

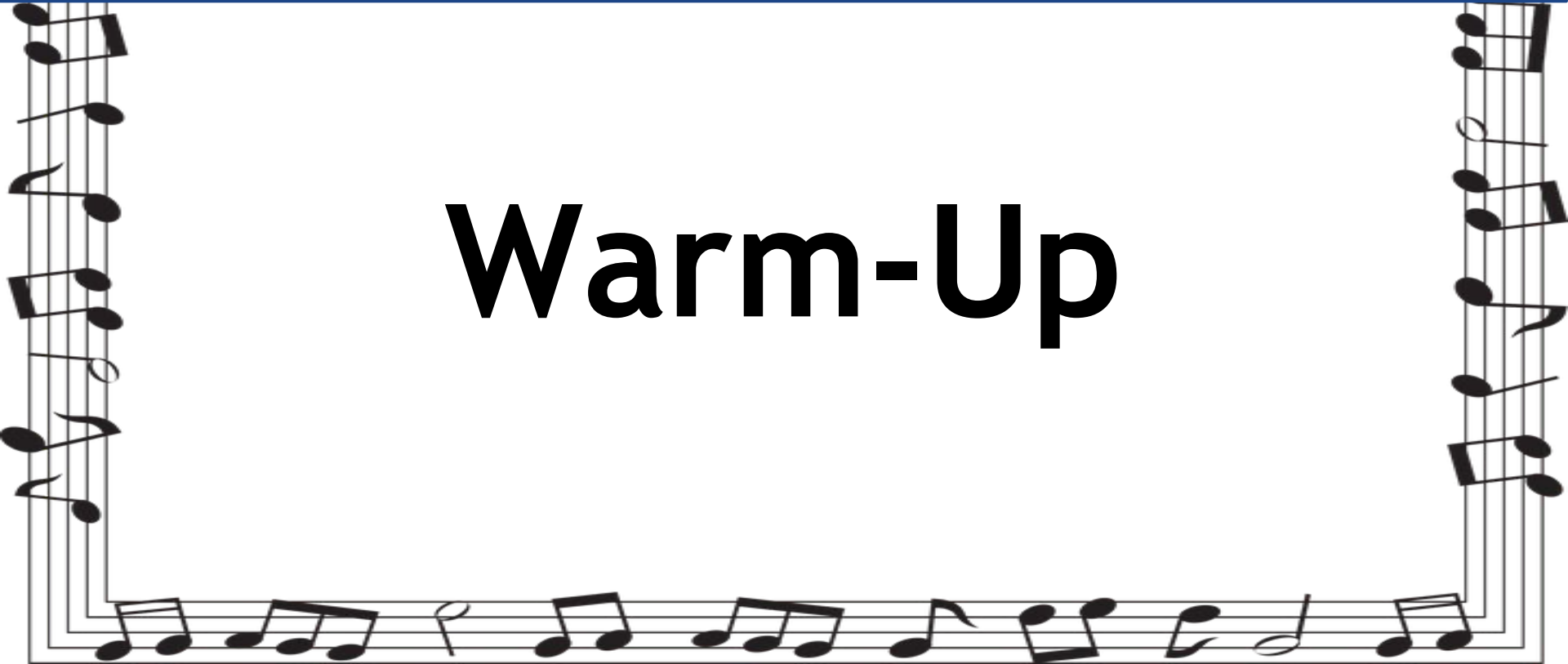
Philharmonic Orchestra

Lesson: April 9, 2020

Learning Target:

Students will learn how to build a major scale.

Warm-Up



A decorative border of musical notation surrounds the text. It features a treble clef at the top left, a bass clef at the bottom left, and various notes and rests on a five-line staff that forms a rectangular frame.

Goal Warm-Up

1. It takes a team! Who are some people you can ask to help you meet your goals? Think about a family member, friend, or don't forget you can reach out to a teacher. We are here for you!
2. What specific actions steps have you taken to help you meet your goal?

Lesson



A decorative border made of musical staves with various notes and clefs surrounds the central text. The top staff starts with a treble clef and contains a sequence of notes. The bottom staff contains a sequence of notes. The left and right sides feature vertical staves with notes.

