



M·U·S·I·C

for

young
people

musicforagreatspace.org

Rolston String Quartet

January 29, 2021

Franz Joseph Haydn
String Quartet in G minor, Op. 74, No. 3, "Rider"

Edvard Grieg
String Quartet No. 1 in G minor, Op. 27

Discussion or Free Response

1. Name some songs you consider to be “happy.”
 - a. What makes this music “happy?” In other words, what does “happy” music sound like to you?
2. Name some songs you consider to be “sad.”
 - a. What makes this music “sad?” In other words, what does “sad” music sound like to you?
3. Now, think of the tune “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.” Hum, or sing, it in your head. Is it “happy” or “sad?”
 - a. Listen – [Twinkle version 1](#)
 - b. Listen – [Twinkle version 2](#)
 - c. What makes them different?
 - d. The answer is...



Musical Scales

Musical scales are patterns of notes. They provide structure when you create a song. There are many different types of scales.

Major Scales

Major scales are built on a pattern of notes. If you use this pattern, it does not matter what note you start on, the scale will be a major scale and will sound happy. Major scales use a combination of half steps (or semitones) and whole steps (or whole tones).

A **half step** is the smallest interval. Move from one key to the next closest key.

A **whole step** is made of 2 half steps. A whole step skips one key.

Minor Scales

A minor scale is similar to a major scale. There are 8 notes. If you know the major scale, the minor scale is easy to figure out. You simply lower the 3rd, 6th, and 7th notes by a half step. Major scales sound happy, but minor scales usually sound sad.

Before listening to Haydn's String Quartet in G minor, Op. 74, No. 3, "Rider"

- Pay close attention to how often the music switches from major ("happy") to minor ("sad").
- Can you keep count? Decide if you want to count the number of times the music becomes major ("happy") or minor ("sad") sounding.

Listen to Haydn's String Quartet in G minor, Op. 74, No. 3, "Rider"

Click here:

[Movement 4](#)

- How many times did the music switch to major or minor?

Activity: Build a G Major and G minor Scale

Materials Needed:

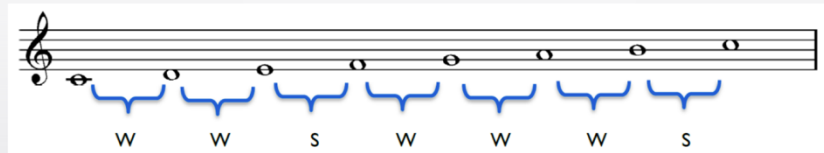
1. Staff paper (provided for print on the last page)
 - a. <https://www.noteflight.com/>
 - b. <https://musescore.org/en>
 - c. <https://musink.net/default.aspx>

What to do:

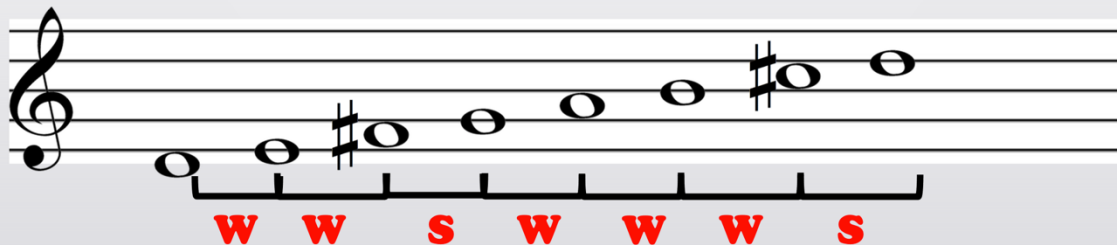
1. Learn the pattern to build a MAJOR Scale.
 - a. Here is an example that begins on the note D:

Build a Major Scale

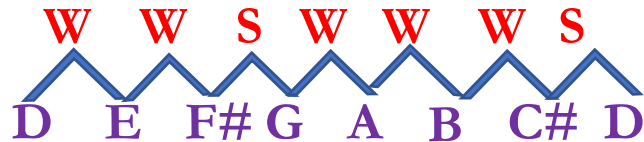
The pattern for a major scale uses whole tones (W) and semitones (S).



