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Intervals for Beginners

by Beatrice Wilder

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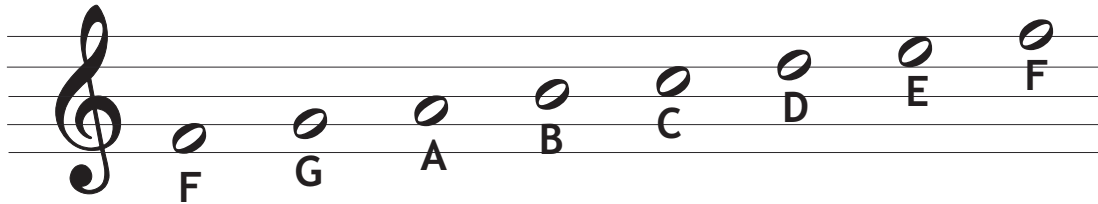
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Intervals for Beginners Sheet 1

Name

Identifying Octaves 1



Number each of the notes, starting from 1

How many notes were there?

A group of 8 musicians is called an octet

A sea creature with 8 legs is an octopus

A musical interval of 8 notes is an octave

What do you think 'oct' stands for?

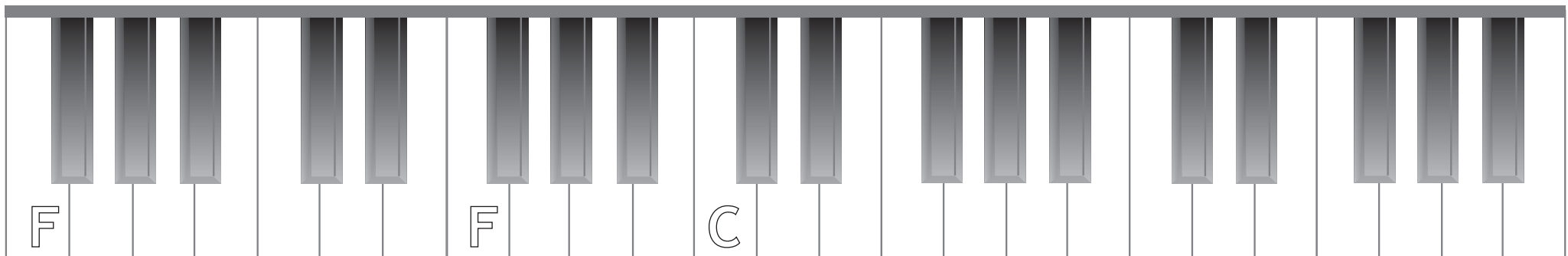
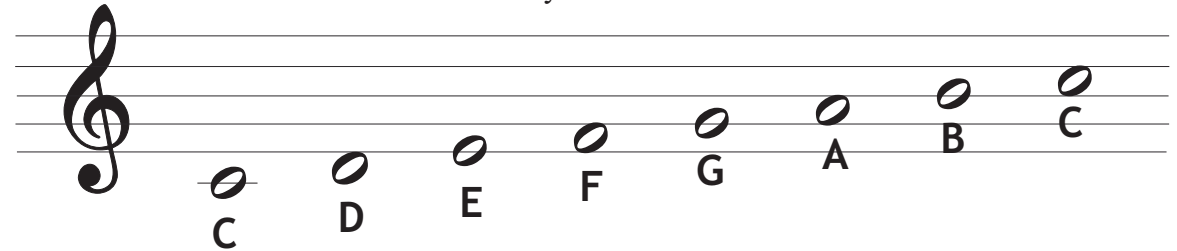
Number each of the notes, starting from 1

How many spaces are there between the notes?

The spaces between sounds are called 'intervals.'

The space between the low F and the high F is one octave.

What is the space between the low C and the high C called?



Colour the keys from 'F' to 'F' green.

What is the size of the interval you have coloured?

How many white keys have you coloured?

How many black keys can you count in this interval?

If the interval went from 'G' to the next 'G' would it be an octave?

Would there be the same number of black keys?

