

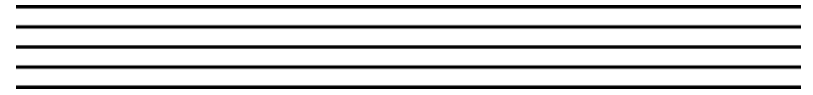
Music Reading 101

The background is a vibrant blue gradient, transitioning from a darker shade on the left to a lighter, almost white shade on the right. Overlaid on this are several large, semi-transparent geometric shapes, primarily triangles, that create a sense of depth and movement. Scattered throughout the composition are numerous small, dark blue arrows, all pointing towards the right, which reinforces the forward motion and progression of the design.

Staff

- 5 lines
- Notes in alphabetical order ABCDEFG**A**BCDEFG**A**BCDEFG
- Low notes on the bottom
- High notes on the top

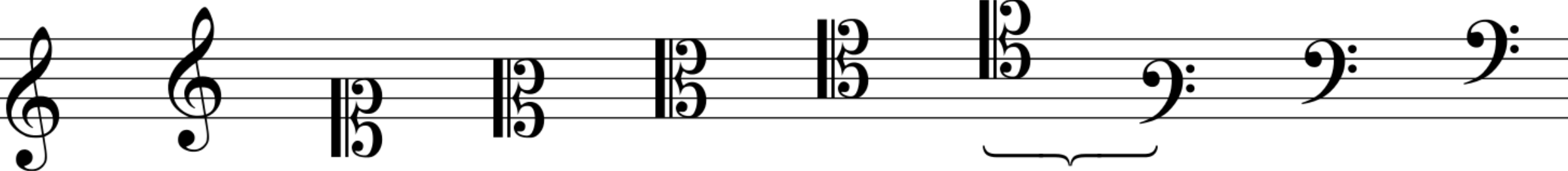
Staff



Clef

- The Clef gives the staff meaning.
- Clefs indicate where a certain note is located.

Clef



French violin

Treble

Soprano

Mezzo-soprano

Alto

Tenor

Baritone

Bass

Subbass



Treble



Bass



Alto



Tenor

Only 4 are commonly used...



You will only
learn two of
them!