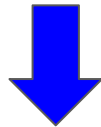
Scales:

A scale is a group of notes going up and down in order.



D-E-F#-G-A-B-C#-D

then back down



C#-B-A-G-F#-E-D

A decorative border of musical notation surrounds the central text. It consists of a top staff with a treble clef and a bottom staff with a bass clef, both containing various notes and rests. The left and right sides are also decorated with vertical musical notation.

Let's Play!

Try playing the D Major scale on your instrument to hear what it sounds like



D-E-F#-G-A-B-C#-D

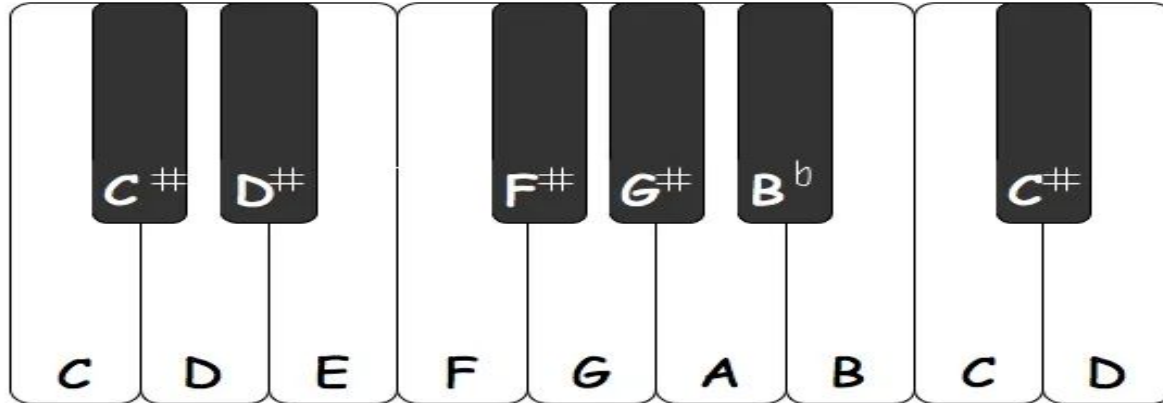
then back down



C#-B-A-G-F#-E-D

Scales:

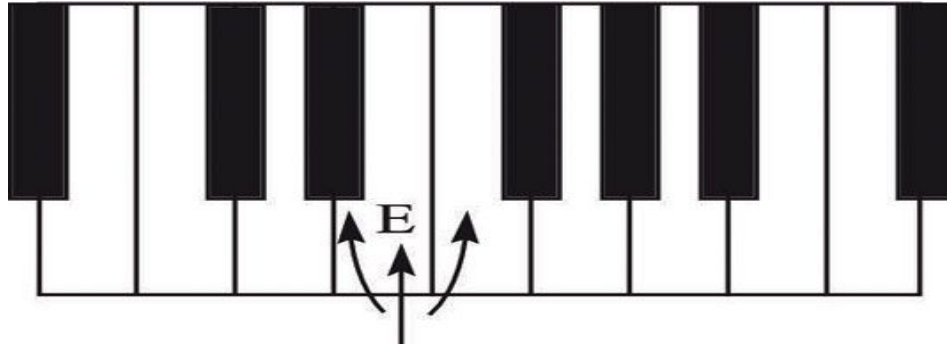
The notes move in either half steps or whole steps. Half steps/whole steps refers to the distance between two notes. Let's look at whole and half steps on a piano keyboard.



Half Steps:

The smallest difference between two pitches is the **half step**, or semitone. Using the piano keyboard as a reference, if you pick a key then play the key that's right next to it (on the left or right) whether that key is black or white, you've moved one half step in pitch.

