

<- PREVIOUS SLIDE

<<- FIRST SLIDE

# EAR TRAINING - SCALES

NEXT SLIDE ->

LAST SLIDE->>

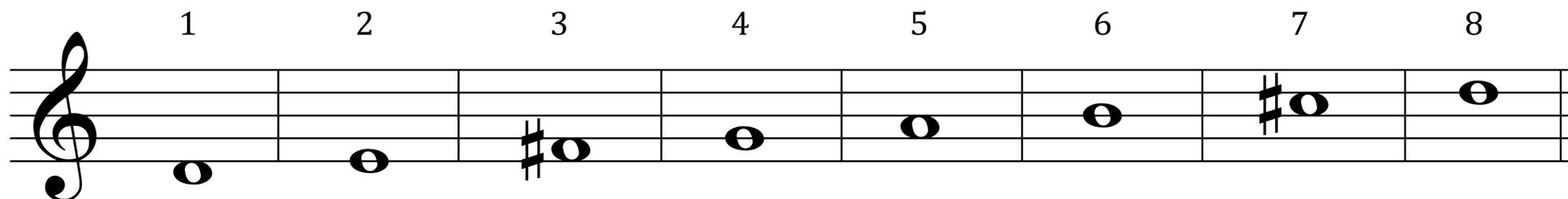
# EAR TRAINING - SCALES

In this presentation, we will learn how to identify scales aurally.  
It is presumed you already know how to notate major and minor scales.

# MAJOR SCALE

Major scales have half steps between scale degrees 3-4 and 7-8.  
When trying to identify major scales aurally, listen for the third scale degree (2 whole steps above tonic) and the leading tone to the tonic (scale degrees 7-8).

Below is a D major scale.  
Listen to the scale a few times to know what it sounds like.



# NATURAL MINOR SCALE

Natural Minor scales differ from major scales in that scale degrees 3, 6, and 7 are lowered a half step.

The natural minor scale will also have no half step between scale degrees 7 and 8.

This is the only major or minor scale with no leading tone.

Listen to these two scales a few times to hear the difference.



Major scale:

1            2            3            4            5            6            7            8



Natural minor scale:



Whole step

# HARMONIC MINOR SCALE

Harmonic minor scales are the same as a natural minor scale but have a raised 7<sup>th</sup> scale degree.

The raised seventh scale degree will create a half step between scale degree 7-8, making scale degree 7 a leading tone. It will also create a funny sounding interval (a whole + half step) between scale degrees 6 and 7.

Listen to these two scales a few times to hear the difference.

1            2            3            4            5            6            7            8

Natural minor scale:

Harmonic minor scale

Whole + Half step

Half step



# MELODIC MINOR SCALE

Melodic minor scales were created to “fix” the strange sound of the whole+half step interval that occurs in the harmonic minor scale. The melodic minor differs from the harmonic minor in that the scale degree 6 is raised (as well as the raised scale degree 7).

Therefore, the bottom part of the scale will sound minor, but the top part of the scale will sound like a major scale since they contain the same whole and half step content as those scales.

Listen to these two scales a few times to hear the difference.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Harmonic minor scale

Melodic minor scale

Minor scale - WHW

Major scale - WWH



# EAR TRAINING – SCALES: REVIEW

Now listen to the different types of scales a few times:



Major scale



Harmonic minor scale



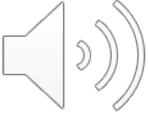
Natural minor



Melodic minor scale



Let's practice aurally identifying major and minor scales.  
 These examples use sounds of different instruments. Don't let that startle you. Just listen the the scale.  
 Listen to the scale. Then click to see the correct answer.

Listen	Scale type
 	Harmonic minor
 	Major
 	Harmonic minor

Listen	Scale type
 	Natural minor
 	Melodic minor
 	Major

<- PREVIOUS SLIDE

<<- FIRST SLIDE

# EAR TRAINING – SCALES: REVIEW

NEXT SLIDE ->

LAST SLIDE->>

Select one of the following to review:

[Major scale](#)

[Natural Minor scale](#)

[Harmonic Minor scale](#)

[Melodic minor scale](#)

[Review](#)

[Practice](#)