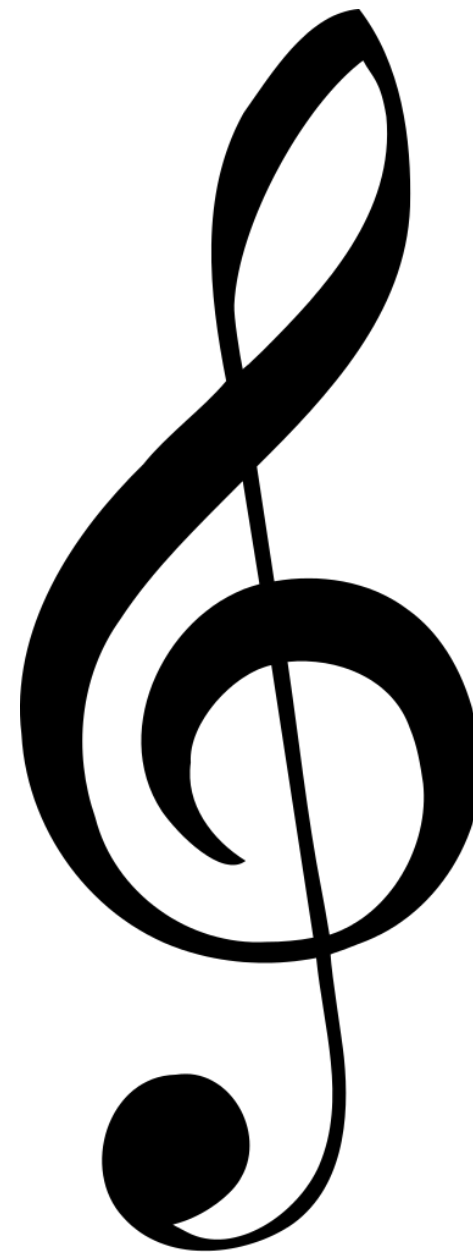
Treble



Bass



G-Clef AKA Treble Clef



F-Clef *AKA* Bass Clef



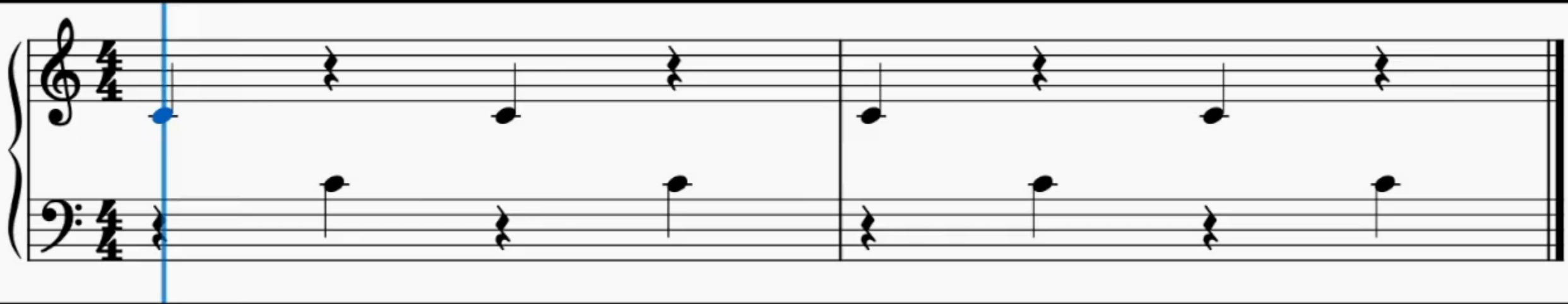
The Grand Staff

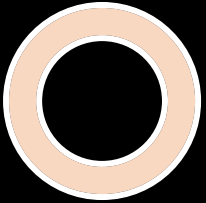


The Grand Staff

- The grand staff is a combination of the treble and bass clef.
- The meet in the middle at a note called middle C

MIDDLE C





Musical Alphabet

- A B C D E F G... then A B C D E F G again
- A comes after G and the alphabet repeats

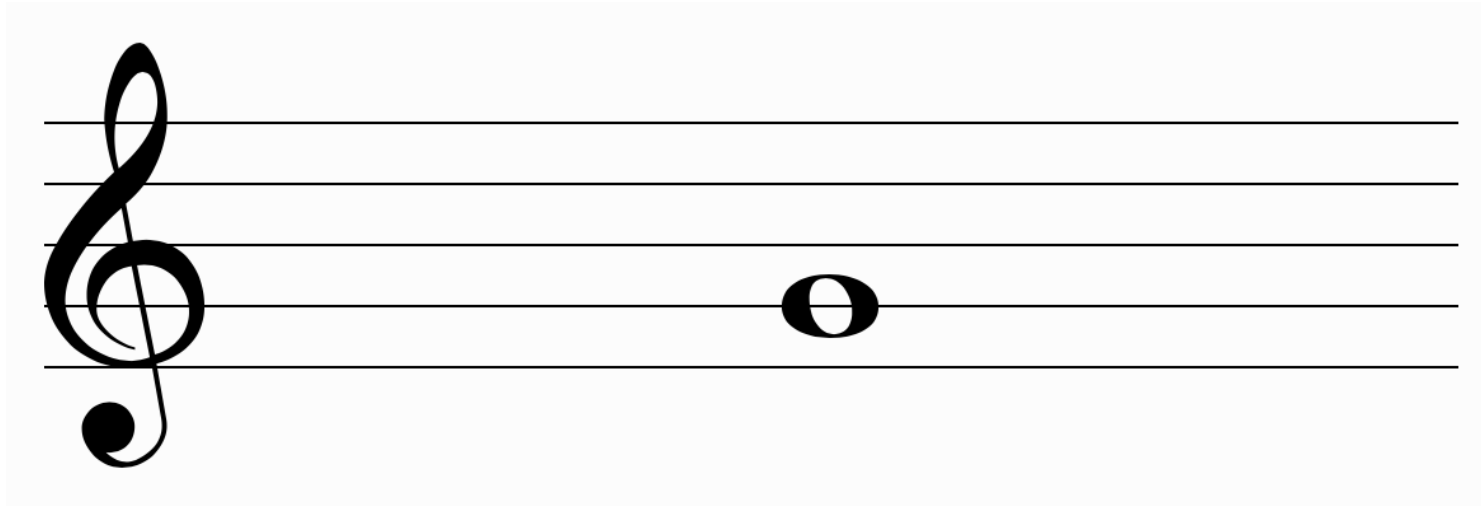




Now Practice

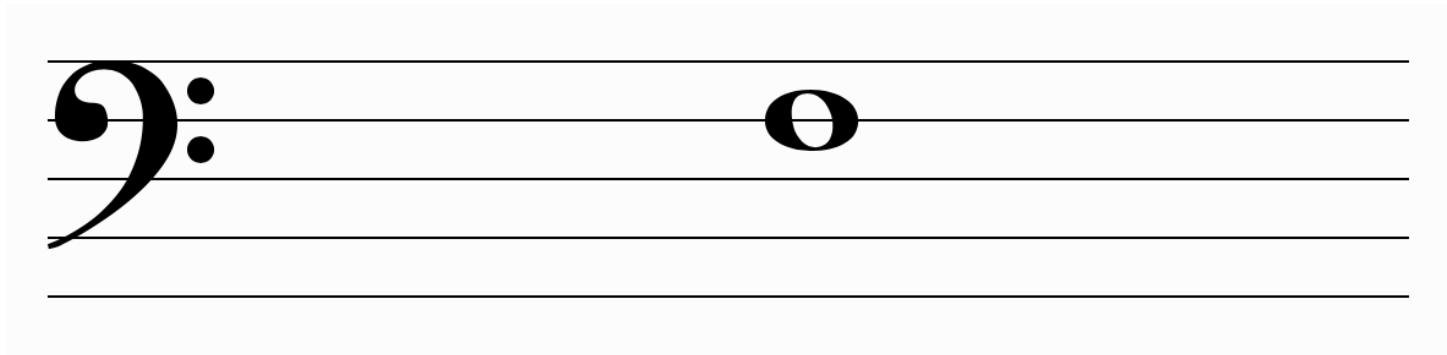
Let's start with the G clef (Treble Clef)