Label the 'C' key that is one octave higher.

Colour the keys from 'C' to 'C' orange.

Count all the keys, orange and black, How many keys are there?

How many black keys can you count in this interval?

Find 'A' and draw a black dot on the keys between 'A' and the next 'A' one octave up.

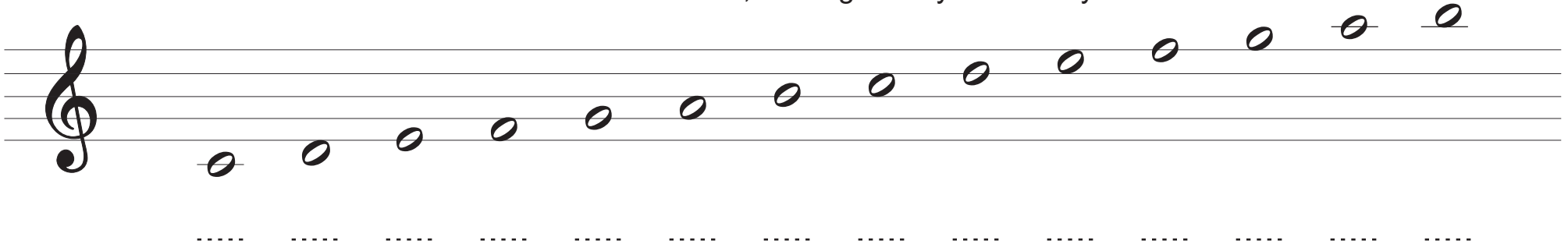
How many black keys can you count in this interval?



Identifying Octaves 2

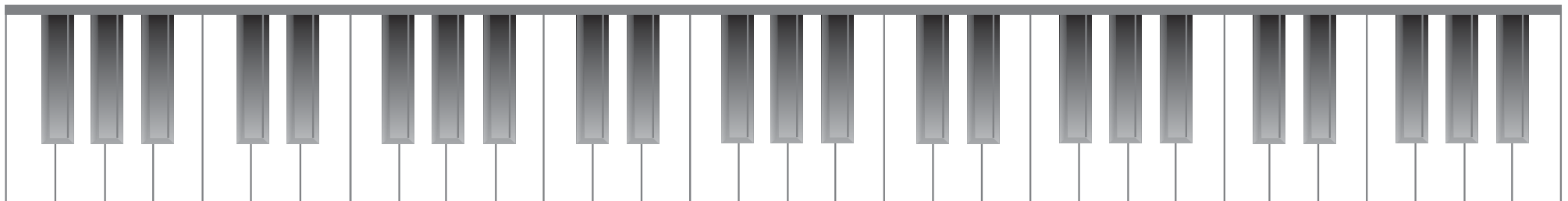
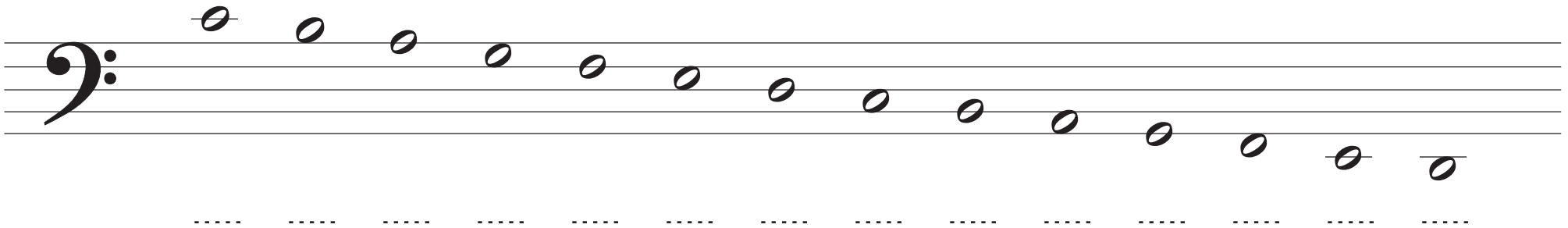
Label the notes with their letter names.