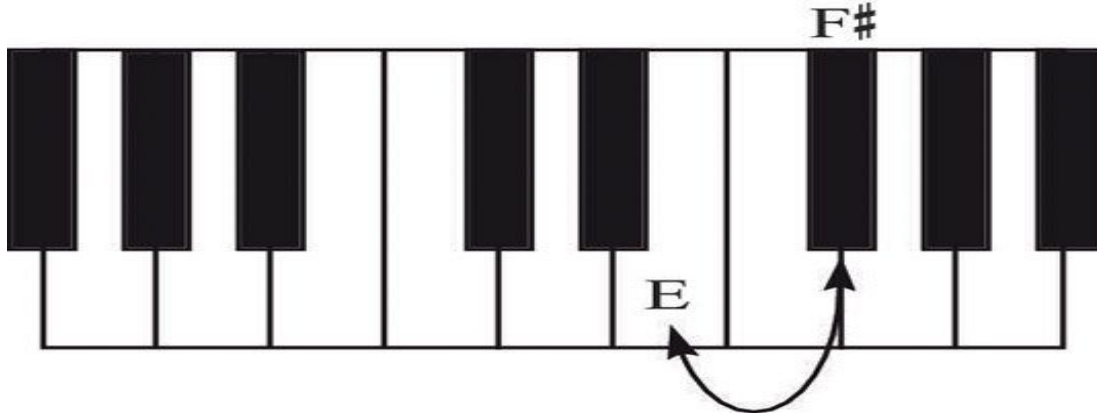
Example: E up to F natural is a half step. E down to D# is a half step.



Whole Steps:

If a half step on the piano is one key away from the starting point, then a **whole step** would be two keys away from the starting point.

Example: E moves up two keys to F#, making the distance a whole step



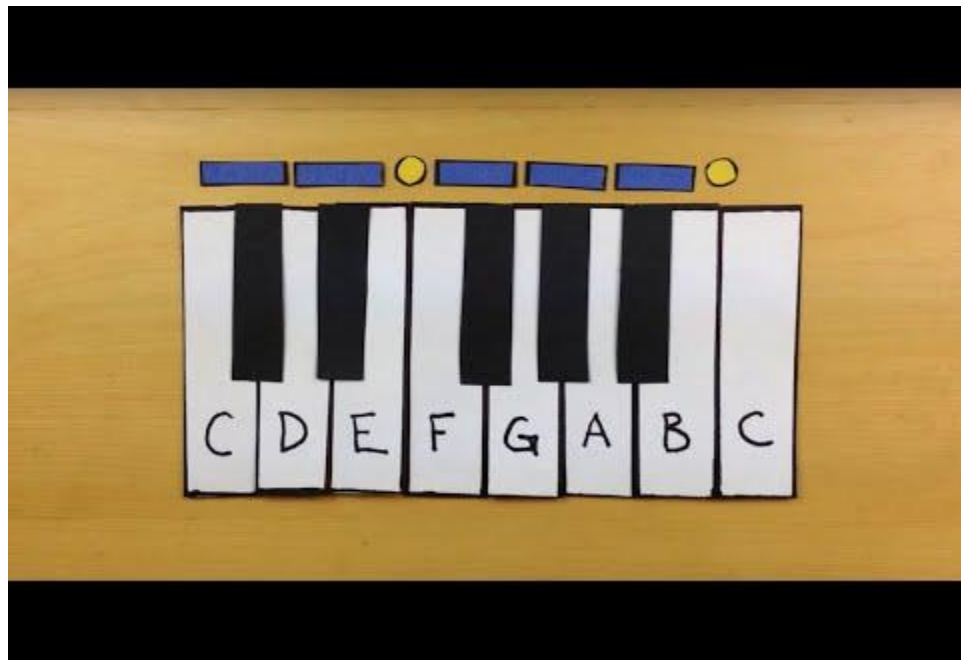
A decorative border made of musical staves with various notes and clefs surrounds the central text.