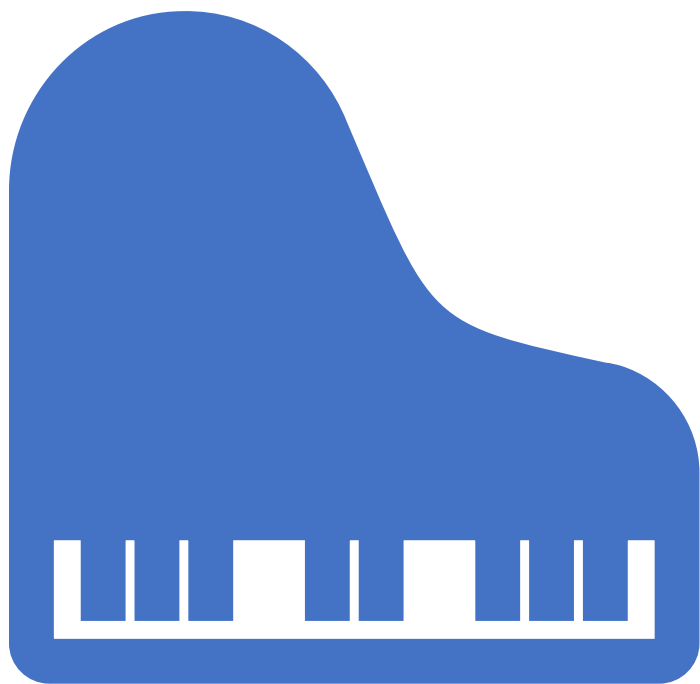
- The G clef shows where the note named G is located on the staff.
- Go practice... tinyurl.com/ydybyuyb
- Try for a perfect score TWICE!



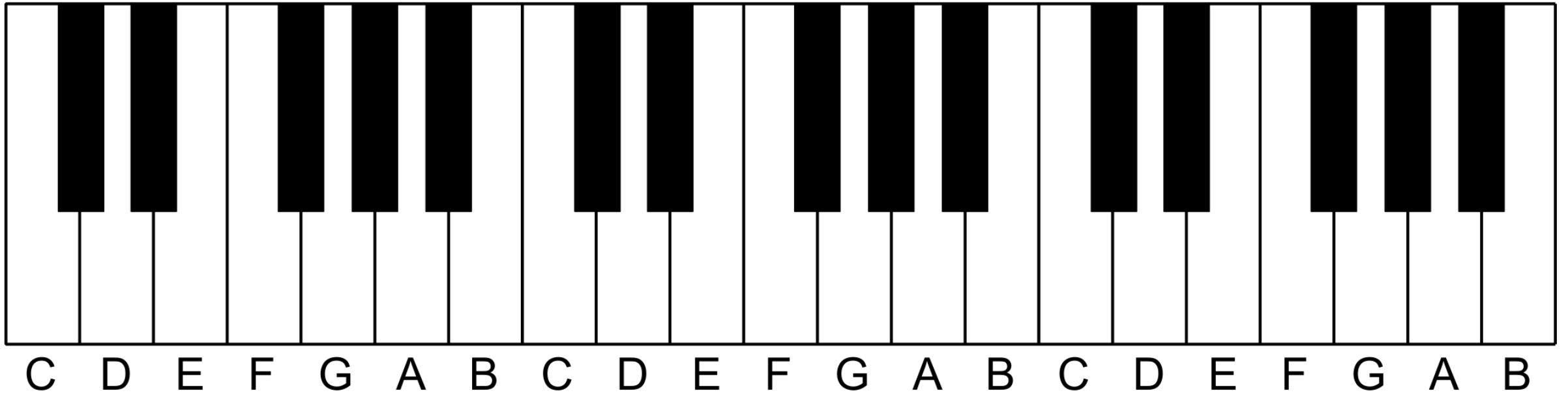
Now for the F clef (Bass Clef)

- The F clef shows where the note named F is located on the staff.
- Go practice... tinyurl.com/ybl55ask
- Try for a perfect score TWICE!



