

# Unit 5

## GOALS

Terms: Staff

Scale: F Major Scale

Rhythms: Half notes

Solfeggio: DO RE MI FA SOL LA Pairs of eighths

Piano: The five-finger pattern

## Concepts & Terms

Review – What is the staff? Refer back to Unit 1 if you're not sure.

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## F Major Scale

Our first key, C Major, had no accidentals in it. DO is C when no accidentals appear in the key signature.

Our second key, G Major, had one sharp in it – F#. We figured out that sharp keys can be identified by finding the name of the last sharp and moving up to the next letter name.

Our next key uses another type of accidental, called a **flat**:

b

The rounded part of the flat acts like the note head and the middle section of the sharp. Wherever the rounded part is placed on the staff determines its pitch. Flats also change pitch - a flat will change a pitch by lowering it one-half step. If you're looking at the piano keyboard, one half-step lower is the next nearest key, black or white to the LEFT of any pitch. We will have to use our first accidental in this week's piano exercise.

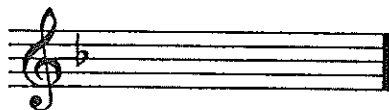
### Determining flat keys

Hold up your hand. We're going to use it to figure out flat keys.

1. Look at the key signature.
2. Name the last flat in the key signature.
3. That flat is your thumb.
4. Count forward through the alphabet until you reach your pinkie. (Or, up 5 from the last flat, counting it as 1).

OR, to say it another way: **The last flat is FA. Find DO**

Our first flat key has only one flat in it, so again by default, the only flat is also the last flat. It looks like this in the treble clef.



And like this in the bass clef.



Which pitch is flat?

That flat is 1 (thumb).

Count forward until you get to 5 (pinkie).

What is the starting point for this key?

The last flat in this key is Bb.

Bb is 1.

Counting forward to 5, we get.

1	2	3	4	5
Bb	C	D	E	F

If you got a G, you need to remember to count the last flat as 1.

This is the key of F major.

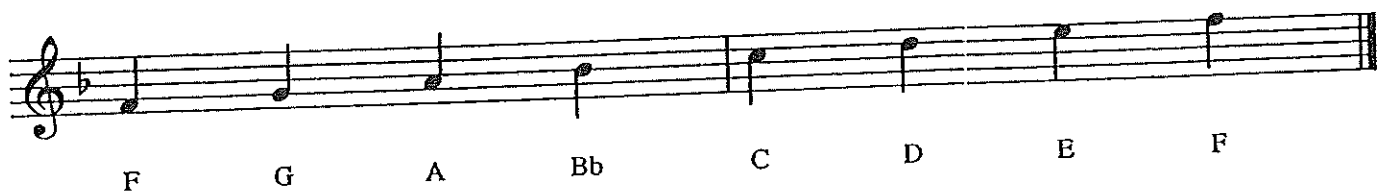
Let's start on F and move forward until we get to another F.



And then our last step. We need to label the letter names.

Remember, we have an accidental, so we can't just write B under the syllable FA.

We have to write Bb. Again, we don't have to write the flat next to the note because the key signature does it for us automatically.



Sing the F Major scale twice. The first time, sing it on the solfeggio syllables.

The second time, sing it on the letter names.

## Solfeggio

Sing the following exercises on the solfeggio syllables. Keep a steady beat.

We are adding the syllable LA to our exercises.

DO RE MI FA SOL LA LA

We are now adding some different rhythms to our exercises.

Here, we are adding the pairs of eighth notes.

DO RE MI FA

Now, we'll add some quarter rests. Make sure that the silence is in rhythm.

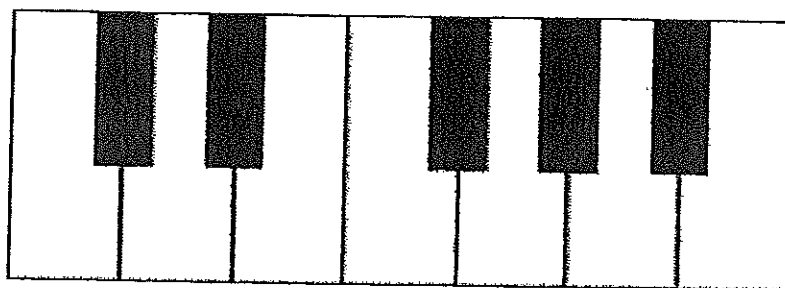
3 3 2



## Piano Keyboard

As we play our five-finger pattern in F Major, we run across our first keyboard accidental.

Start by finding the B on the keyboard.

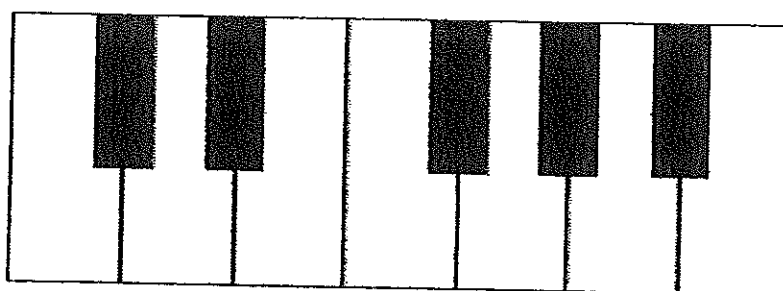


**B**

The **flat** lowers the pitch by one **half-step**.

The **half-step** is the next nearest note, white or black.

Move down to find the next note – that will be Bb, a black key.



**Bb**

When playing your five-finger patterns, remember to locate the Bb ahead of time to avoid mistakes.