

Unit 7

GOALS

- Terms: Pitch
Scale: Bb Major Scale
Rhythms: Whole notes
Solfeggio: lower TI
Piano: The five-finger pattern

Concepts & Terms

We've talked about **pitch** for a few lessons without giving an accurate definition. When two musical tones have different pitches, how would we describe them?

Example:

Two tones have different **dynamics**. One would be louder than the other.
Two tones have different **pitches**. One would be _____ than the other.

The answer is either **higher** or **lower** than the other.

But, higher or lower in relationship to what? Certainly not actual height.
Tall people do not automatically sing higher pitches than short people...

Since we measure pitches by either the staff or the scale, we can say that pitches relate to each other through the staff or scale. So, **pitch** is the relationship to other tones on the staff or scale. We describe **pitch** by using terms like "higher" or "lower."

Bb Major Scale

Review

Explain how to figure out a key with flats.

Our next flat key has two flats in it. First, we must find the last flat. Again, the last flat is the one furthest to the right. Our key looks like this.



And like this in the bass clef.



Which pitch is the last flat? That flat is 1 (thumb)

Count forward through the alphabet until you reach 5 (pinkie).

What is the starting point for this key?


The last sharp in this key is Eb. Eb is 1.

Counting forward, we reach the letter B. B is 5.

Is this the key of B?

NO!!!! Because we haven't finished the last step. We have to add the accidentals. The two accidentals are Eb and Bb.

So this is the key of Bb Major.



Bb	C	D	Eb	F	G	A	Bb
DO	RE	MI	FA	SOL	LA	TI	DO

Piano Keyboard

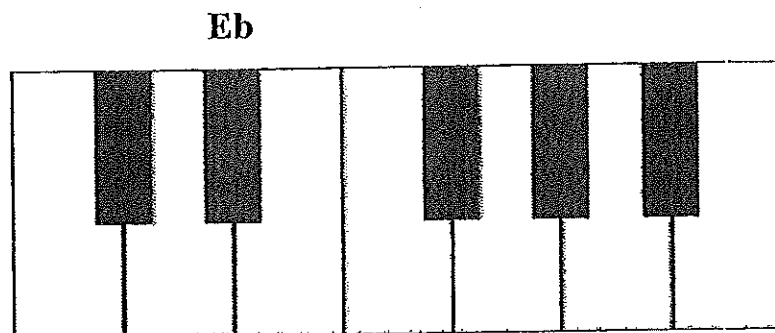
As we play our five-finger pattern in Bb Major, we now begin to play multiple accidentals. For Bb Major, you will need both Bb and Eb. You've already used Bb, so let's find Eb.

Start by finding the E on the keyboard.

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 Eb, a black key.



Locate both Bb and Eb before playing. This five-finger pattern may feel very funny, especially in your right hand. We don't usually use the thumb for black keys for this reason. We will correct this later when we are playing full scales. For now, we are actually working on another keyboard skill, the ability to get your fingers moving independently of one another, so we'll keep our pattern for a while longer.

