

Bassoon

Major and Natural Minor Scales

Below we see a MAJOR SCALE labeled with solfege syllables (Do, Re, Mi). Notice that a MAJOR SCALE starts and ends on DO. We would say that DO is the TONIC, or RESTING TONE of this scale. Practice playing and singing this scale.

♩ = 105

Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do

We can create a different sound if we keep the same notes, but choose a different solfege syllable as our testing tone. Below, we have kept the same notes, but now we are starting and ending our scale on LA. Practice playing and singing this scale.

La Ti Do Re Mi Fa So La

A scale that starts and ends on LA is called a NATURAL MINOR SCALE. Below, we will review our 12 Major scales followed by their related Natural Minor Scale.

As you practice these scales, notice that the MAJOR SCALE (right side) and NATURAL MINOR SCALE (left side) use the same exact key signature, they just start and end on a different note in the scale. Because they share the same key signature, we call them RELATED.

MAJOR SCALE

NATURAL MINOR SCALE

1

B \flat G

Do La

2

E \flat C

Do La

3

A \flat F

Do La

Major and Natural Minor Scales, p. 2

2

MAJOR SCALE

NATURAL MINOR SCALE

4

D^b B^b

Do La

Detailed description: This block contains the first two scales. Scale 4 is a major scale starting on D-flat (Do) and a natural minor scale starting on B-flat (La). Both are written in bass clef with a key signature of two flats. The notation includes a box with the number 4, the key signature symbols D^b and B^b , and the syllables 'Do' and 'La' under the respective starting notes.

5

G^b E^b

Do La

Detailed description: This block contains scales 5 and 6. Scale 5 is a major scale starting on G-flat (Do) and a natural minor scale starting on E-flat (La). Both are written in bass clef with a key signature of three flats. The notation includes a box with the number 5, the key signature symbols G^b and E^b , and the syllables 'Do' and 'La' under the respective starting notes.

6

B G^\sharp

Do La

Detailed description: This block contains scales 7 and 8. Scale 6 is a major scale starting on B (Do) and a natural minor scale starting on G-sharp (La). Both are written in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. The notation includes a box with the number 6, the key signature symbols B and G^\sharp , and the syllables 'Do' and 'La' under the respective starting notes.

7

E C^\sharp

Do La

Detailed description: This block contains scales 9 and 10. Scale 7 is a major scale starting on E (Do) and a natural minor scale starting on C-sharp (La). Both are written in bass clef with a key signature of three sharps. The notation includes a box with the number 7, the key signature symbols E and C^\sharp , and the syllables 'Do' and 'La' under the respective starting notes.

8

A F^\sharp

Do La

Detailed description: This block contains scale 11. Scale 8 is a major scale starting on A (Do) and a natural minor scale starting on F-sharp (La). Both are written in bass clef with a key signature of four sharps. The notation includes a box with the number 8, the key signature symbols A and F^\sharp , and the syllables 'Do' and 'La' under the respective starting notes.

9

D B

Do La

Detailed description: This block contains scale 12. Scale 9 is a major scale starting on D (Do) and a natural minor scale starting on B (La). Both are written in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. The notation includes a box with the number 9, the key signature symbols D and B , and the syllables 'Do' and 'La' under the respective starting notes.

Major and Natural Minor Scales, p. 3

MAJOR SCALE

NATURAL MINOR SCALE

G

E

10

Do La

This musical staff shows two scales in bass clef. The first scale is G major, starting on G (labeled 'Do') and ascending to G. The second scale is E natural minor, starting on E (labeled 'La') and ascending to E. Both scales are written in a single line of music with a double bar line separating the two.

C

A

11

Do La

This musical staff shows two scales in bass clef. The first scale is C major, starting on C (labeled 'Do') and ascending to C. The second scale is A natural minor, starting on A (labeled 'La') and ascending to A. Both scales are written in a single line of music with a double bar line separating the two.

F

D

12

Do La

This musical staff shows two scales in bass clef. The first scale is F major, starting on F (labeled 'Do') and ascending to F. The second scale is D natural minor, starting on D (labeled 'La') and ascending to D. Both scales are written in a single line of music with a double bar line separating the two.