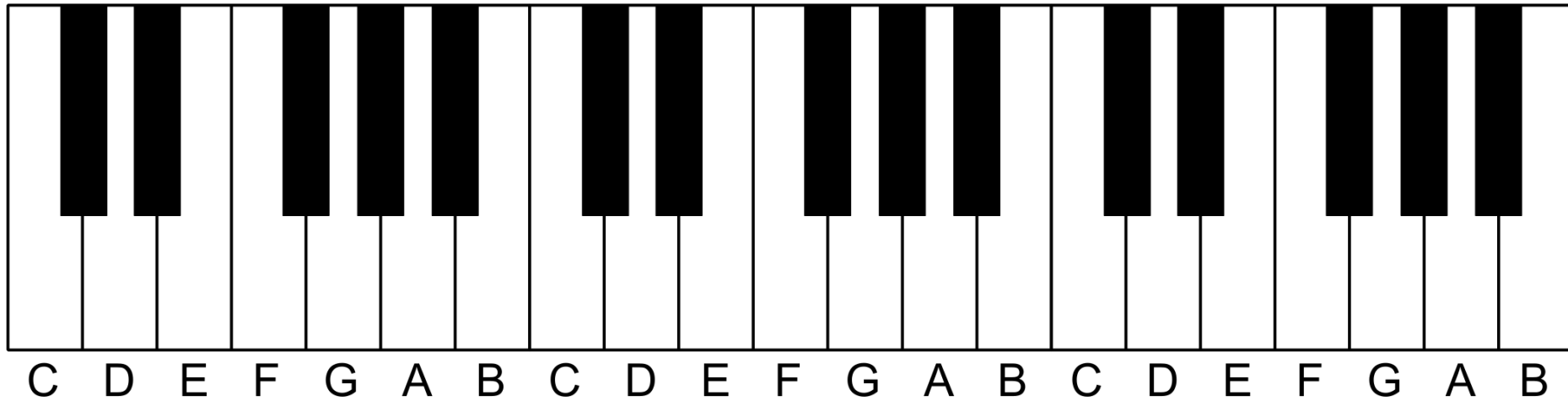


Piano Keyboard



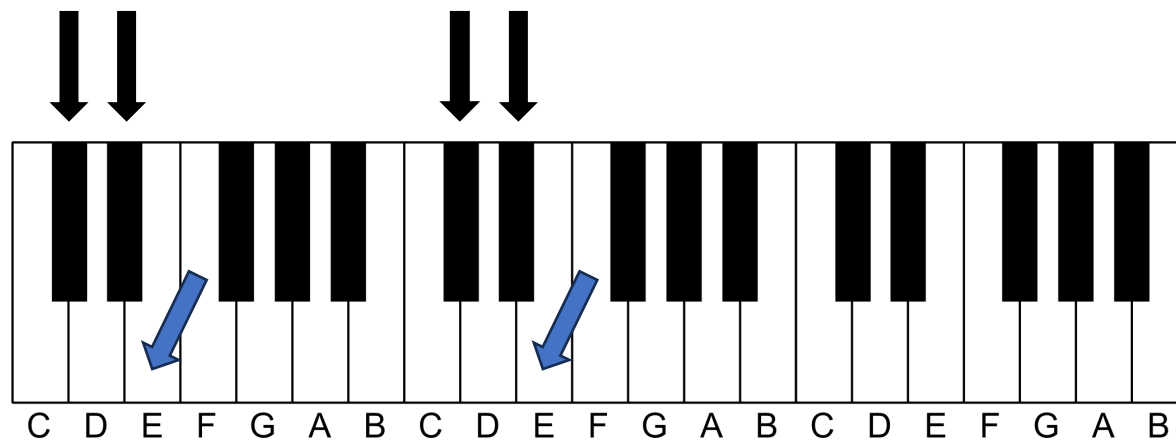
Black and white keys

The piano has a consistent arrangement of white and black keys.



Black and white keys

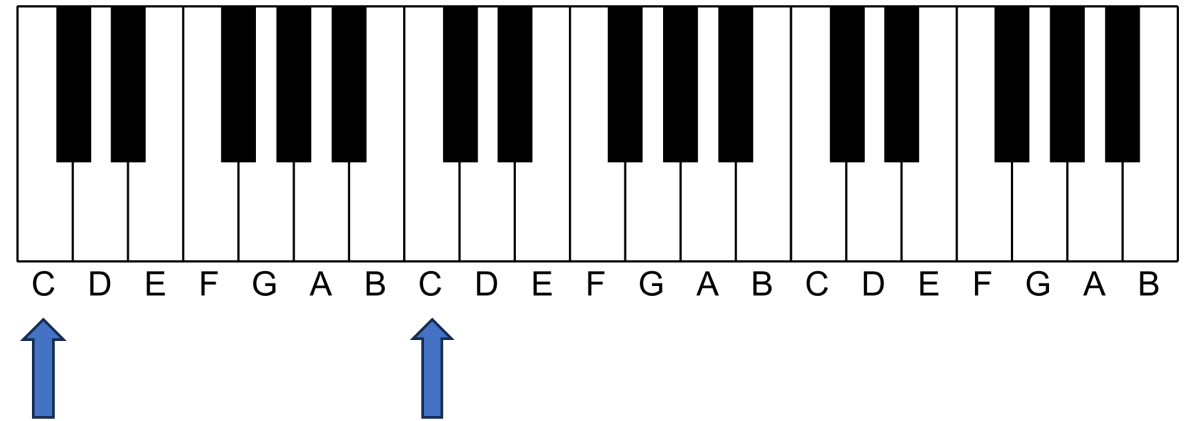
The black keys come in groups of two or three.



The note E is always next
to the group of two black
keys

Why are there so many
keys, but only 7 note
names?