Let's build one together, starting on the note D.

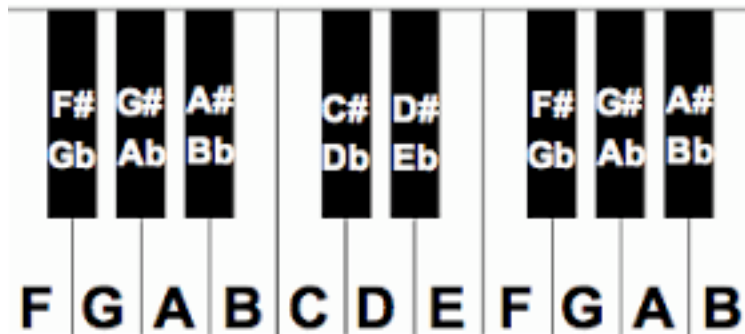
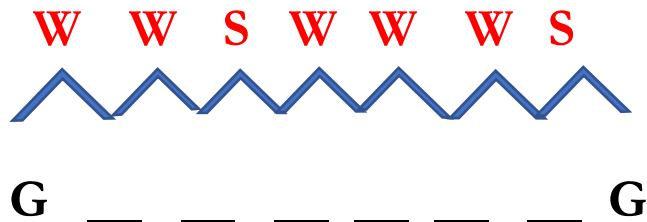


Whole Tone – is made of two half steps, or two semitones
Semitone – is also called a half step

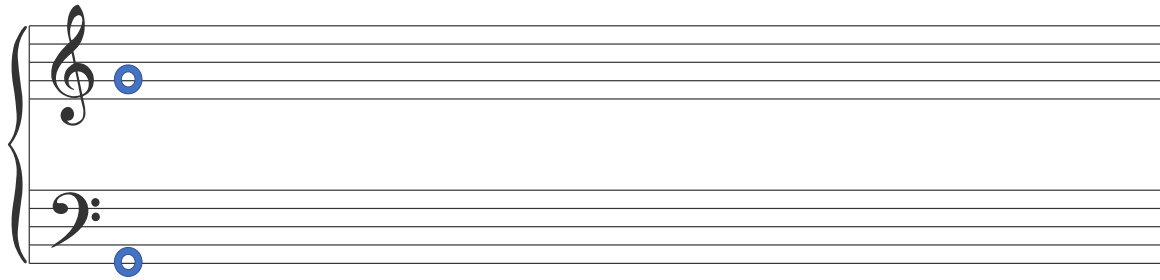


2. Build a G MAJOR scale.

- Use either treble or bass clef, your choice.
- Start on the note G and use the pattern for a MAJOR scale to determine the note names.



3. Draw your G MAJOR scale on your staff, using the clef of your choice.

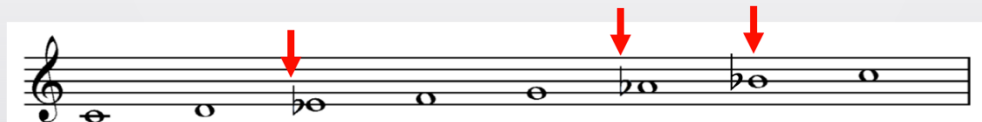


4. Once you have your MAJOR scale, we will create a minor scale.

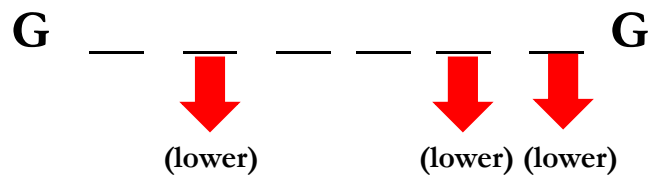


Minor Scales

A minor scale is similar to a major scale. There are 8 notes. If you know the major scale, the minor scale is easy to figure out. You simply lower the 3rd, 6th, and 7th notes by a half step. Major scales sound happy, but minor scales usually sound sad.

