

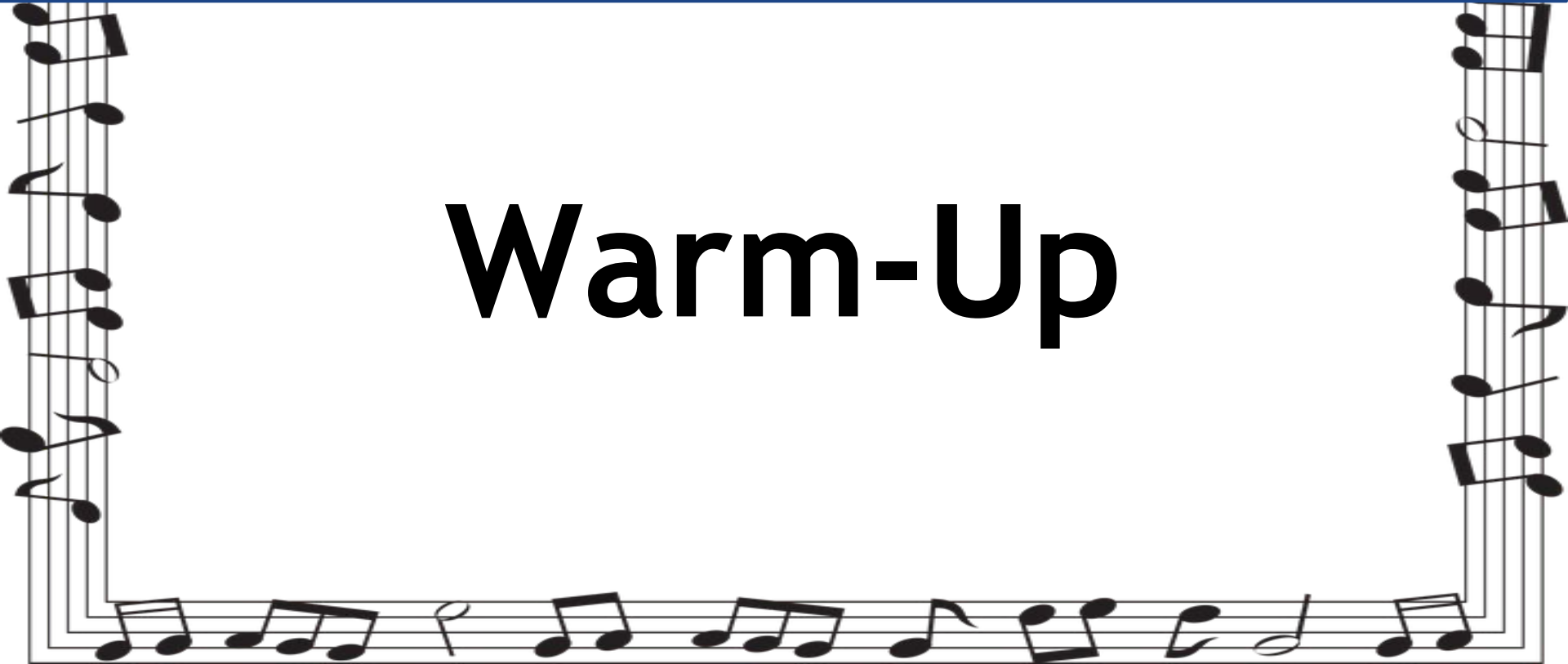
8th Grade Orchestra

Lesson: April 9, 2020

Learning Target:

Students will learn how to build a major scale.

Warm-Up





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 features a treble clef on the left, a series of notes along the top staff, and notes along the bottom staff. The notes are connected by a blue line that forms a rectangular frame.

