

How to Play a Major Scale

You are about to read everything you need to know to play any Major Scale you like. But first, remember Major keys sound happy (as opposed to Minor keys which sound sad).

Scales are made up of two kinds of 'steps':

Tones and Semitones

A **semitone** is the smallest sized step you can take on the piano:

- From a white key to an adjacent black one
- From a black key to an adjacent white one
- From a white key to an adjacent white one (with no black in between).

A **tone** is equal to 2 semitones:

- From a white key to the next white one (skipping the black key in between)
- From a black key to the next black one (skipping the white key in between)
- From a black key to the next door but one white note (if the two white notes are adjacent with no extra black note between)
- From a white key to a black one (skipping the white key in between)

Every Major scale follows the same pattern:

T T S T T T S

Taking C Major as an example we have:

T T S T T T S
C D E F G A B C

And written out as musical notation:



You can play as many octaves of a scale as you like, above is just one octave, just continue the pattern.

The fingerings to use in your right hand are: 1 2 3 1 2 3 4 5 (if more than one octave replace the 5 with a 1 until you finish).

So following the T and S pattern above, starting on any note on the piano you can now play a Major scale!!