Draw a circle around the notes of one octave in the treble, starting on any note that you choose:



Label the notes with their letter names.

Draw a circle around the notes of one octave in the bass, starting on any note that you choose:

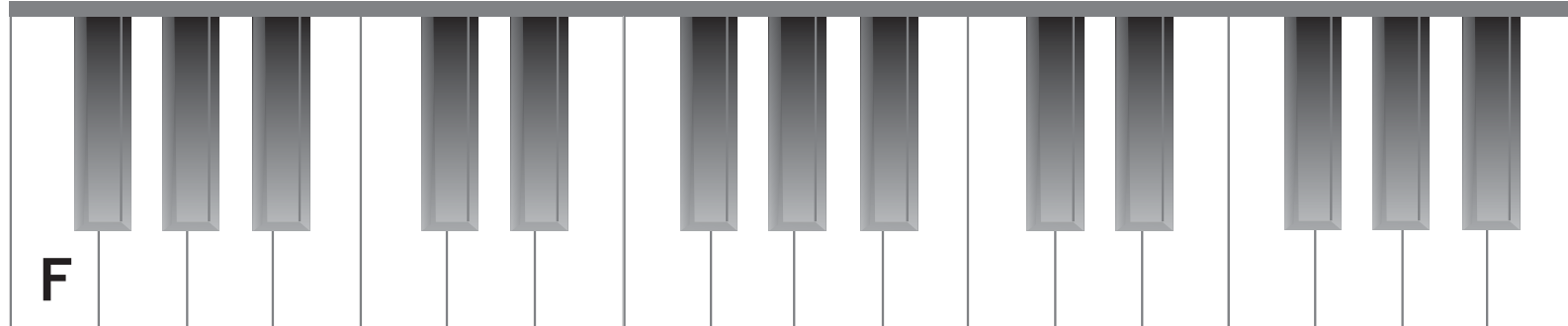
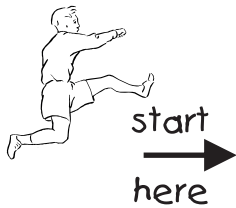


Find three octaves, each starting on a different key. Label the keys with their correct letter names.
Colour the keys of each octave in different colours.



The Smallest Intervals

If you crossed this keyboard, stepping on every single key, black and white, how many keys would you have stepped on?



.....

Each of the keys that you step on is one semitone away from the key next to it.
A semitone is the smallest interval that we use in western music.

Starting with 'F' label all the white keys on the keyboard.

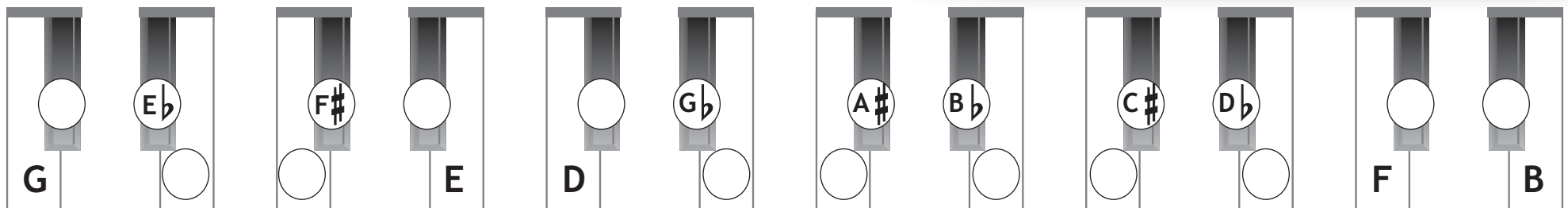
The white keys all have letter names. The black keys do not.

Sharp. A sharp sign tells you that the note is one semitone higher.
b Flat. A flat sign tells you that the note is one semitone lower.

The white keys all have individual letter names.

The black keys are related to the white keys, and are labelled as sharps or flats depending on whether they are higher or lower than the white keys.

Fill in the missing letter names on the keys below.