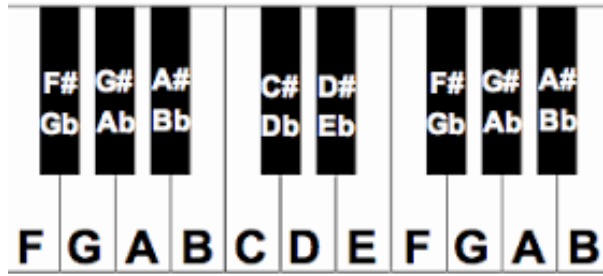


G Major
same as above

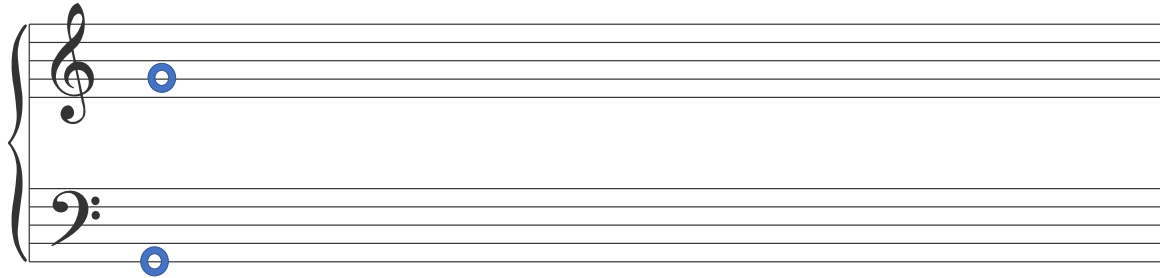


G minor
lower (flatten) the 3rd, 6th, & 7th notes





5. Draw your G minor scale on your staff, using the clef of your choice.

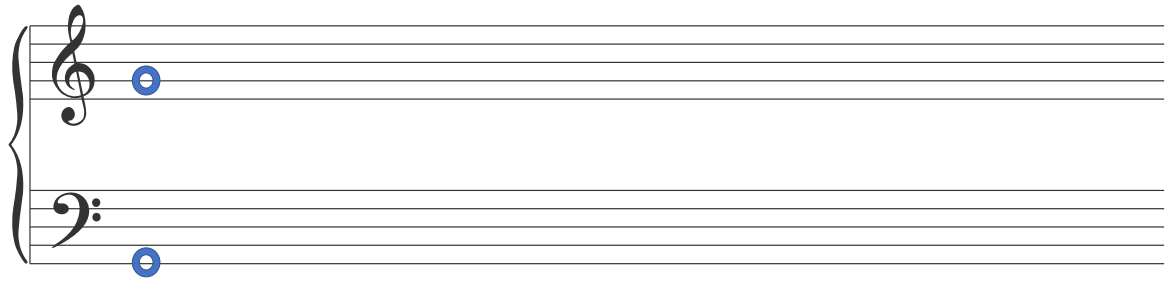


Additional learning opportunities:

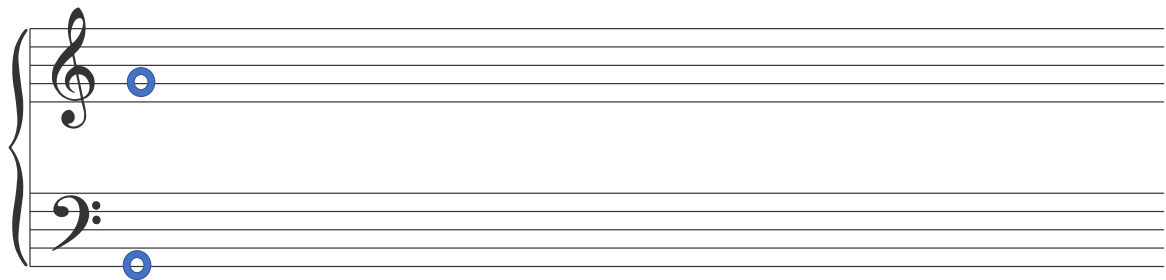
- Learn more about the Rolston String Quartet, [INTERVIEW LINK](#).
- For some really cool info about Haydn, check out this [link](#).

