



Chamber Choir Virtual Learning

High School Sight Reading

April 21, 2020



High School Chamber Choir

Lesson: April 21, 2020

Objective/Learning Target: Students will be able to practice and use our sight reading procedure at a level 3 and 4, and play C, F, and G Major scales

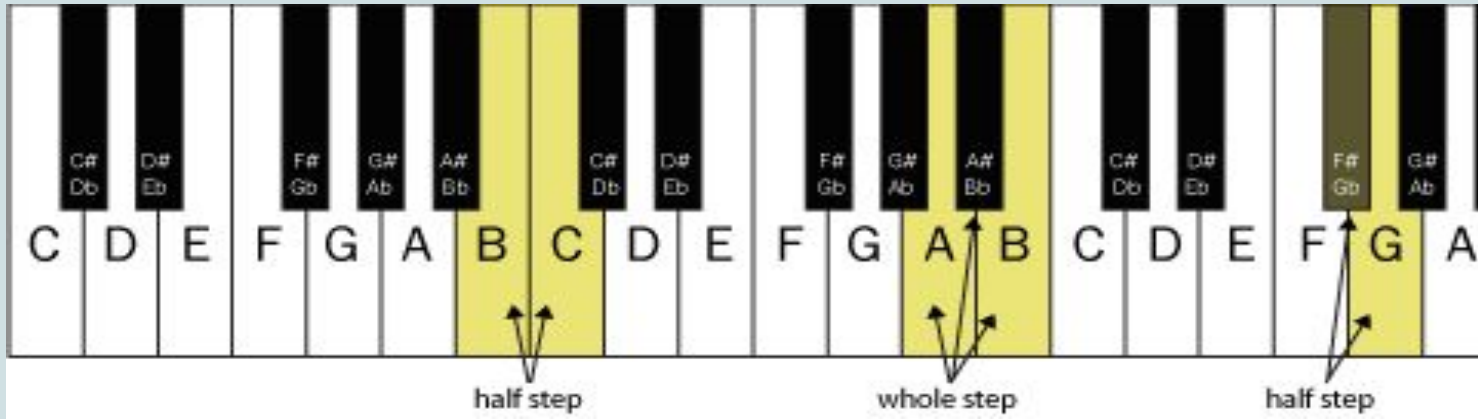
BELL WORK

- Go to <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keysig>
- Review your key signatures
- Reminder:
 - Order of Flats: BEADGCF
 - Order of Sharps: FCGDAEB