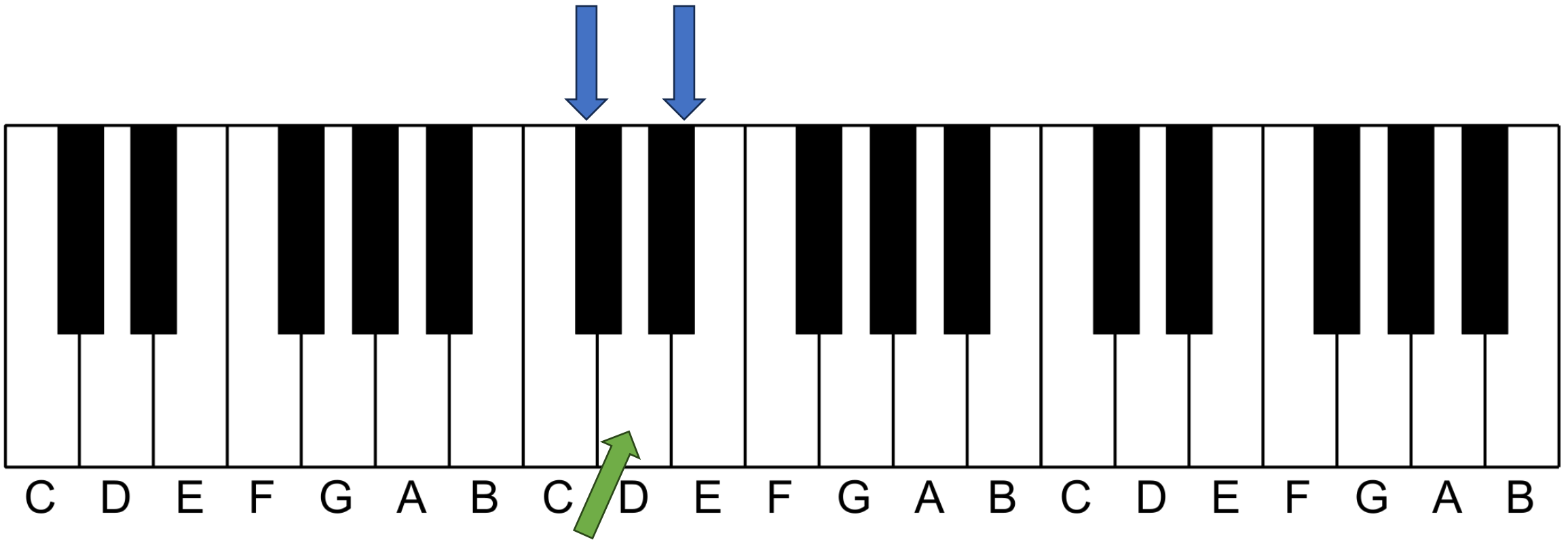
Octaves

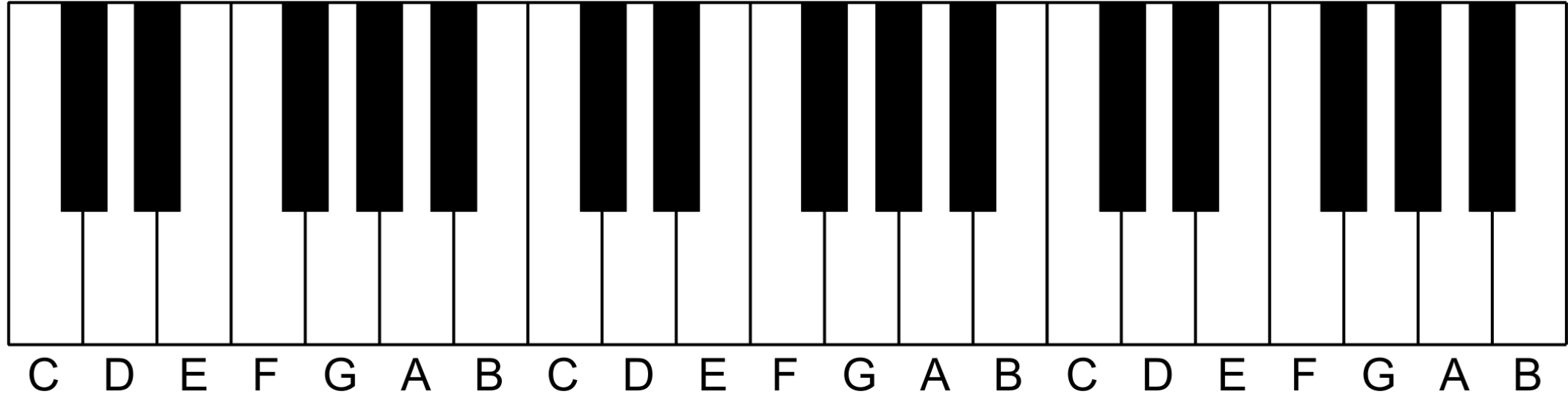


The note C on the left is one
octave below the next C.