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

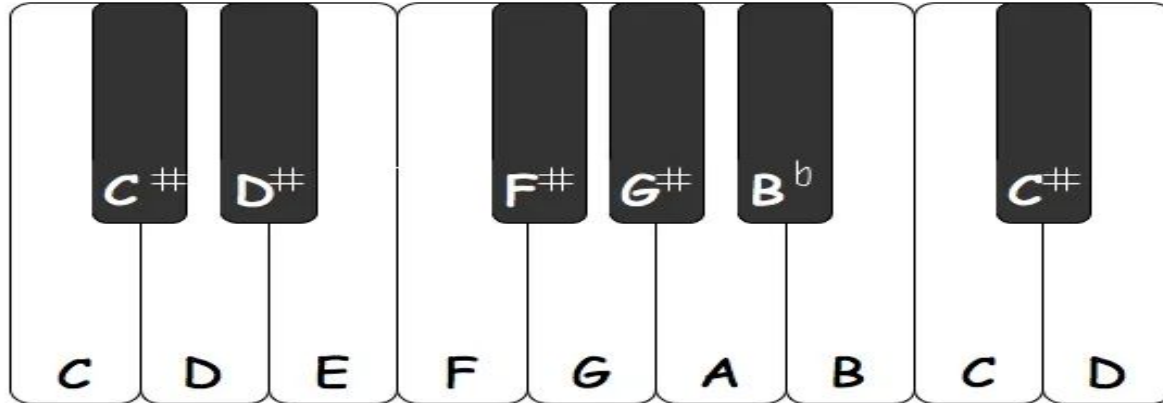
then back down



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

Scales:

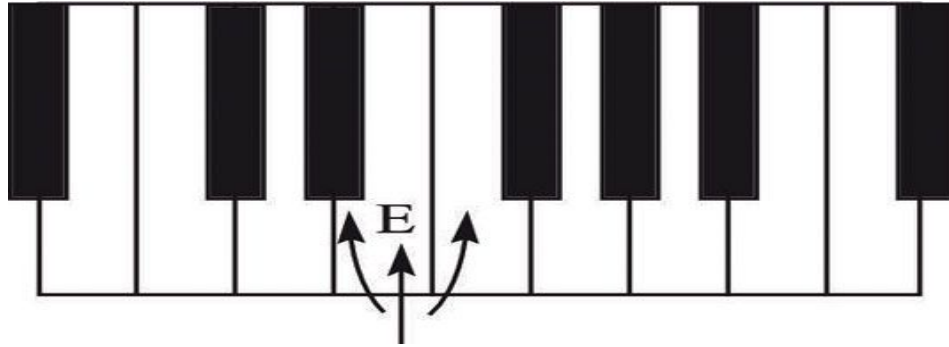
The notes move in either half steps or whole steps. Half steps/whole steps refers to the distance between two notes. Let's look at whole and half steps on a piano keyboard.



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.

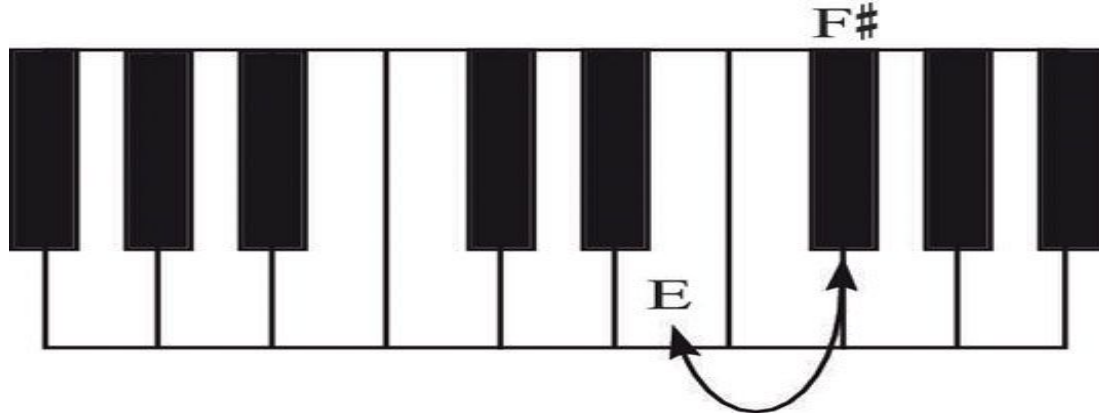
Example: E up to F natural is a half step. E down to D# is a half step.