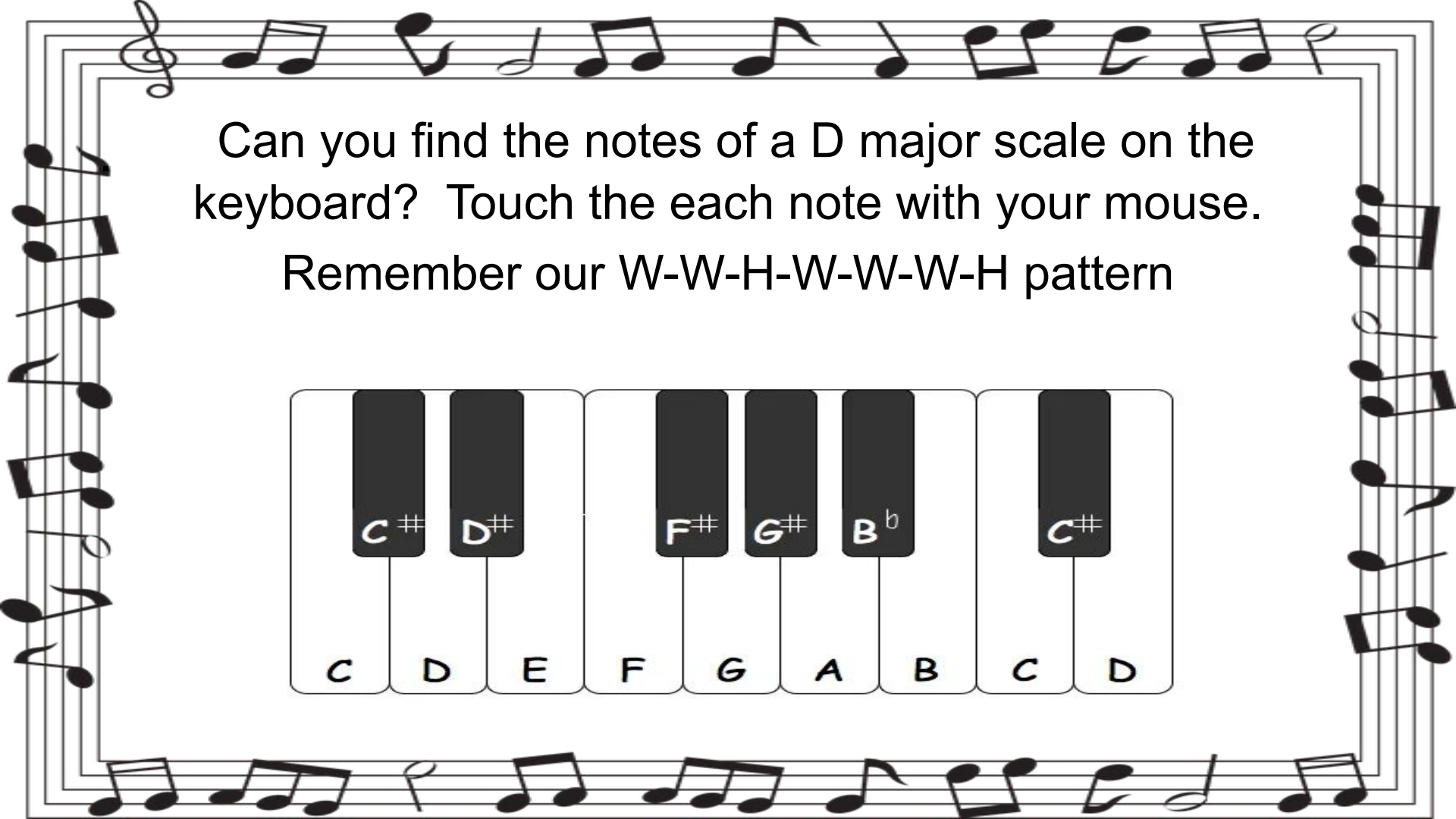
Major scales have specific order of whole and half steps:

Whole=W **Half=H**

Pattern: W-W-H-W-W-W-H

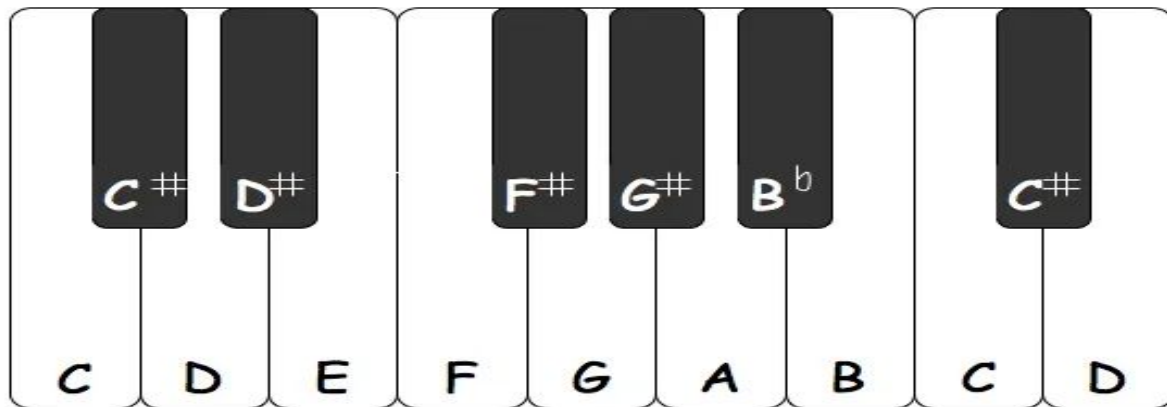
Watch this video about building a scale:



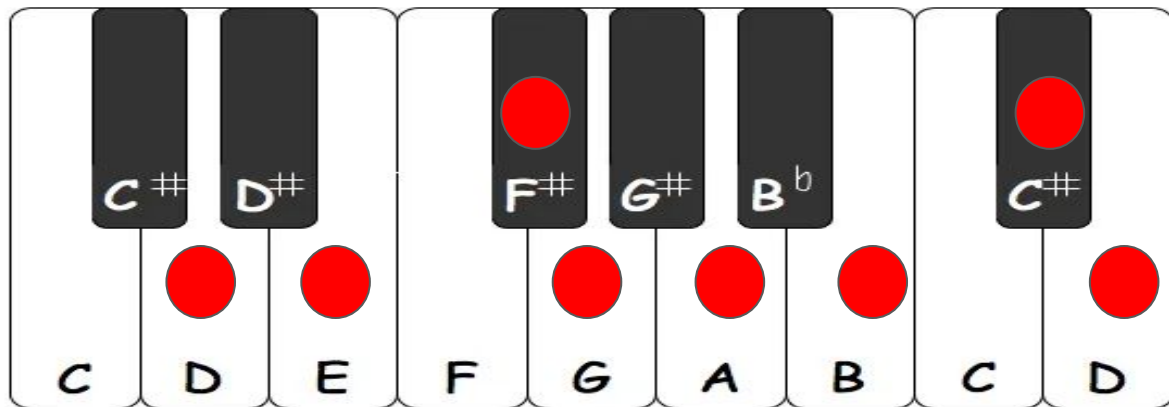
A decorative border of musical notation surrounds the central text. It features a treble clef at the top left, a bass clef at the bottom left, and various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests, arranged in a continuous line around the page.

Can you find the notes of a D major scale on the keyboard? Touch the each note with your mouse.

Remember our W-W-H-W-W-W-H pattern



Answer:



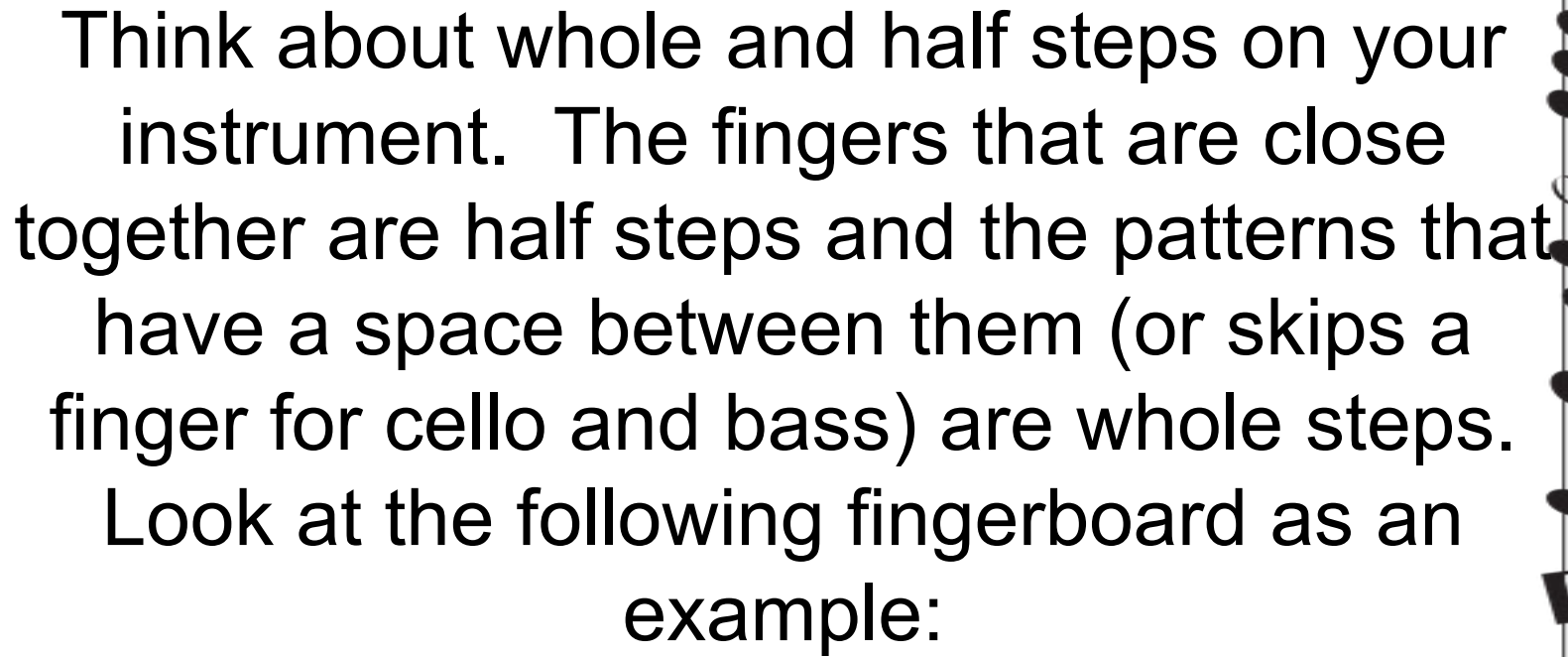
Review



A decorative border of musical notes and staves surrounds the text. The border consists of a top staff with a treble clef and a series of notes, a bottom staff with a series of notes, and vertical staves on the left and right sides, each with a series of notes.

Practice:

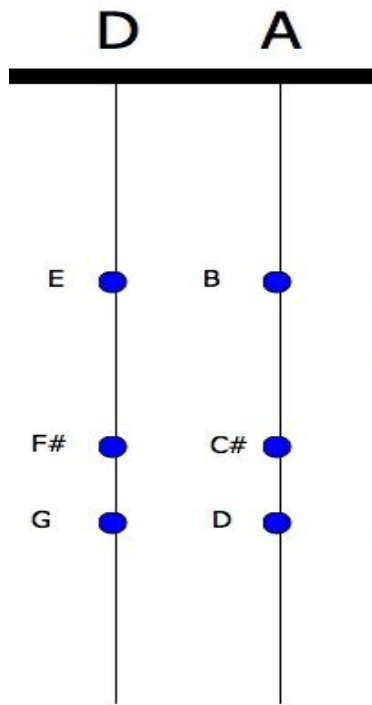
Let's try building more scales on your instrument. Pick a starting note and remember the W-W-H-W-W-W-H pattern to play any major scale!



Think about whole and half steps on your instrument. The fingers that are close together are half steps and the patterns that have a space between them (or skips a finger for cello and bass) are whole steps. Look at the following fingerboard as an example:

A decorative border of musical notation surrounds the central content. It features a treble clef at the top left, a bass clef at the bottom right, and various notes including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests, arranged in a continuous line around the page.