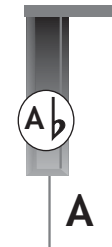


When the black keys are on the right they are called 'sharp.'



The interval between 'A' and 'A sharp' is one semitone.

When the black keys on the left they are called 'flat.'



The interval between 'A' and 'A flat' is one semitone.



Intervals for Beginners Sheet 4

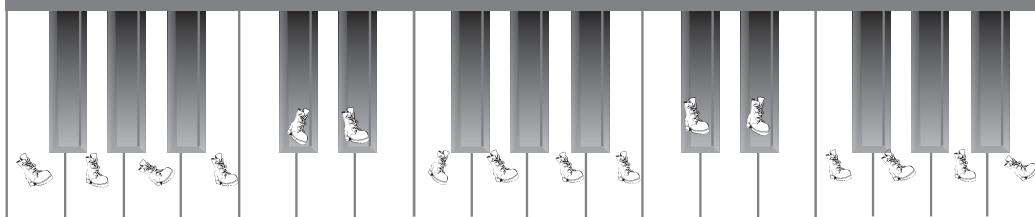
Name

Tones and Semitones

PLAYING TONES. If you crossed this keyboard, stepping on **EVERY SECOND KEY**, you might walk in this pattern:



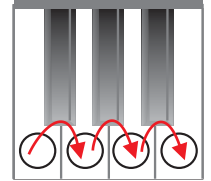
start
here →



Write the letter names on the white keys. Which note did we start with?

.....

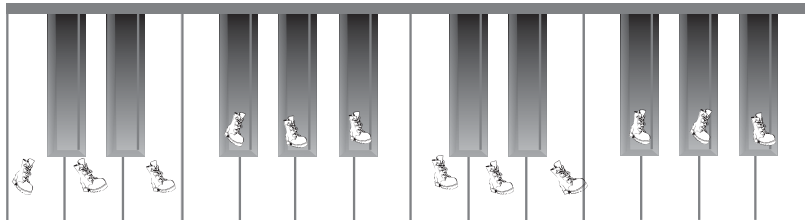
Semitones (play EVERY key) Tones (play every SECOND key)



... or your walking pattern could look like this:



start
here →



Write the letter names on the white keys. Which note did we start with?

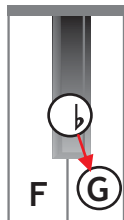
.....

Draw lines to join keys that have an interval of ONE TONE

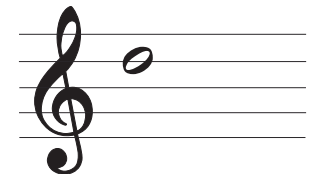
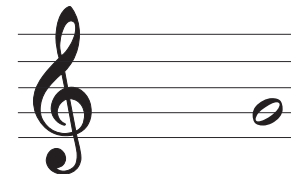
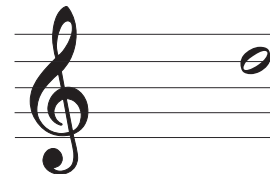
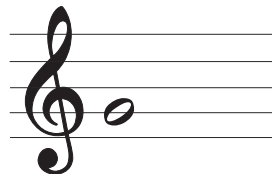
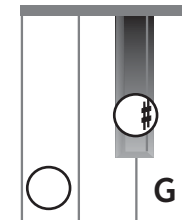
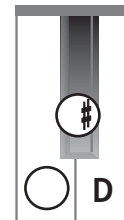
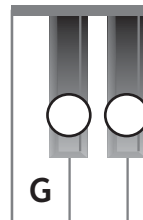
start
here →



Fill in the missing letter names on the keys below. Say whether the intervals between the CIRCLED KEYS are TONES or SEMITONES. Complete the notes on the staves below. The first one is done for you. Some clues are given.