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



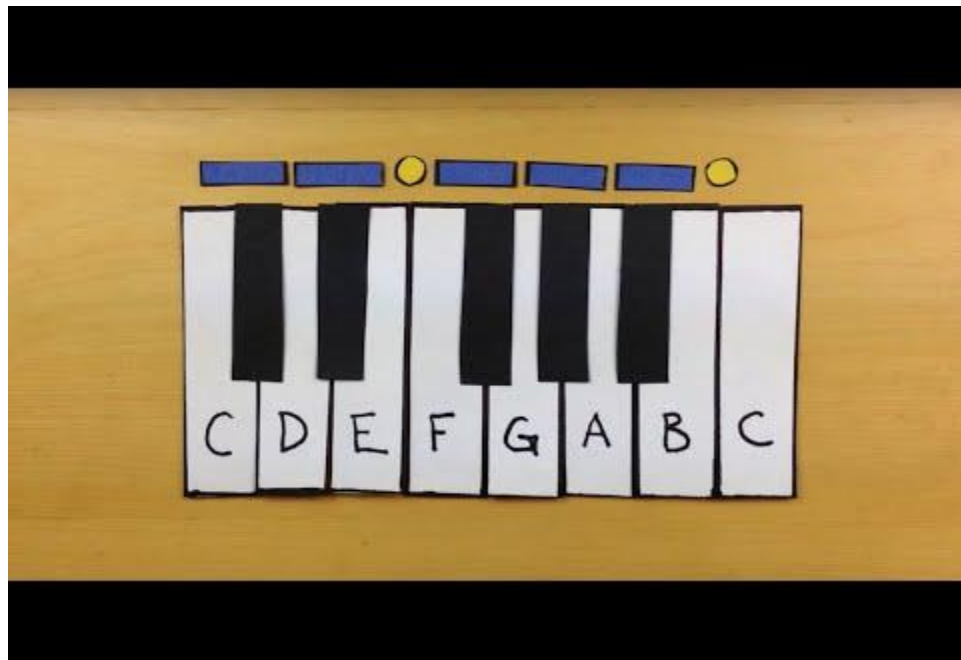
A decorative border made of musical staves with various notes and clefs surrounding the central text.

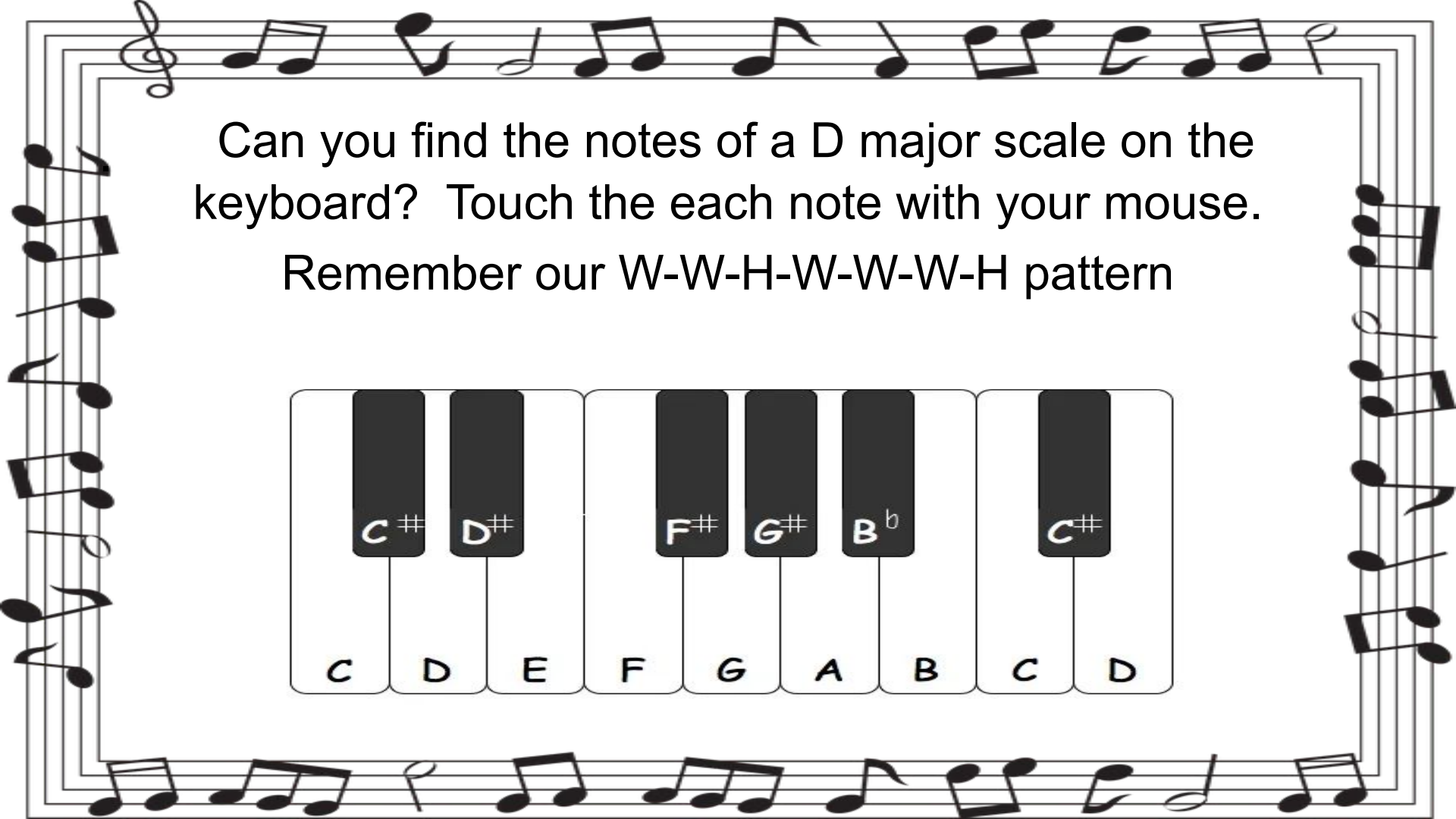
Major scales have specific order of whole and half steps:

Whole=W **Half=H**

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

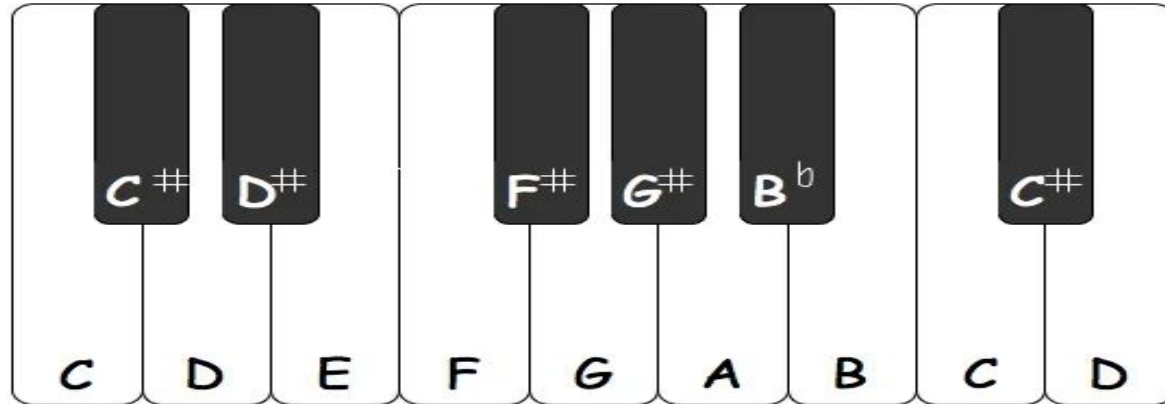
Watch this video about building a scale:



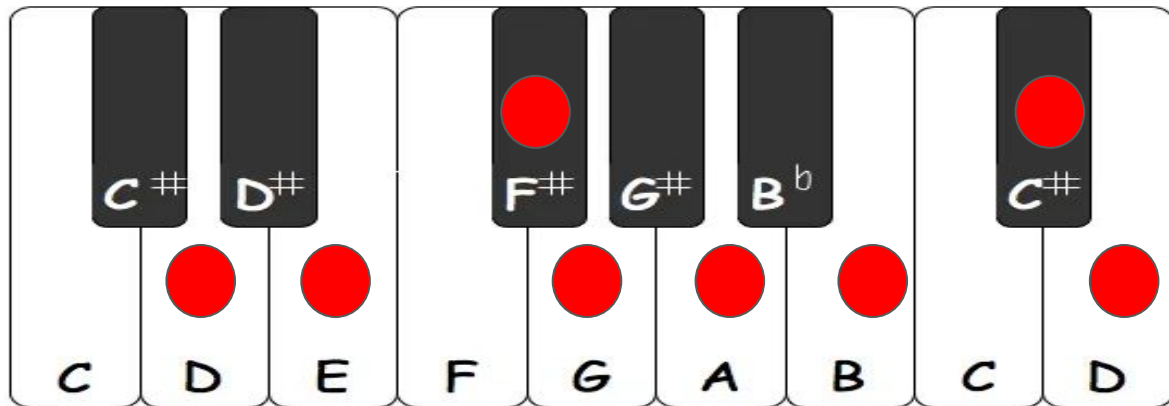
A decorative border of musical notation surrounds the central text. It features a treble clef at the top left, a series of notes on a staff at the top, and another series of notes on a staff at the bottom. On the left and right sides, there are vertical lines of musical notes, including eighth and sixteenth notes, some with stems pointing up and some pointing down.