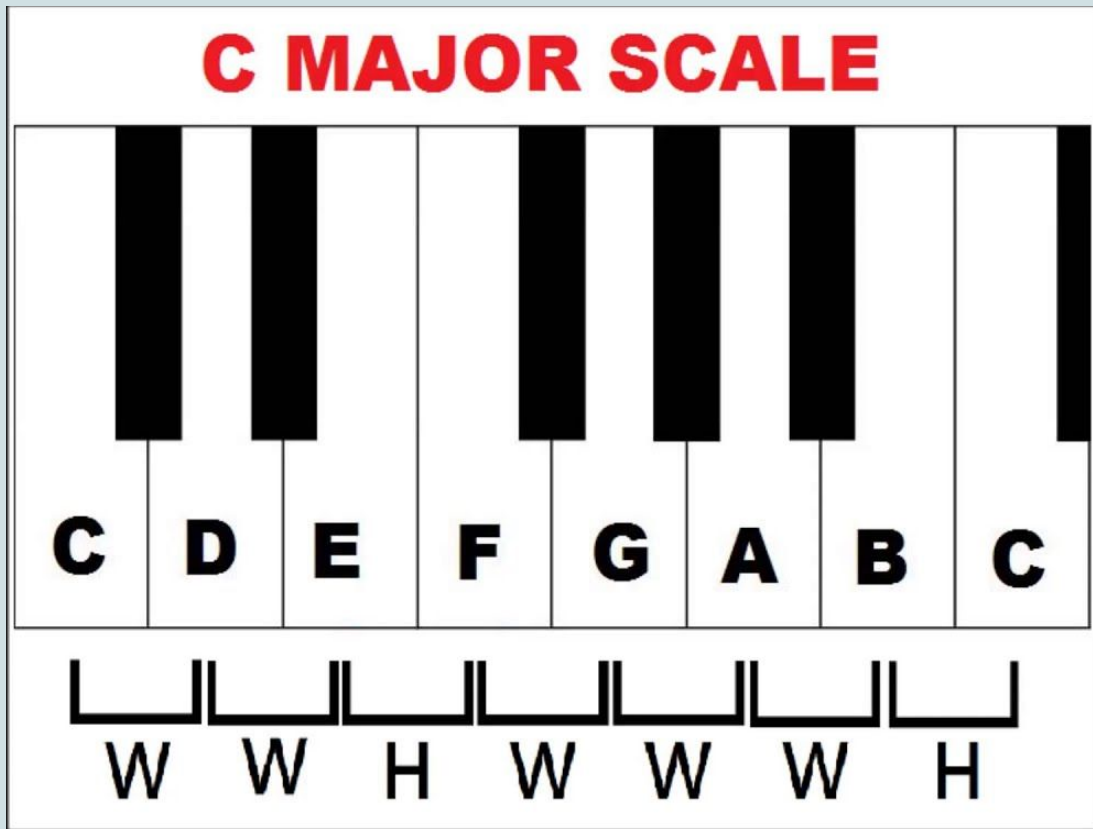
SCALES

- Go to virtualpiano.net
 - Review piano basics from Friday
- Notice the groupings of black keys
 - Black keys are the sharps and flats (sharps= up $\frac{1}{2}$ step, flats= down $\frac{1}{2}$ step)
- The note name C is always to the left of the grouping of 2 black keys
 - Find all the C's
- Find A by moving backwards from C
 - Play the musical alphabet and say the note names
- Play a chromatic scale from C to C
 - All half steps



SCALES- C MAJOR

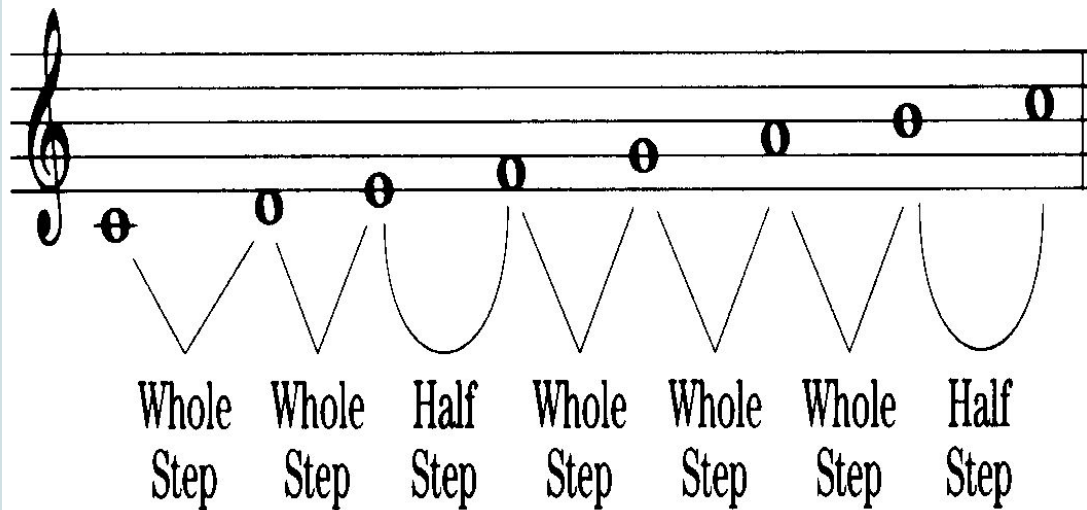
- Scales notes played in a pattern of whole and half steps
- Major Scale
 - W W H W W W H
 - Singing a major Solfege scale
 - D R M F S L T D
- C Major scale is a great one to start out with because there are no black keys (no sharps or flats)
- Play a C Major Scale
 - C D E F G A B C
- Play it again and say the note names as you go
- Play it one more time and sing along



SCALES- C MAJOR

- Here is what the C Major scale looks like when written on the staff in Treble Clef

