

# Lesson 71

# INTERVALS



This lesson introduces you to intervals, the musical distance between any two notes.

## INSTRUCTION

An interval is the tonal distance between two notes. It is often useful to think of the distances between notes rather than the notes themselves. It is the relative position of notes that gives a scale or melody its sound.

The diagram below shows the major scale pattern (using C Major as an example) and the names of the intervals that make up that scale's structure as well as the names of the intervals of the in-between notes.

C      D      E      F      G      A      B      C

Root	$\flat 2$	2 <sup>nd</sup>	$\flat 3$	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	$\sharp 4$ $\flat 5$	5 <sup>th</sup>	$\sharp 5$ $\flat 6$	6 <sup>th</sup>	$\flat 7$	7 <sup>th</sup>	Octave
Unison	Minor Second	Major Second	Minor Third	Major Third	Perfect Fourth	Augmented Fourth Diminished Fifth	Perfect Fifth	Augmented Fifth Minor Sixth	Major Sixth	Minor Seventh	Major Seventh	Octave

Knowing these intervals is crucial to understanding how chords and scales are constructed. Some intervals go by two different names. This is dependent on whether the note is sharped or flatted to create the interval.

## PRACTICE

Memorize the intervals of the Major scale first. Play the root (in this case C) then choose an interval to play while the C is still sounding. Alternate playing different intervals between playing C. Pay attention to the sound of the interval as you play it.