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:



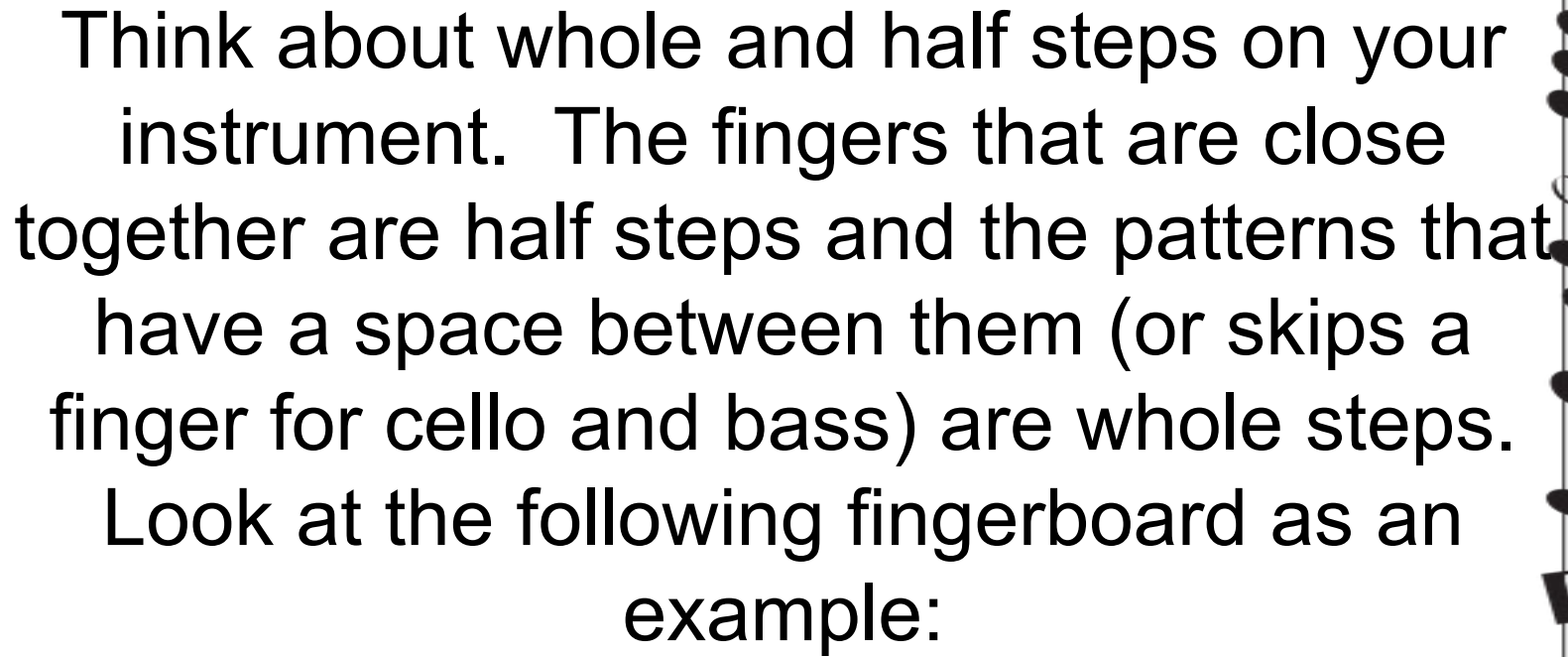
Review



A decorative border made of musical staves and notes surrounds the text. The top staff starts with a treble clef and contains a sequence of notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The bottom staff contains notes: D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4. The left and right sides feature vertical staves with various musical notes and stems.

