

Pentatonic scale



Modern Pentathlon Events

CAN YOU...

- Name the 7 degrees of the scale?
- Name the sol-fa names?

C Major scale

A musical staff in C Major is shown. The notes are: C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. Above each note is a yellow label: C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. Below each note is a red label: Doh, Ray, Mi, Fa, Soh, Lah, Ti, Doh. The staff has a treble clef and four sharps.

WHAT DO ALL THESE PICTURES HAVE IN COMMON?

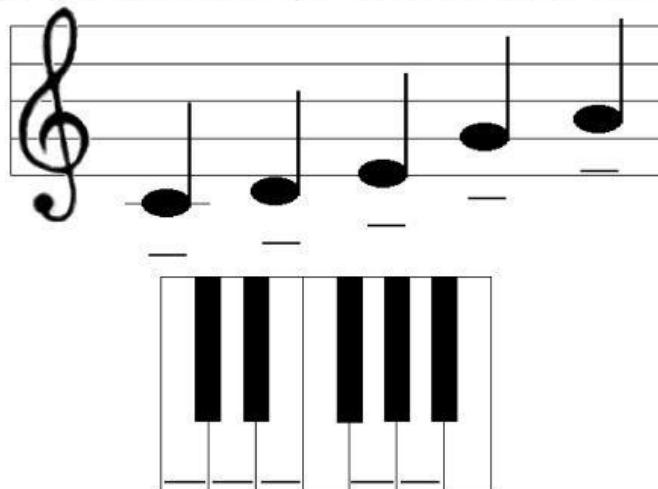


LIVEWORKSHEETS

PENTATONIC SCALE

Definition:

A five note sequence of notes, consisting of notes C D E G and A . (1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

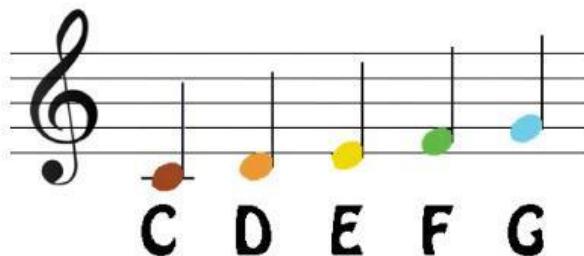


The image shows musical notation and a piano keyboard diagram. The notation is in G clef, with a sequence of five notes: a quarter note on C, a quarter note on D, an eighth note on E, a quarter note on G, and a quarter note on A. Below the notation is a diagram of a piano keyboard showing the five white keys corresponding to the notes of the pentatonic scale: C, D, E, G, and A.

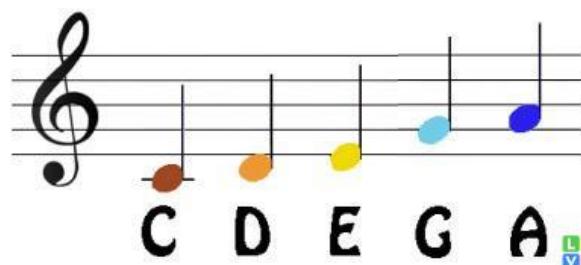
(example: C Pentatonic scale)

 **LIVEWORKSHEETS**

Let's learn how to identify the pentatonic scale by ear.
Here are the first 5 notes of a **normal** scale starting on C:

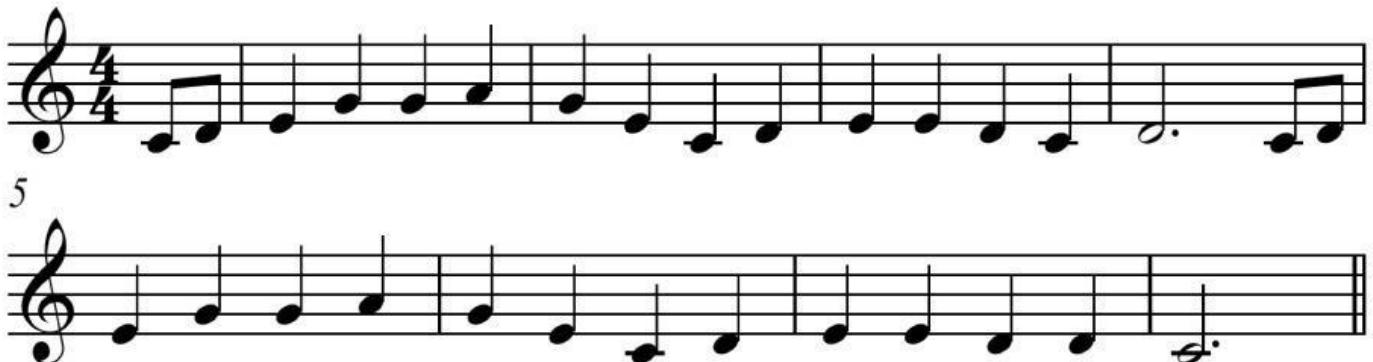


And here is a **pentatonic** scale starting on C:



The pentatonic scale is used in lots of nursery rhymes, folk songs and music from Asian cultures.

Here is the opening of “Oh! Susanna!”, an American folk song by Stephen Foster. Can you identify all the notes?



4

5

Here are some well known songs that use the pentatonic scale for you to learn:

<https://www.signup.org/song-bank/song/540-ive-been-to-harlem/>

<https://www.signup.org/song-bank/song/865-candlelight/>



This song actually uses 2 pentatonic melodies. Can you hear how they are put together?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiRdXepruf0>



Now let's listen to some music from other cultures which use the pentatonic scale.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xzNQmuWoy0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zfgqHwBdsXw>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BY1XlyQntt4>

