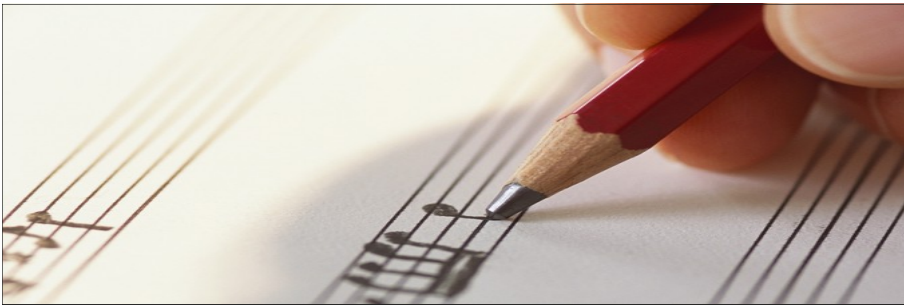


Intervals Explained (1 of 3)



An interval is the distance between two notes. Intervals are counted using two pieces of information: (1) the names of the two notes and (2) the distance between them.

1—The names of the notes: just count the letters between the notes. That's the number of the interval. An "A" to a "B" would be a 2nd of some kind because there are two letters: "A" and "B".

However, an "A" up to a "D" would be a 4th of some kind because you have to count the notes in between as well: "B" and "C".

2—The distance between them: This part gets a little more complicated, but it's explained on the next pages. For a quick reference of the interval names, see the chart on the right.

Although the examples all start at C, you can find the interval between any two notes—not just with C's.

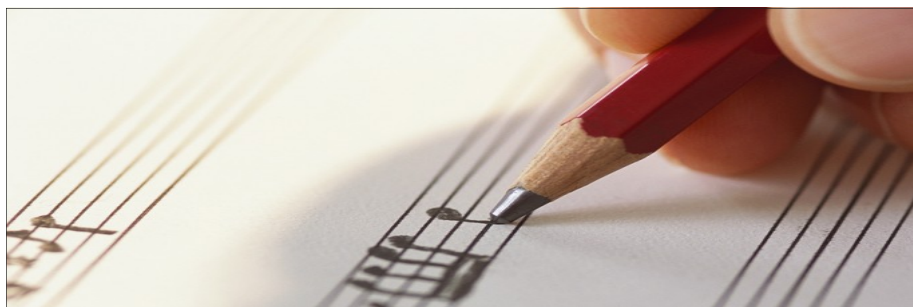
Name	Distance (in half-steps)	Example
Perfect 1 (or "unison")	0	Two of the same note
Minor 2nd	1	C up to D ^b
Major 2nd	2	C up to D
Minor 3rd	3	C up to E ^b
Major 3rd	4	C up to E
Perfect 4th	5	C up to F
Tritone (diminished 5th) (augmented 4th)	6	C up to F# Or C up to G ^b
Perfect 5th	7	C up to G
Minor 6th	8	C up to A ^b
Major 6th	9	C up to A
Minor 7th	10	C up to B ^b
Major 7th	11	C up to B
Perfect 8th (Or octave)	12	C up to C

Extended Intervals (Intervals larger than an octave)

Minor 9th	13	C up to D ^b
Major 9th	14	C up to D
Minor 10th	15	C up to E ^b
Major 10th	16	C up to E
Perfect 11th	17	C up to F
(diminished 12th) (augmented 11th)	18	C up to F# Or C up to G ^b
Perfect 12th	19	C up to G
Minor 13th	20	C up to A ^b
Major 13th	21	C up to A
Minor 14th	22	C up to B ^b
Major 14th	23	C up to B