Find the note D

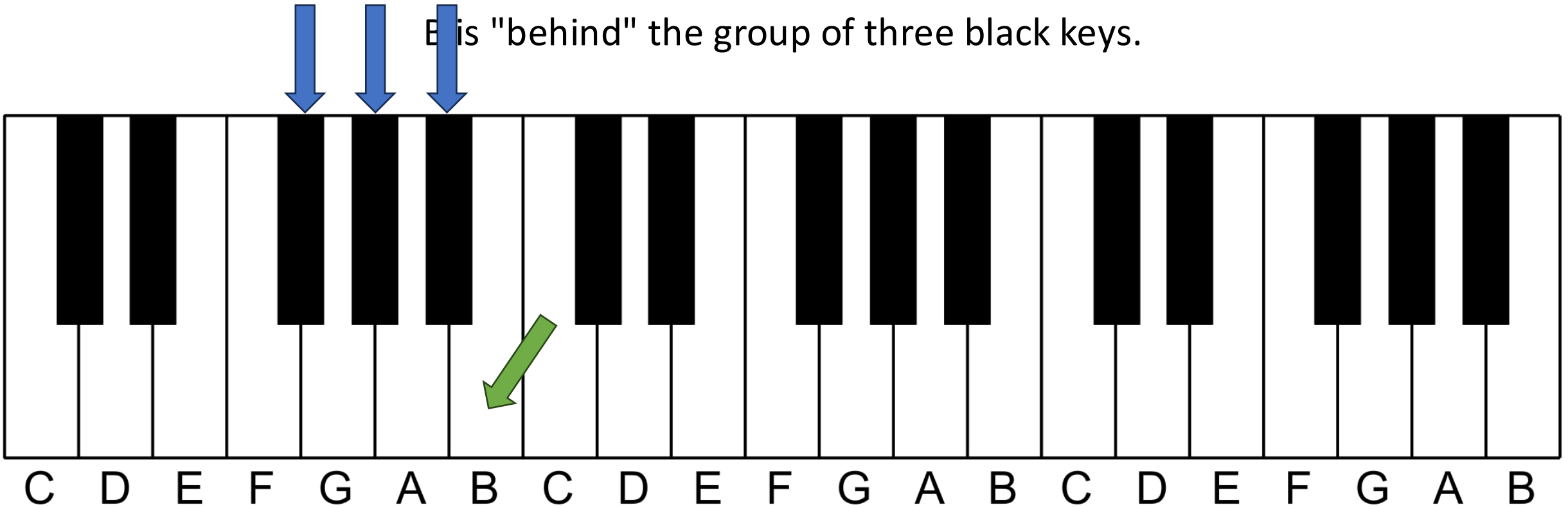
D is in "duh" middle of the pair of black keys.





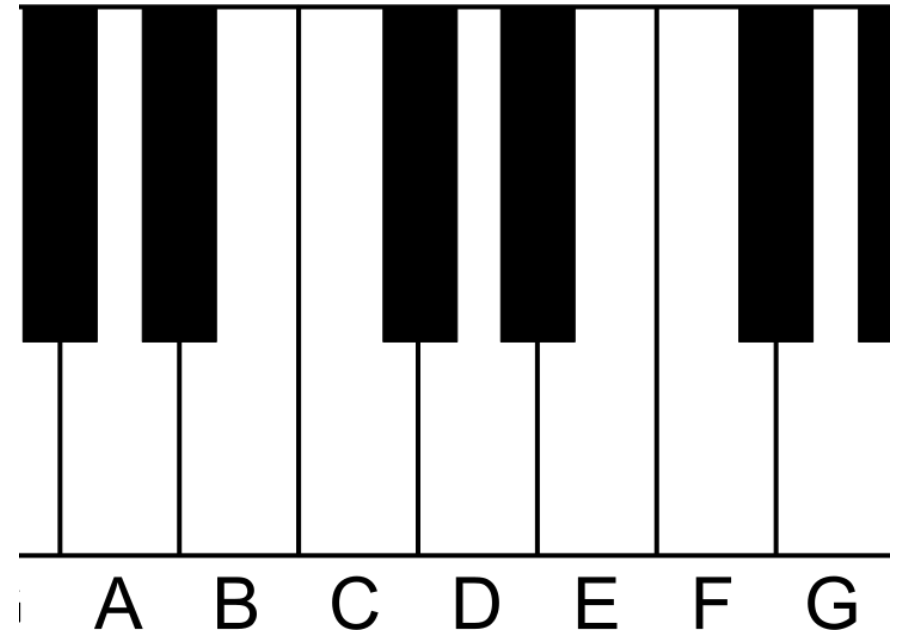
Find the note B

B is "behind" the group of three black keys.