STAFF PAPER

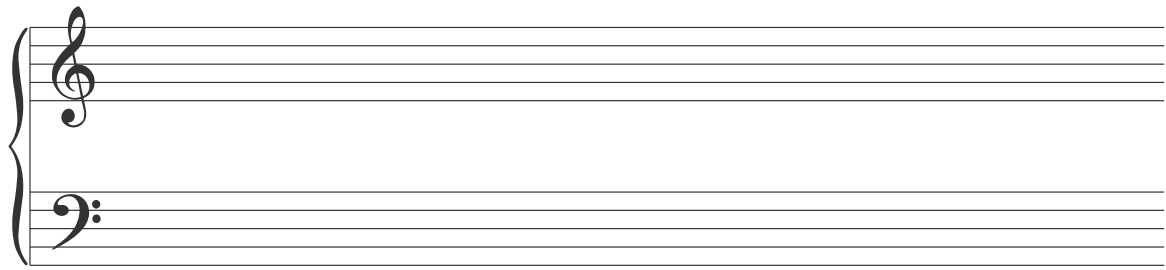
Use whichever clef you prefer
G is noted on both the bass and treble clefs



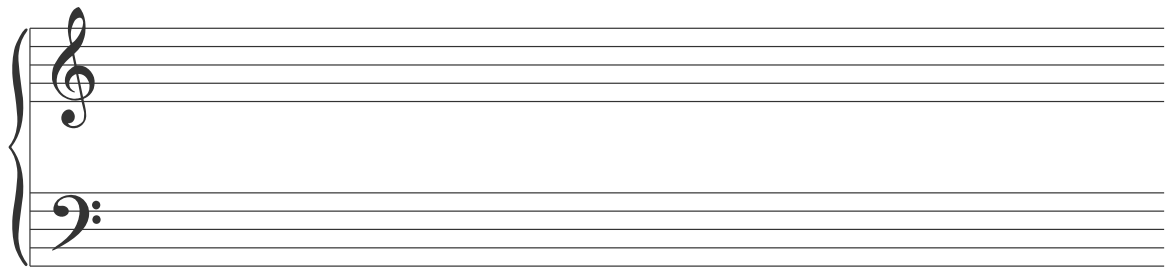
A musical staff consisting of two staves joined by a brace on the left. The top staff has a treble clef and a blue note on the second line (G4). The bottom staff has a bass clef and a blue note on the second line from the bottom (G3).



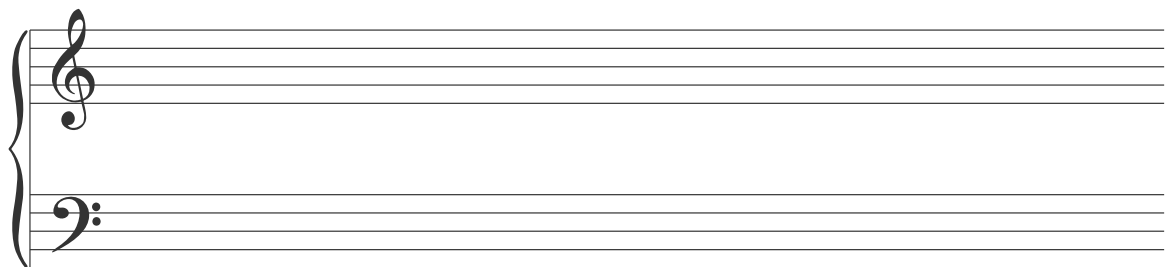
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A blank musical staff consisting of two staves joined by a brace on the left. The top staff has a treble clef and the bottom staff has a bass clef.



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