Violin, Viola and Cello

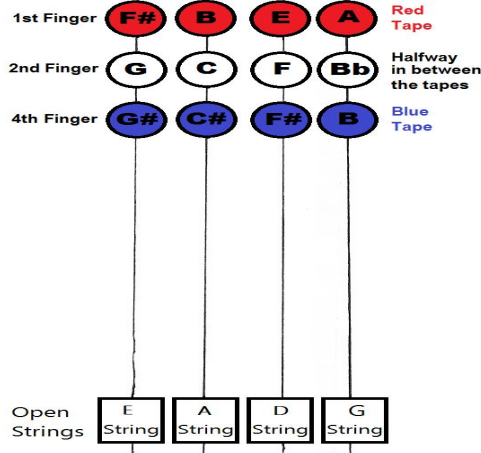
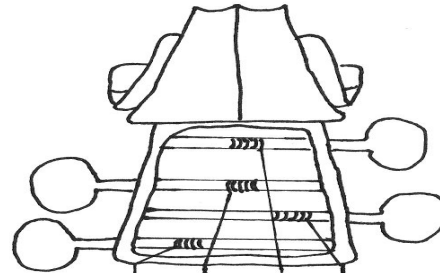


Can you see that
C# to D fingers are
close together?
That is a half step!
B to C# is a big
space and is a
whole step.

Double Bass

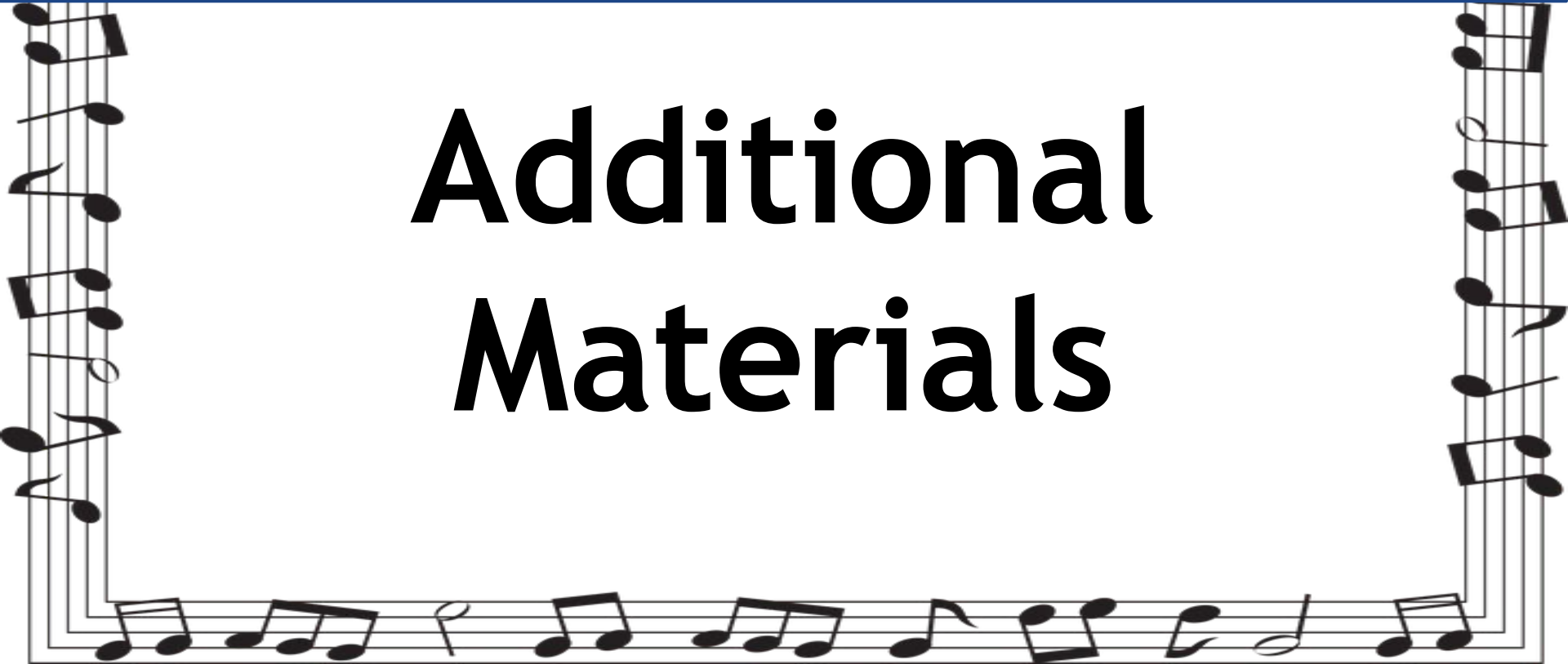
First Position

Bass



Notice the half step from E-F natural with 2nd finger, and the whole step from E-F# with 4th finger.

