the same pattern of whole steps and half steps.

The pattern to create a major scale is:



Using our concert Bb major scale, try *labeling* the whole and half steps below:

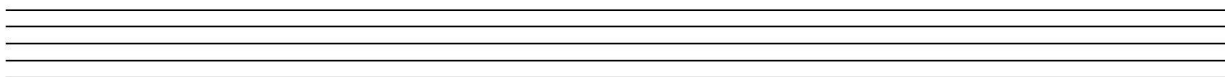


Now, build the following major scales.

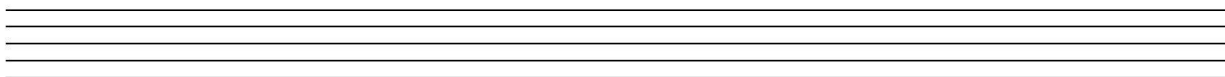
Make sure to draw your clef at the beginning of each staff and put any accidentals (sharps or flats) to the left of the note they adjust.

Challenge: play each scale when finished!

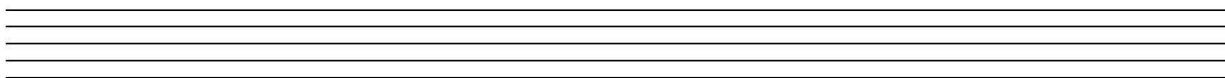
F Major



Ab Major



G Major



E Major