Practice:

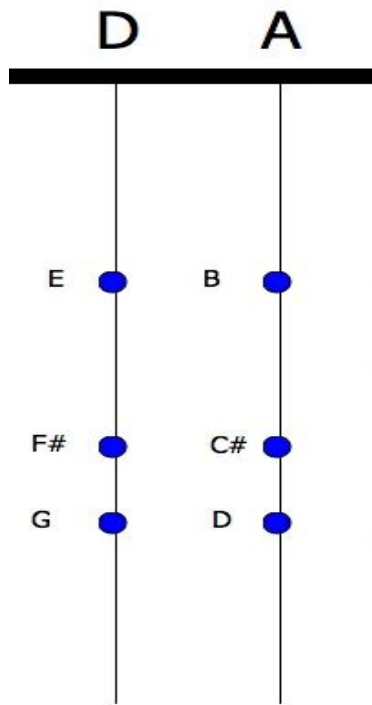
Let's try building more scales on your instrument. Pick a starting note and remember the W-W-H-W-W-W-H pattern to play any major scale!



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.

Violin, Viola and Cello

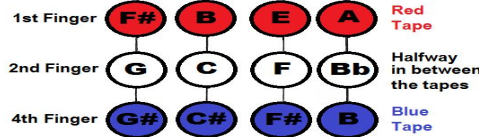
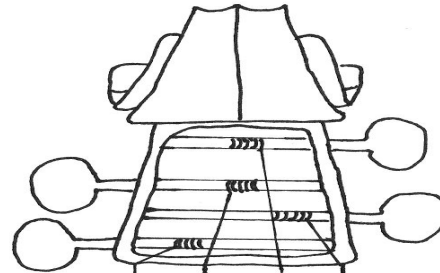


Can you see that
C# to D fingers are
close together?
That is a half step!
B to C# is a big
space and is a
whole step.