C Major Scale

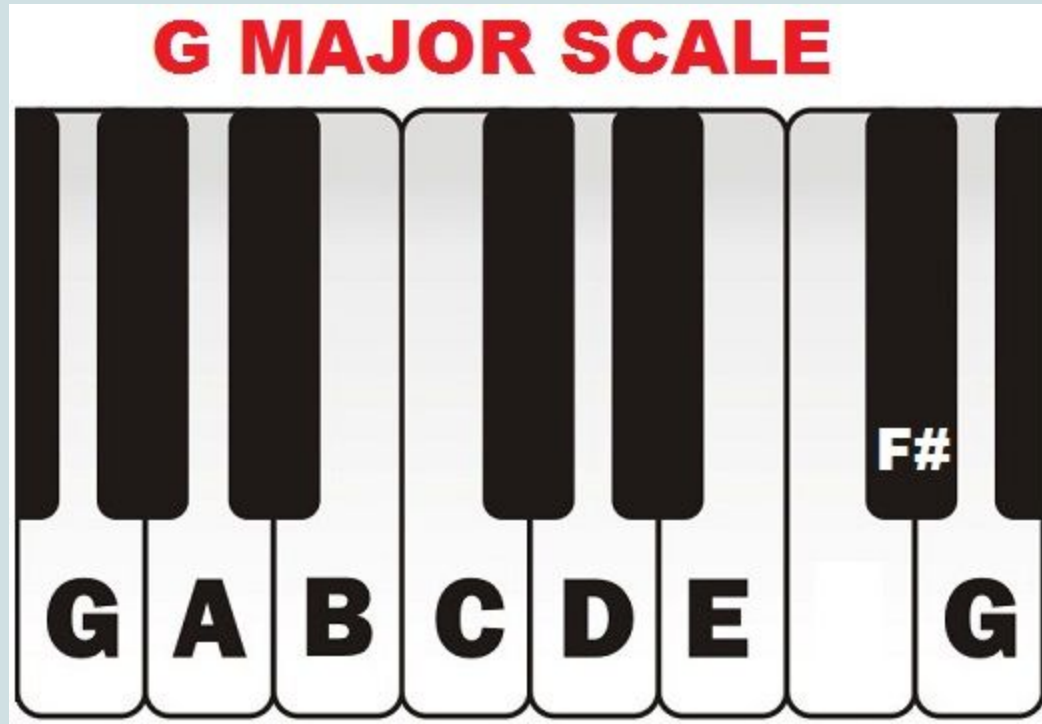


The image shows the C Major scale written on a treble clef staff. The notes are C4 (middle C), D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, and B4. The intervals between the notes are labeled as follows: Whole Step between C and D, Whole Step between D and E, Half Step between E and F, Whole Step between F and G, Whole Step between G and A, Whole Step between A and B, and Half Step between B and the final C.

Interval	Interval Type
C to D	Whole Step
D to E	Whole Step
E to F	Half Step
F to G	Whole Step
G to A	Whole Step
A to B	Whole Step
B to C	Half Step

SCALES- G MAJOR

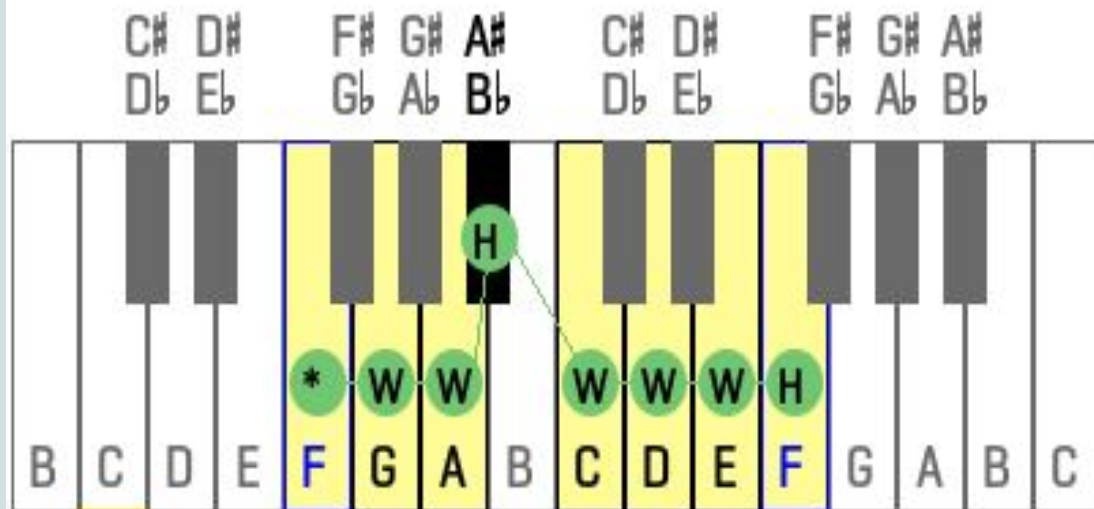
- Let's look at the G Major scale next.
- The key of G has 1 sharp... F#
 - FCGDAEB (order of sharps)
- Play the G Major scale
 - G A B C D E F# G
- Play it again and say the note names with it
- Play it again and sing the solfege



SCALES - F MAJOR

- The key of F has one flat...
Bb
 - BEADGCF (order of flats)
- Remember, every major scale follows the pattern of whole and half steps
 - W W H W W W H
 - As shown in the image
- Start on F and play the F Major scale
 - F G A Bb C D E F
- Play the F Major scale and speak the note names as you go
- Play the F Major scale and sing the solfege

F major scale note positions



LESSON

For chamber choir, these sight reading excerpts will be at a higher level. Reminder of our procedure:

1. Identify the time signature and key signature
2. What solfege does it start on?
3. Scan the measures for any difficult intervals or rhythms
 - a. Isolate those and practice
4. Speak the solfege syllables in rhythm with a slow tempo
 - a. Try to hear the intervals in your head as you go (audiation)
5. Using a piano or piano app, give yourself the first pitch
 - a. Sing Do Mi Sol Mi Do Sol Do (or what your choir does to establish tonality)
6. Count yourself in with a slow tempo
7. After you sang through the excerpt, think about what you could do better
8. Try it again for better accuracy

LESSON: TIPS TO SUCCESSFUL SIGHT READING

1. Double check the key signature and time signature
2. Skim the excerpt for any challenging rhythm or intervals
3. Give yourself a slow tempo when speaking and singing
4. Take deep breaths and really focus on what you know

LESSON: RESOURCES FOR FINDING PITCH

- [Virtualpiano.net](https://www.virtualpiano.net)
- Apps for phones
 - Pitch Perfect
 - The Piano
- If you need a review on how to find the key signature, [watch this](#).