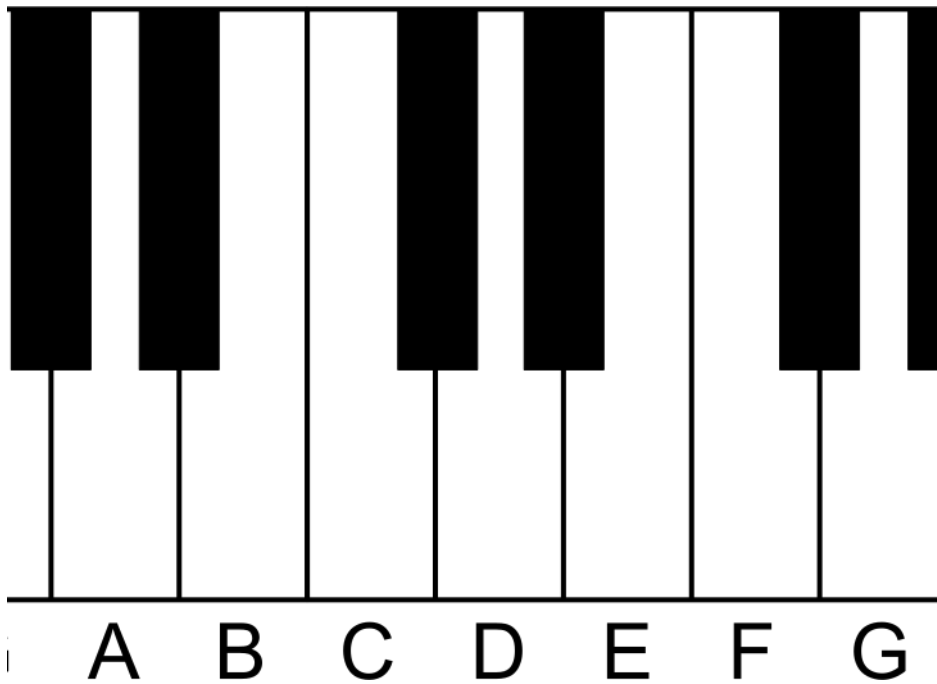


Whole-steps & half-steps

- Two notes that are next to each other with no notes in between are a half-step apart.
- B & C are a half-step apart
- C & D are NOT

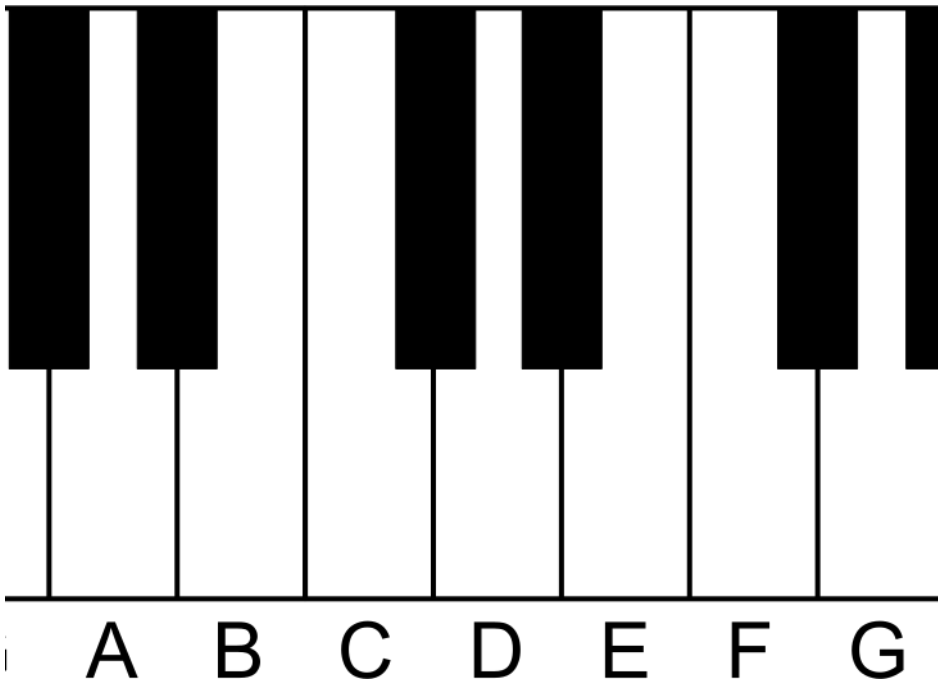


Whole-steps & half-steps



- Two notes that are next to each other with a single note in between are a whole-step apart.
- C & D are a half-step apart
- E & F are NOT

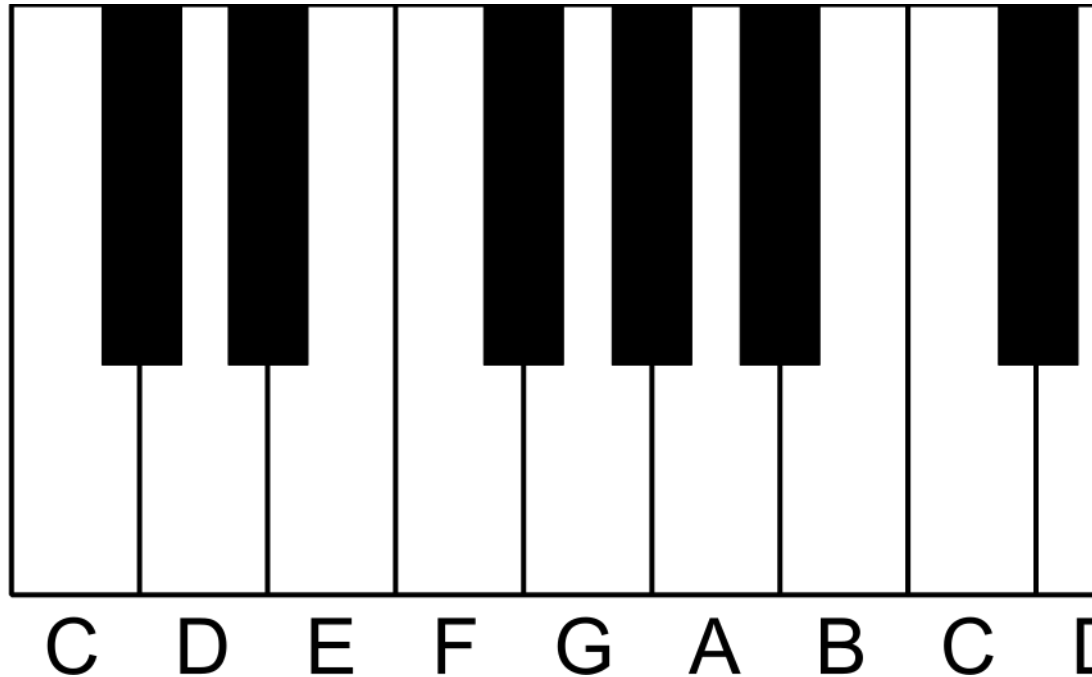
Scales



- Scales are a simple musical idea.
- Pick a few notes and play them in order.
- For example, play the notes A B C D E and then play them backwards.



