UNIT

7

## Tetrachords and Major Scales

~ ~ ~ ~

-

-

-

-

3

3

9

3

The word TETRA means four. A TETRACHORD is a series of four notes having a pattern of whole step, whole step, half step. The four notes of a tetrachord must be in alphabetical order.



Write whether the distance between each note is a whole step (W) or half step (H).



## The Flat Scales — F and B Major

Using the same pattern for tetrachords, you can build the flat scale of F major with the F and C tetrachords. C is the 1st tetrachord of the C major scale.



The B must be lowered to  $B_{\flat}$  to create a half step. A  $B_{\flat}$  is used instead of  $A_{\pm}^{\sharp}$  to stay in alphabetical order.

Using the same pattern for tetrachords, you can build the flat scale of  $B_{P}$  major with the  $B_{P}$  and F tetrachords. F is the 1st tetrachord of the F major scale.



#### Important!

- The 4th scale degree of the C major scale (F) is the 1st scale degree of the F major scale.
- The 4th scale degree of the F major scale (B) is the 1st scale degree of the B major scale. Starting with the C major scale, the 4th scale degree is always the 1st scale degree (keynote) of the following flat scale. This pattern continues through all the major flat scales.

## Exercises -

Write tetrachords starting on the following notes, then add the notes names below the staff. The notes must be in alphabetical order. Remember to include the necessary accidentals. Write where the whole and half steps occur above the staff.



- 2 Write an F major scale. Add the scale degrees and indicate where the whole and half steps occur.
- Write a B<sup>J</sup> major scale. Add the scale degrees and indicate where the whole and half steps occur.



### UNIT 7 LESSON 27

# The Sharp Scales — G and D Major -

Using the same pattern for tetrachords of whole step, whole step, half step, you can build the sharp scale of G major with the G and D tetrachords. G is the 2nd tetrachord of the C major scale.



The F must be raised to F to create a whole step. An F is used instead of G to stay in alphabetical order.

Using the same pattern for tetrachords, you can build the sharp scale of D major with the D and A tetrachords. D is the 2nd tetrachord of the G major scale.



The C must be raised to C# to create a whole step. A C# is used instead of D<sup>1</sup> to stay in alphabetical order.

#### Important!

• The 2nd tetrachord of the C major scale is the 1st tetrachord of the G major scale.

Keynote

• The 2nd tetrachord of the G major scale is the 1st tetrachord of the D major scale. Starting with the C major scale, the 2nd tetrachord is always the 1st tetrachord of the following sharp scale. This overlapping pattern continues through all the major sharp scales.

## Exercises -

1 Write tetrachords starting on the following notes, then add the note names below the staff. The notes must be in alphabetical order. Remember to include the necessary accidentals. Write where the whole and half steps occur above the staff.



- 2 Write a G major scale. Add the scale degrees and indicate where the whole and half steps occur.
- Write a D major scale. Add the scale degrees and indicate where the whole and half steps occur.

):		
	5	
Keynote		

Use after comp Essentials	oleting page 44 of Alfred's s of Music Theory, Book 2.
nd Half Steps	
he very next key above or below	v it, 4-8
wo keys above	
	4-8
notes. Use accidentals as needed	l.*
<b>b.</b> the 1st tetrachord of the C m	najor scale
0	
6	
€)	
<b>d.</b> the 2nd tetrachord of the G	major scale
0	
6	
€ a	
<b>f.</b> the 2nd tetrachord of the D	major scale
l	
<b>9</b> :	4-24
}	
	C #
ords. CDEFGAB	
<b>k</b> . A whole step above B is	•
<b>I</b> A whole step above E is	
<b>m</b> A whole step above A is	
n A whole step below F is	
• A whole step below E is _	
<b>b.</b> A whole step below (# is _	
<b>p.</b> A whole step below CF is _	. 3–60
<b>q.</b> A whole step above C is	·
r. A whole step above G Is_	
s. A whole step below D is_	100
t. A whole step below A is	. 100

E 1
<b>D</b> I







# Tetrachords (C, G and D), Whole and Half S

The distance from any key on the keyboard to the very next k 1

whether black or white, is a \_\_\_\_\_\_

The distance from any key on the keyboard to two keys abov 2

or below it is a \_\_\_\_\_

3

Write the following tetrachords using quarter notes. Use acc

a. the 1st tetrachord of the G major scale



c. the 2nd tetrachord of the C major scale

e. the 1st tetrachord of the D major scale



\*Correct student answers may vary.

Write the letter name of the note for each 4 example below, using the keyboard as a guide. Use the next note name (up or down) in alphabetical order. This example uses all the whole and half steps in the C, G and D tetrachords.

- a. A half step above E is \_\_\_\_\_.
- **b.** A half step below D is \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. A half step below F is \_\_\_\_\_.
- **d.** A half step above B is \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. A half step above F# is \_\_\_\_\_.
- f. A half step below C is \_\_\_\_\_.
- **g.** A half step below G is \_\_\_\_\_.
- **h.** A half step above C# is\_\_\_\_\_.
- i. A whole step above D is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A whole step below B is \_\_\_\_\_.











- o. A whole
- **p.** A whole
- q. A whole
- r. A whole
- s. A whole
- t. A whole



-

-