LESSON

LEVEL 3

What is the key? What solfege do you start on?

The image shows a musical score for two parts: S/A (Soprano/Alto) and T/B (Tenor/Bass). The music is in 4/4 time and the key of D major (one sharp). The score begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The S/A part starts with a quarter note D4, followed by quarter notes E4, F#4, and G4. The T/B part starts with a quarter note D3, followed by quarter notes E3, F#3, and G3. Both parts have a fermata over the 5th measure. The S/A part has fingerings 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 indicated above the notes. The T/B part has fingerings 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 indicated below the notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

LESSON

LEVEL 3

Key: G Major, starts on Do

S/A

T/B

f

f

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

LESSON

LEVEL 4

What is the key? What solfege does it start on?

The image shows a musical score for Soprano/Alto (S/A) and Tenor/Bass (T/B) parts. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The S/A part starts with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B-flat, and a whole note C. The T/B part starts with a half note B-flat, followed by quarter notes C, D, E, F, G, A, B-flat, and a whole note C. The dynamics are marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the first four measures and *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the last four measures. The score is divided into two sections by a double bar line, with measures 1-4 in the first section and measures 5-8 in the second. The notes are: S/A: B \flat , C, D, E, F, G, A, B \flat ; T/B: B \flat , C, D, E, F, G, A, B \flat .

LESSON

LEVEL 4

Key: F Major, starts on Do

S/A

T/B

mp

mf

mp

mf

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

LESSON

LEVEL 4

What is the key? What solfege does it start on?

The image shows a musical score for Lesson Level 4, consisting of two staves: S/A (Soprano/Alto) and T/B (Tenor/Bass). The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into eight measures, numbered 1 through 8. The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte) for measures 1-2, *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 3-4, and *p* (piano) for measures 5-8. The S/A staff uses a treble clef and the T/B staff uses a bass clef. The music features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs. The key signature is B-flat major or E-flat minor.

LESSON

LEVEL 4

Key: Eb Major, starts on Do

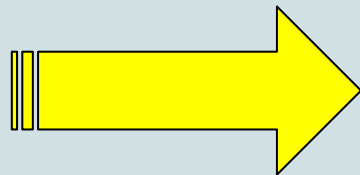
The musical score is written for two staves: S/A (Soprano/Alto) and T/B (Tenor/Bass). The key signature is Eb Major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The piece is marked with dynamics *f*, *mp*, and *p*. Fingerings 2 through 8 are indicated above the notes in the S/A staff. Accents are placed over the notes in measures 2, 4, 6, and 8 of both staves. The S/A staff begins with a treble clef and the T/B staff with a bass clef. The music consists of a sequence of notes: S/A starts on G4, T/B on Eb3. The melody in the S/A staff moves up stepwise, while the bass line in the T/B staff moves down stepwise. The piece concludes with a final cadence in both staves.

MORE PRACTICE

LEVEL 4

Musical score for S/A (Soprano/Alto) and T/B (Tenor/Bass) parts, Level 4. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The piece consists of 8 measures. The dynamics are marked as *p* (piano) for measures 1-2, *mp* (mezzo-piano) for measures 3-4, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) for measures 5-8. The S/A part features a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, while the T/B part provides a harmonic accompaniment with similar rhythmic patterns. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 above the notes in the S/A part. The score concludes with a double bar line.

CHALLENGE



LEVEL 5

S/A

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

p

T/B

p

Musical score for S/A and T/B in 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The top staff is labeled 'S/A' and the bottom staff is labeled 'T/B'. Both staves start with a treble clef and a bass clef respectively, and a 4/4 time signature. The music is marked with a piano dynamic (*p*). The score is divided into 8 measures, numbered 2 through 8. Measure 2 contains a quarter rest. Measure 4 contains a quarter rest. Measure 6 contains a quarter rest. The music features a variety of note values including quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, with some notes beamed together. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

ONLINE RESOURCES

To help you find your pitch:

- [Virtualpiano.net](https://www.virtualpiano.net)
- Apps for phones
 - Pitch Perfect
 - The Piano

- Sightreadingfactory.com
 - For additional practice!
- Musictheory.net
 - To practice key signatures and note naming

