



Guitar Virtual Learning

Guitar

Accidentals: How They Work

April 17, 2020



Guitar

Lesson: 4/17/2020

Objective/Learning Target:

Demonstrate correct usage and identification of accidentals



Warm Up Activity:

Draw a Sharp, Flat, and Natural and identify what they do.

When reading accidentals in music, there are 3 main considerations you must make:

- 1). The key signature identifies which notes are automatically sharp/flat (we'll cover those later)
- 2). When an accidental appears next to a note, it applies to that note for the rest of the measure (unless a new accidental is used)
- 3). At the end of the measure, the note returns back to its original form (either the natural note or what's in the key signature.)

Below are some examples of accidentals in action:



If you notice, sometimes a note is sharp without an accidental next to it. This is because of the G[#] in the key signature. We'll cover that more later.

Please identify the note with the correct accidental:



*Note: This isn't really used in tablature, instead the frets are identified with numbers. Despite this, it's helpful to understand what the note is you are playing when you press each fret

Answers:

A musical staff in 4/4 time with a treble clef. The melody consists of eight quarter notes: G#4, G#4, G4, Ab4, A4, G4, Ab4, G#4. The notes are grouped into two measures of four notes each by a vertical bar line. Below the staff, the notes are labeled as follows: G#, G#, G, Ab, A, G, Ab, G#.



Please use the website below to do some extra practice. If you feel good about identifying notes on Treble Clef with ledger lines, turn on challenge mode and see how many you can get right in a minute!

[Music Theory Practice](#)

Keep the same settings as the previous lesson and continue getting used to identifying notes with accidentals on and off the staff.