

Melody & Harmony

MODULATION/CHANGE OF KEY

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/modulation>
<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/change-of-key>

RELATIVE MAJOR/ MINOR

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/relative-major>
<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/relative-minor>

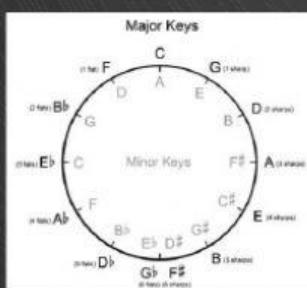
Each major key has a relative minor which shares the same key signature. E.g. If we picked a major key, such as C Major, to find its relative minor key we would move down three semitones, which would take us to A minor. When music changes key it is called MODULATION

Major to Relative minor:

- *Under the Board Walk* (The Drifters) – music starts in G major but modulates to relative minor (E minor) in the chorus
- *Go Your Own Way* (Fleetwood Mac) goes from F to Dm

Minor to relative major

- *One* (U2) – Verse is in Am and chorus is in C major (relative major)
- *Girl* (Beatles) – Verse in Em, chorus is in G (relative major)



This is the 'Circle of 5ths', and it shows each major key with its relative minor and their shared key signature

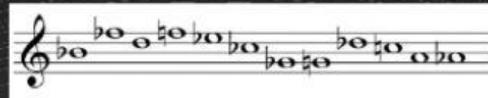
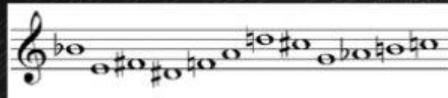
INTERVAL

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w0t61KLbyA&ab_channel=InUnisonMusicLessons
The distance in pitch between two notes, e.g. 'C' - 'F' is a 4th. The interval is counted from the lower pitch to the upper pitch inclusive,

Melody/harmony	
Higher	interval inversion relative major relative minor
National 5	atonal cluster inverted pedal chromatic whole tone scale glissando modulation countermelody pitch bend tone/semitone
National 4	major/minor (tonality) broken chord or arpeggio change of key pedal scale octave vamp scat singing
National 3	ascending descending step (stepwise) leap (leaping) repetition sequence improvisation chord chord change

INVERSION

1. When a musical shape is mirrored



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IAZY7JdSHU&ab_channel=ANDREWHUANG

2. An inverted chord is formed when a note other than the root is in the bass.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Us1bB2F7IU&ab_channel=PianoPig

C C/E C/G
Root 1st inv. 2nd inv.

Melody/harmony

interval
inversion
relative major
relative minor

atonal
cluster
inverted pedal
chromatic
whole tone scale
glissando
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countermelody
pitch bend
tone/semitone

major/minor
(tonality)
broken chord or
arpeggio
change of key
pedal
scale
octave
vamp
scat singing

ascending
descending
step (stepwise)
leap (leaping)
repetition
sequence
improvisation
chord
chord change

Higher

National 5

National 4

National 3

Atonal

Atonal music has no feeling of key, major or minor. It is very dissonant, and it will lack a 'nice' melody and accompaniment. Atonal music is a feature of some 20th-century music

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/atonal>

e.g. Webern – Five movements for string quartet
Schoenberg Piano Concerto

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interval
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Cluster

A term used to describe a group of notes, which clash, played together.

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/cluster>

e.g. Ornstein – Wild men's Dance

Inverted pedal/ pedal

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/pedal>

- **PEDAL**, is short for 'PEDAL POINT. It is a note which is held on or is repeated continuously in the BASS while the harmony changes above

e.g. opening of Also Sprach Zarathustra

- An **INVERTED PEDAL** is a pedal (ie a note that is held on or sounded continuously in the TOP PART instead of the bass

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/inverted-pedal>

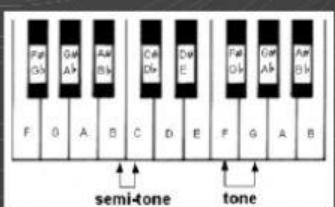
e.g. The Wizard and I (Wicked)

e.g. With or Without You (U2)

Tone/ semitone

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/tone>

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/semitone>



National 3
ascending
descending
step (stepwise)
leap (leaping)
repetition
sequence
improvisation
chord
chord change

Chromatic

Notes which move by the interval of a semitone.

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/chromatic>

e.g. Flight of the Bumblebee



Whole tone scale

A scale containing no semitones but built entirely on whole tones. Debussy used the whole-tone scale in some of his pieces which were influenced by Impressionism.

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/whole-tone-scale-2>

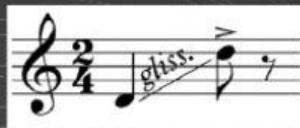
e.g. Debussy *Voiles*

Stevie Wonder – intro to *You are the sunshine of my life*

Glissando

Sliding from one note to another, taking in all the notes in between where possible. Some instruments can play a very smooth glissando, e.g. violin, harp or trombone.

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/glissando>



Countermelody

A melody played against the main melody.

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/countermelody>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=278BPXmsDyk&ab_channel=davekinzer

Vamp

A rhythmic accompaniment with a bass note played on the beat and a chord off the beat. Usually played on piano or guitar.

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/vamp>

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Sequence

A melodic phrase which is immediately repeated at a higher or lower pitch

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/sequence>

e.g. *Ding Dong merrily – Gloria*



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Scat singing

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/scat-singing>

Scale/ arpeggio/ broken chord

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/scale>

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/arpeggio>

<https://mymusiconline.co.uk/broken-chord>

Improvisation

The performer makes up music during the actual performance. They don't have the melody written down to help, although there may be suggested chords as a guide. Improvisation is an important feature of jazz and popular music.

Quizzes – Melody & Harmony

- Quiz - Melody

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n5_melody_quiz.htm

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_melody.htm

- Quiz – Harmony/ Modulation

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n5_harmony_quiz.htm

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_key_change.htm

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Km6alkYyOi4&t=158s&ab_channel=CHSMusicDept

Quiz – Major/ Minor

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_major_minor_tonality.htm

Quiz – Drone/ Pedal/ Vamp

https://mymusiconline.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/hotpots/i7_n4_drone_pedal_vamp.htm