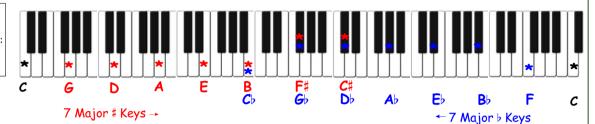
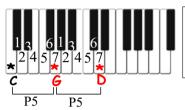
music keys rule! Major Keys Made Simple

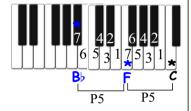
The 7 octaves on a grand piano provides a visual display of the Cycle of Fifths.

The Cycle of Fifths consists of all of the Major Keys or scales: C+, 7 sharp keys, and 7 flat keys.





All major keys are related by the Cycle of Fifths. Major Keys are a "Perfect 5th" (P5) apart. A perfect 5th is equal to 7 half-steps. For e.g. C to G is a P5, using 5 letter names: C, D, E, F and G.



Each Key has its own Key Signature. Key Signatures for Sharp Keys follow the "Order of Sharps": F#, C#, G#, D#, A#, E#,B# To recall the "Order of Sharps" use this phrase:

The Major Sharp KEY or scale is always a Half Step above the last sharp in the Key Signature



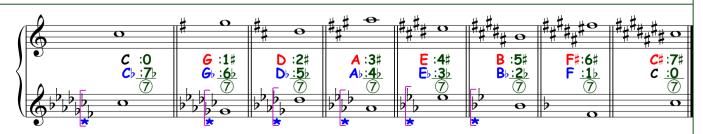
Ex: To find the key signature of a given key, ie. E+: go down a half-step to d, say the order of #'s to d, F#,C#,G#,D#. E has 4#: f,c,q,d

Key Signatures for Flat Keys follow the "Order of Flats": Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, Cb, Fb To recall the Order of Flats use this phrase:

The Major Flat KEY is always the 2nd last flat in the Key Signature (except F+: has one flat only)



Ex: To find the key signature of a given key, ie. Ab+: say the order of flats to the same letter name (A) and add 1 b. Ab has 4b: b.e.a.d



The number of accidentals in a Major Key of the same letter name equals 7. e.g. D+ (2 #'s) plus D+ (5 b's) = 7. Exception: C# plus Cb

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