

Naturals

The NATURAL sign (♮) before a note cancels a previous sharp or flat. On the keyboard, a note after a natural is *always* a white key.

When speaking of natural notes, the word "natural" comes after the letter name, as in **B natural**. However, in written music, the natural sign comes before the note.



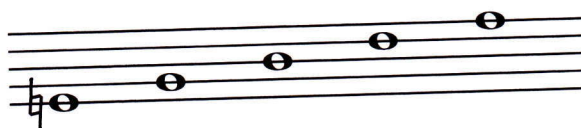
To draw a natural sign, first draw the left half: then draw the right half:



When a natural sign is attached to a line note, the natural is centered on the line.



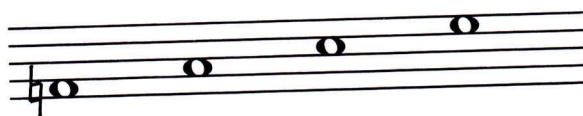
Add natural signs to the line notes below.



When a natural sign is attached to a space note, the natural is centered in the space.



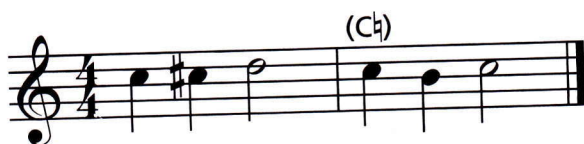
Add natural signs to the space notes below.



When ♭, ♯ or ♮ signs appear within a musical piece, they are called ACCIDENTALS. An accidental sign affects the notes written on the same line or space following it *for that measure only*.

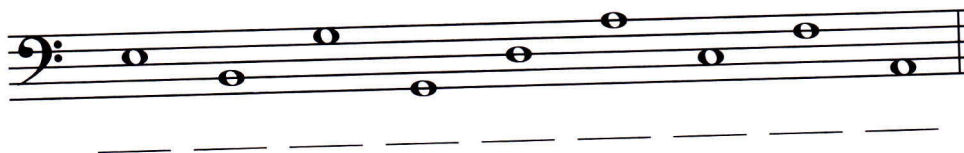


A bar line cancels all accidentals in the previous measure, except if a note is tied across the bar line.



Exercises

- 1** In the example, write natural signs before each note, then name the notes.



- 2** Write the names of the notes on the lines below the staff.

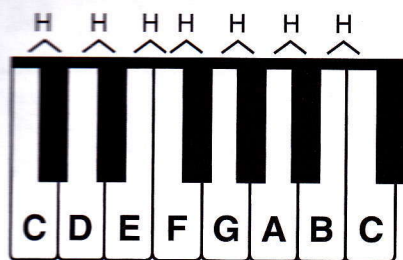
Circus March (from "Entry of the Gladiators")

Julius Fučík (1872–1916)

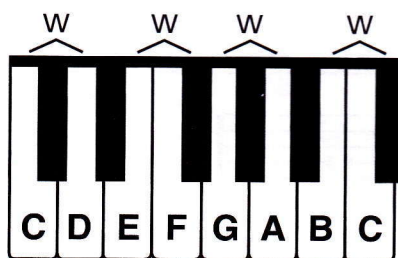


Whole Steps, Half Steps and Enharmonic Notes

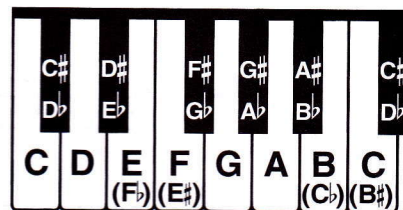
The distance from any key on the keyboard to the very next key above or below, whether black or white, is a **HALF STEP (H)**.



The distance from any key to two keys above or below, is a **WHOLE STEP (W)**.



The key a half step up from C is C#. This key is also a half step down from D, and is also known as Db.