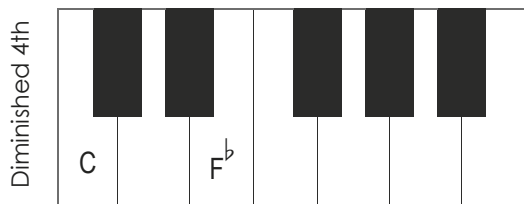
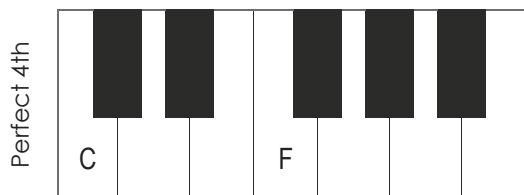
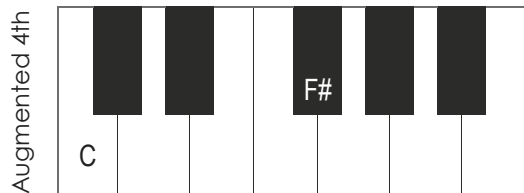
Intervals Explained (2 of 3)

Basically, there are two classifications of intervals: major/minor and perfect. When the distance between the notes gets bigger or smaller, the type of interval changes according to the charts below.



Perfect Intervals (This example uses a perfect 4th)

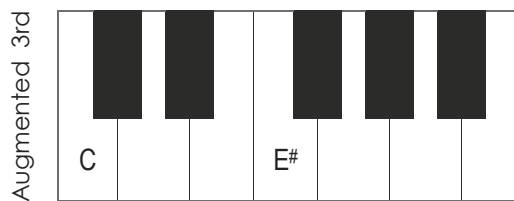
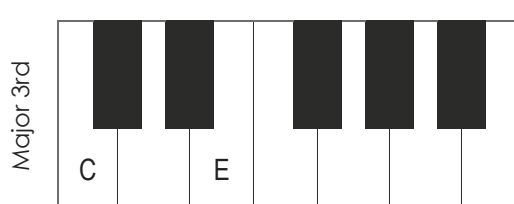
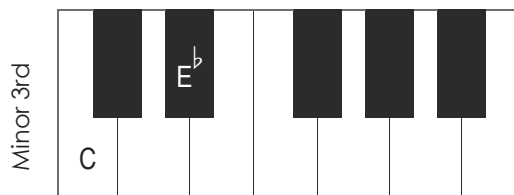
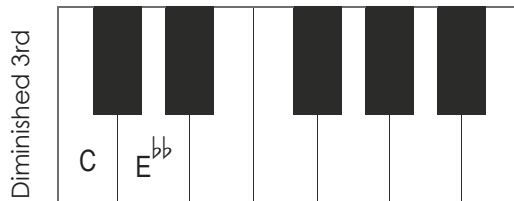
Name	Distance (in half-steps)	Example
Diminished 4th	4	C up to F ^b
Perfect 4th	5	C up to F
Augmented 4th	6	C up to F [#]



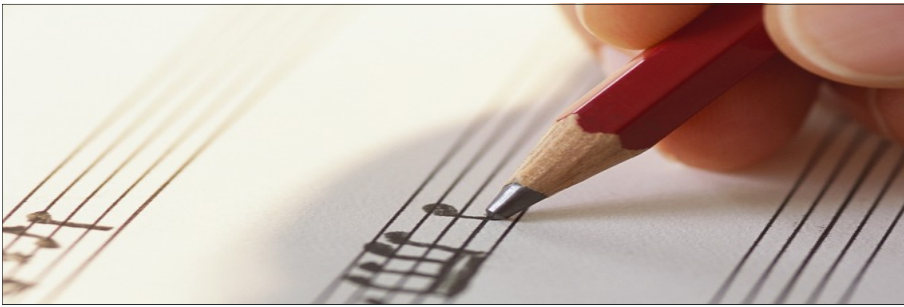
"C" up to "F" is a perfect 4th (P4).
 "C" up to "F^b" is still a 4th because of the letters used (C through F). However, it is no longer 5 half-steps away. This smaller interval is a diminished 4th.