Additional Materials



A decorative border made of musical staves with various notes and clefs. The top staff starts with a treble clef and contains a sequence of notes. The bottom staff also contains a sequence of notes. The left and right sides feature vertical staves with notes and clefs.

Additional Practice:

1. View a tutorial

<https://www.musictheory.net/lessons/21>

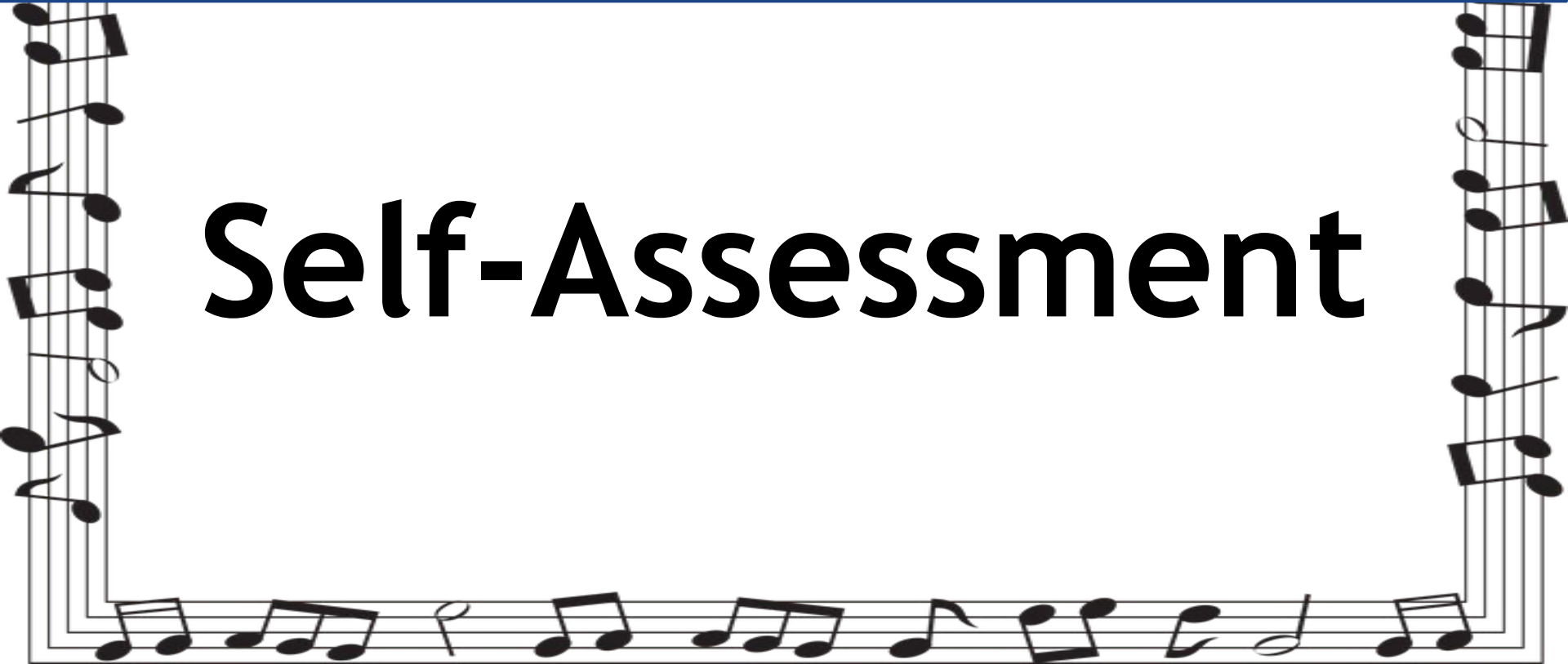
2. Print off staff paper and practice writing a scale

<https://www.blanksheetmusic.net/>

3. Scale building practice (treble and bass clef only)

<https://shop.theviolincase.com/pages/Learn-to-Build-a-Major-Scale.html>

Self-Assessment



Test yourself to see if you can build other scales on a keyboard, your instrument, or writing it out on staff paper.