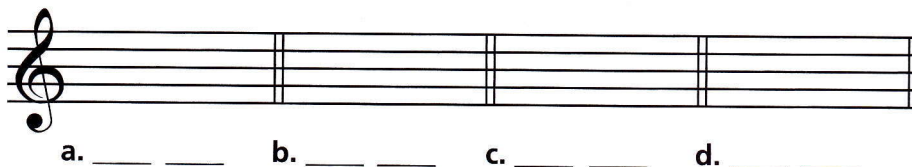
Many notes sound the same but are written differently. These notes are called **ENHARMONIC NOTES**.

Exercises

- 1** The enharmonic note for F \flat is _____. The enharmonic note for E \sharp is _____.
The enharmonic note for C \flat is _____. The enharmonic note for B \sharp is _____.

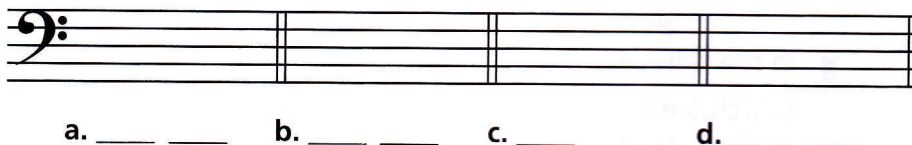
- 2** Write the 2 indicated enharmonic notes on the staff and name the notes in the spaces below:

- one half step above G
- one half step below F
- one half step below B
- one half step above D

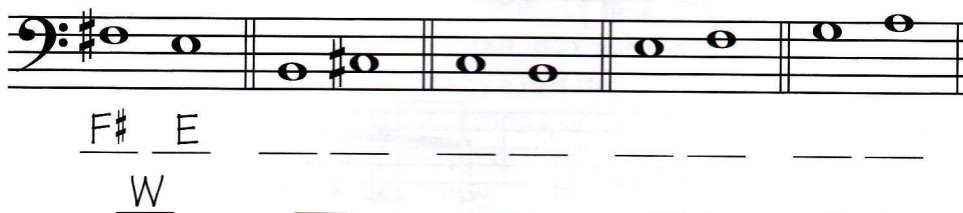


- 3** Write the indicated notes on the staff and the name of the note in the spaces below.
If there are enharmonic notes, write both.

- one whole step above G \sharp
- one whole step below F
- one whole step below A
- one whole step above E

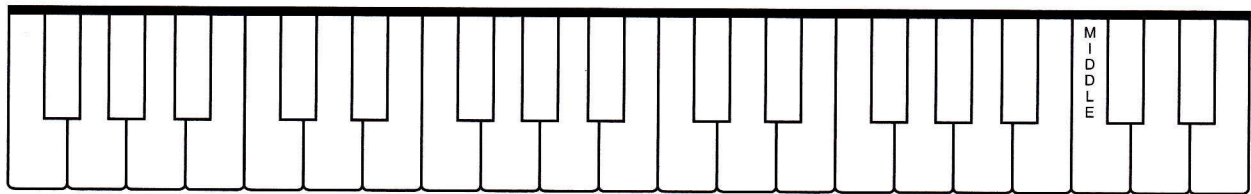
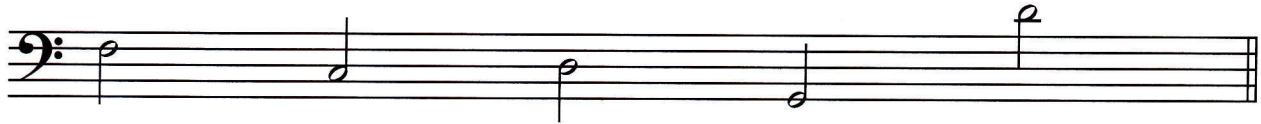


- 4** Name the notes and indicate whether the distance between each pair of notes is a whole step (W) or a half step (H).