C Major Scale



- The C major scale uses 7 different notes: A B C D E F G.
- Play them in the order C D E F G A B
- Usually play an extra C at the end and then play it all backwards.

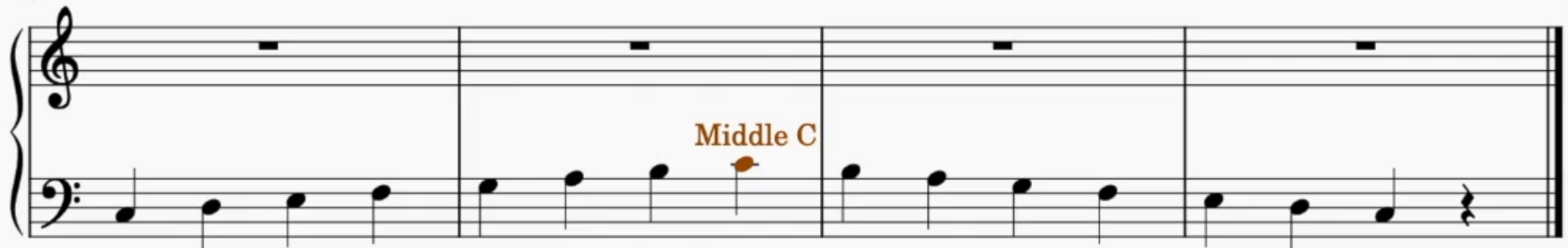


C Major Scale

C major scale starting on middle C

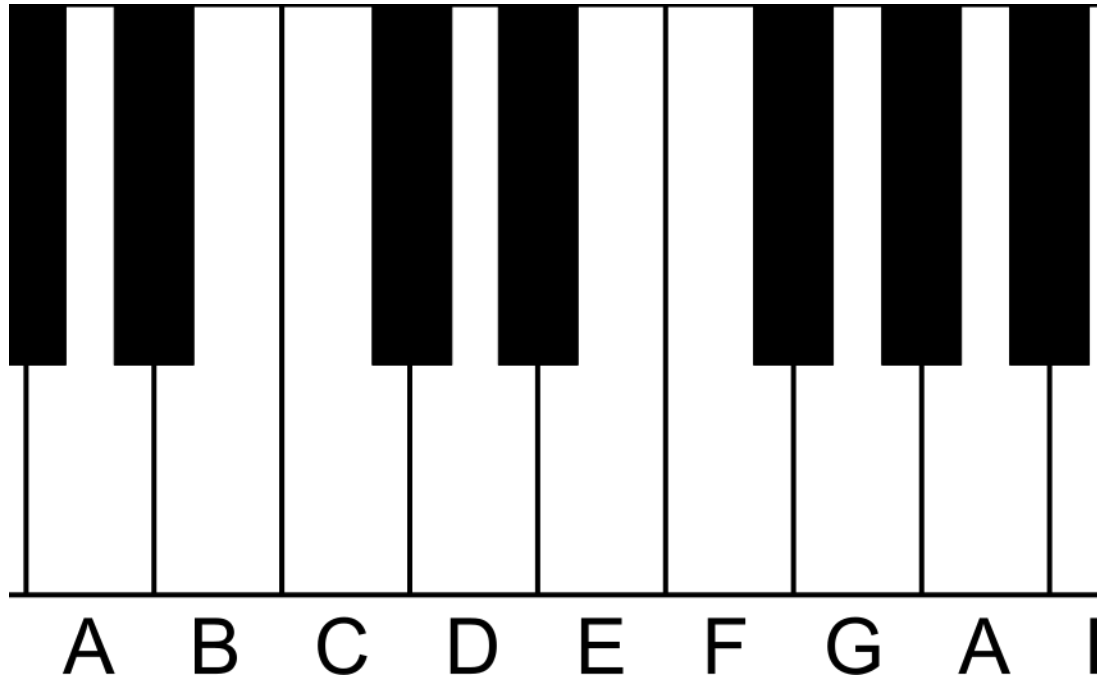


5



C major scale starting an octave below middle C

A Minor Scale



- The A minor scale uses 7 different notes: A B C D E F G.
- Play them in the order A B C D E F G
- Usually play an extra A at the end and then play it all backwards.



You need to practice...

- Reading treble clef
- Reading bass clef
- Identifying notes on the piano keyboard



Click the icons to practice or try a challenge

Backup Links for the Exercises

- <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/brwryyyynybyfy>
- <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/note/nrwyryyyynybyfy>
- <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keyboard/y9dyyyynbyfy>
- <https://www.musictheory.net/exercises/keyboard-reverse/drwrwyryybnykyyyy>