Double Bass

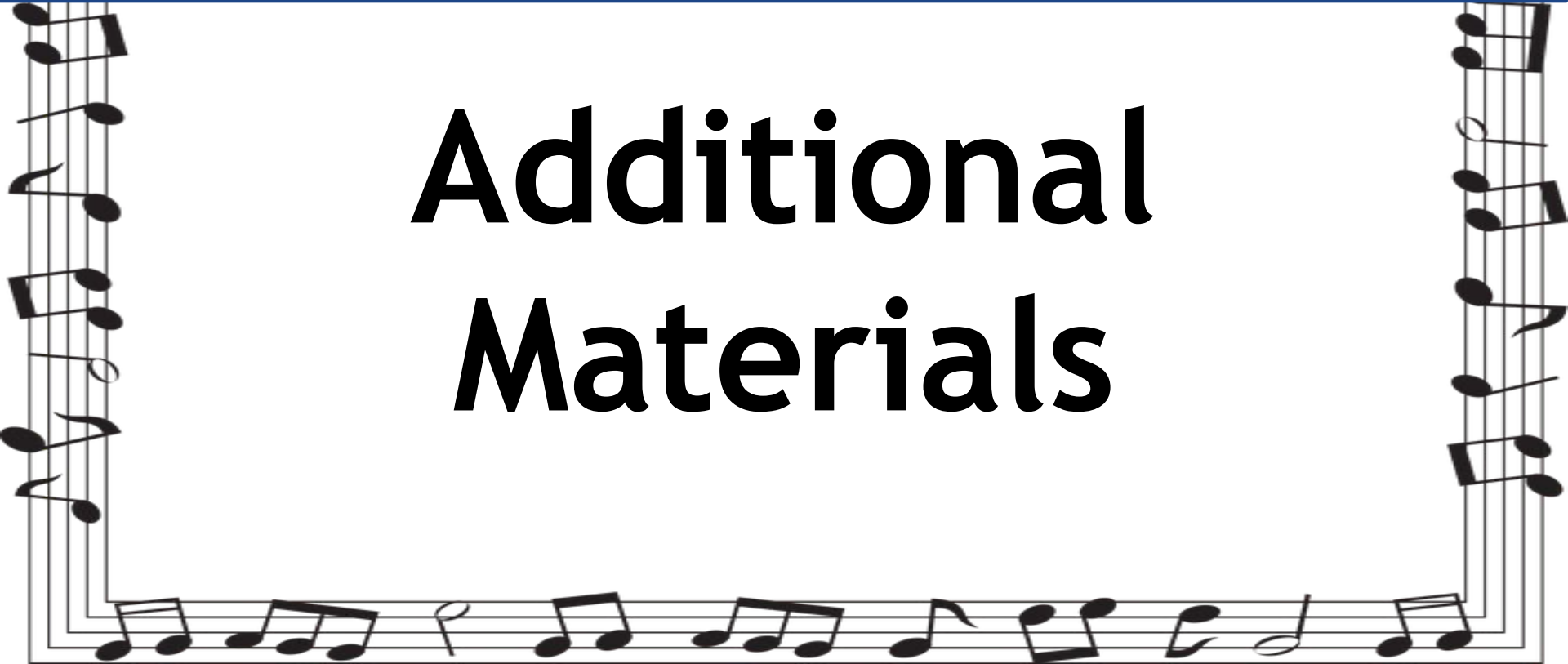
First Position

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 left and right sides feature vertical staves with notes. The bottom staff also contains a sequence of notes.

Additional Practice:

1. View a tutorial

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

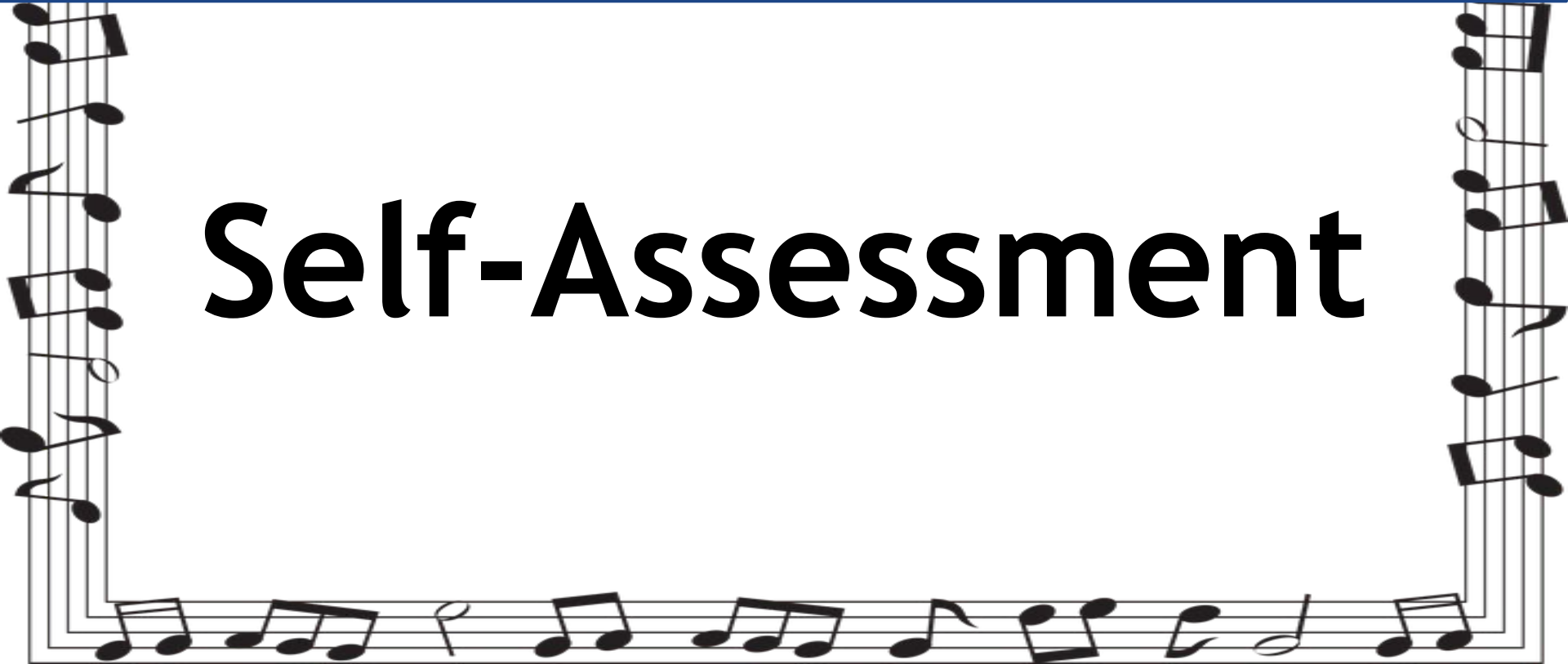
2. Print off staff paper and practice writing a scale

<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.