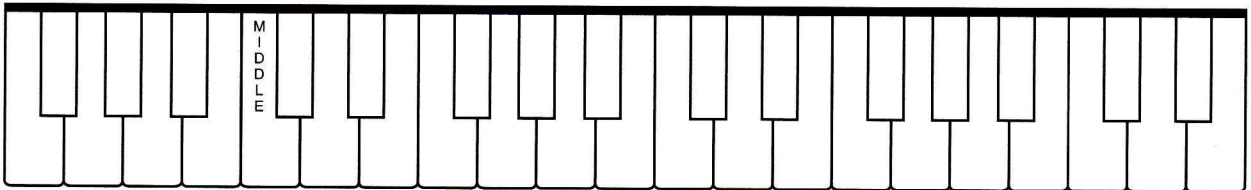
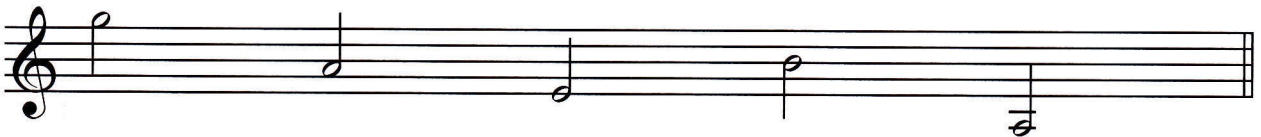


Sharps, Flats and Natural Signs

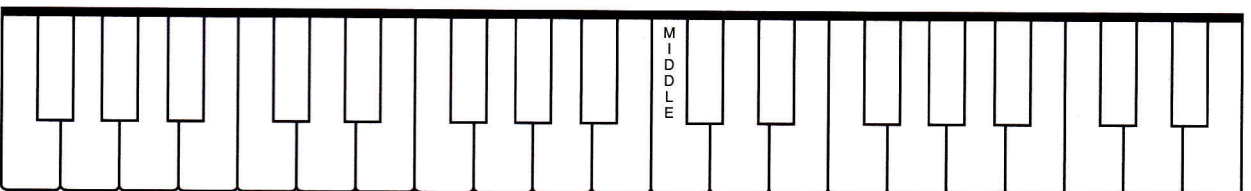
- 1** A sharp sign (circle one) **raises** **lowers** the pitch of a note.
- 2** A flat sign (circle one) **raises** **lowers** the pitch of a note.
- 3** Place a sharp sign to the left of each note, then write the note names on the corresponding piano keys.



- 4** Place a flat sign to the left of each note, then write the note names on the corresponding piano keys.



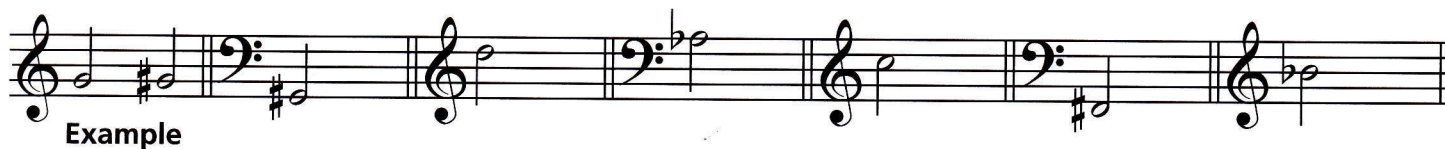
- 5** Place a natural sign to the left of each repeated note, then write the note names on the corresponding piano keys.



Whole Steps and Half Steps

- 1** Write the note that is one half step *above* each given note, using # and ♯ signs as appropriate.

3-18



Example

- 2** Write the note that is one half step *below* each given note, using ♭ and ♮ signs as appropriate.

3-18



- 3** Write the note that is one whole step *above* each given note, using # and ♯ signs as appropriate.

3-18



- 4** Write the note that is one whole step *below* each given note, using ♭, # and ♮ signs as appropriate.

3-18



- 5** Indicate whether each pair of notes is a half or whole step apart by writing "H" or "W" in the space provided.

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