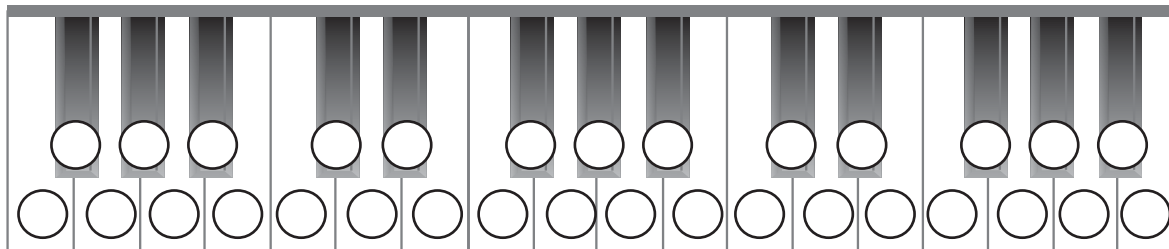
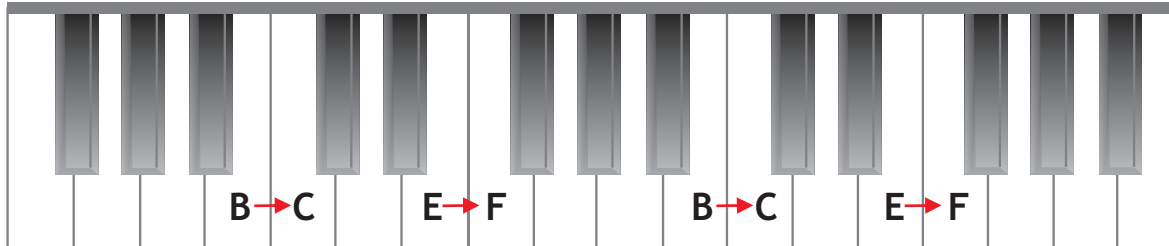
semitone





More Tones and Semitones

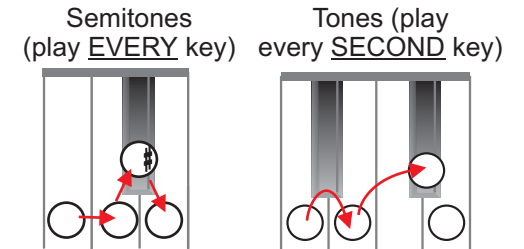
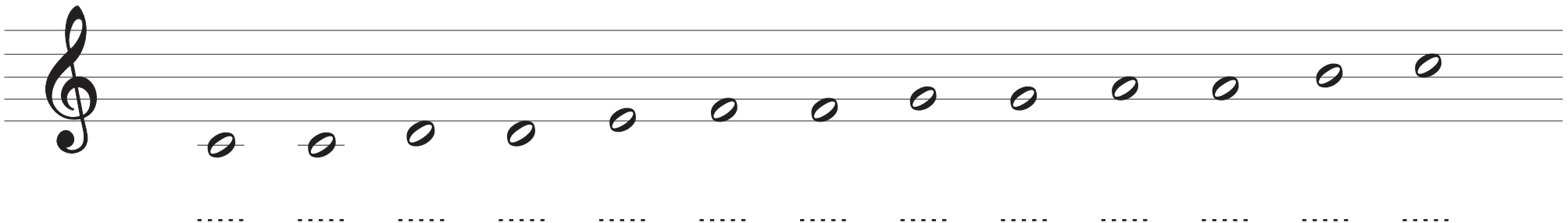
A note that is a semitone higher than a white key is usually a black key, but not always B and C are a semitone apart because there is no key between them
E and F are a semitone apart as well. These exceptions are shown below:



On the keyboard above, mark the following notes by colouring the circles as suggested:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| One semitone higher than 'B' (green) | One semitone higher than 'D' (blue) |
| One tone higher than 'A' (orange) | One tone lower than 'G' (red) |
| One tone lower than 'F' (purple) | One semitone lower than 'C' (brown) |

Below is a **chromatic scale**, which is a scale where every interval is just **one semitone**. All the sharps are missing. Fill in the sharps where they belong and write the letter names on the dotted lines below.



Step on the keys that are **ONE TONE** apart and colour them red

start
→ here