Major/Minor Intervals (This example uses a major 3rd)

Name	Distance (in half-steps)	Example
Diminished 3rd	2	C up to E ^{bb}
Minor 3rd	3	C up to E ^b
Major 3rd	4	C up to E
Augmented 3rd	5	C up to E [#]



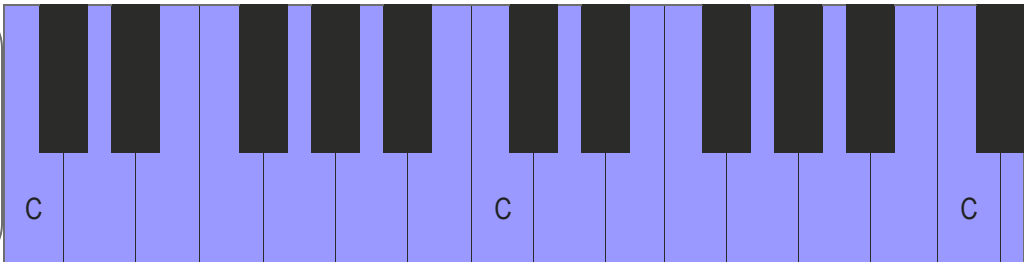
Intervals Explained (3 of 3)



2nds, 3rds, 6ths, and 7ths can either be major or minor. 1sts, 4ths, 5ths, and 8ths are called perfect intervals. Here's why:

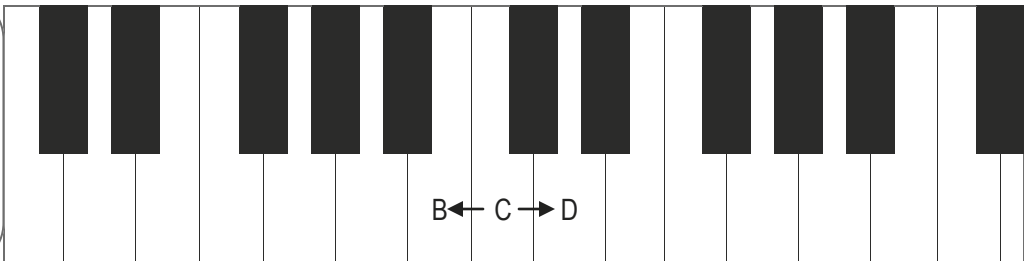
Major intervals can be found by starting at the beginning of a major scale and moving up. Minor intervals can be found by starting at the beginning of the major scale and going down. (This works for 2nds, 3rds, 6ths, and 7ths.) Perfect intervals are the same size regardless of whether you go up the scale or down the scale. (1sts, 4ths, 5ths, and 8ths)

This is a C major scale. It uses all the white notes and only the white notes. It begins and ends on C.



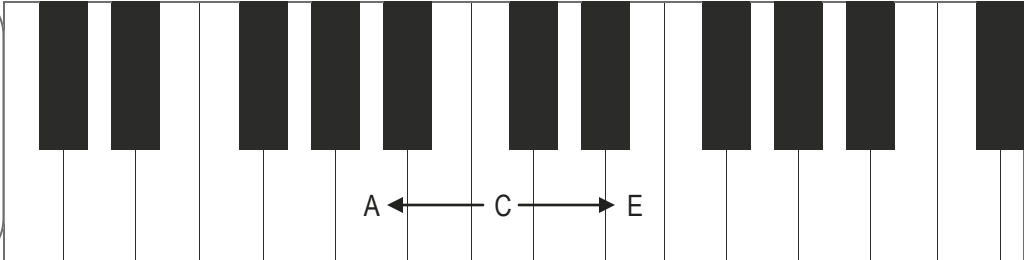
Major vs. Minor

From C up the scale to D is a major 2nd because it is 2 half steps away. C down the scale to B is a minor 2nd because it is only 1 half step away.



Major vs. Minor

From C up the scale to E is a major 3rd because it is 4 half steps away. C down the scale to A is a minor 3rd because it is only 3 half steps away.



Perfect Interval

From C up the scale to F is a perfect 4th because it is 5 half steps away. C down the scale to G is also a perfect 4th because it is also 5 half steps away.

