

The "Circle of Fifths" Diagram

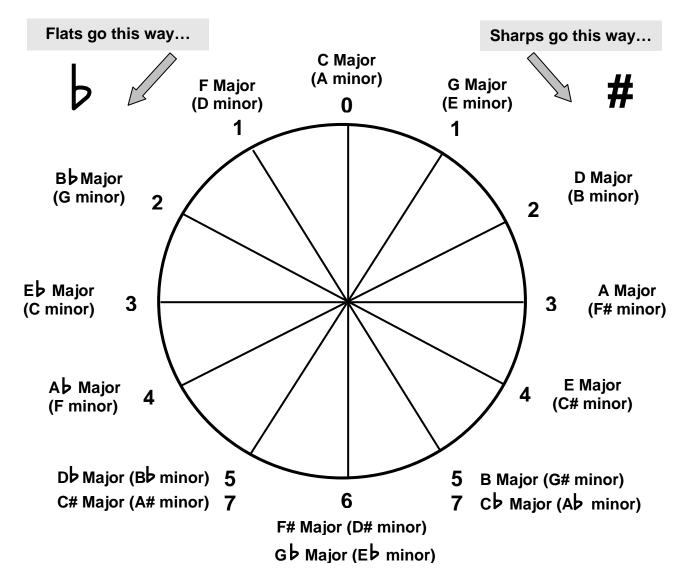


(for Major / Relative minor Key Signatures)

The Circle of Fifths is a diagram that can help musicians learn (or find) the Key of a piece of music. The numbers indicate how many Sharps or Flats are in the keys. The Sharps go "clockwise" and the Flats will go "counter-clockwise." There are 15 Key signatures – with three being "Enharmonic" (keys that are named differently, but sound the same).

Examples:

- * G Major / E minor both have one sharp.
- * A Major / F# minor both have 3 sharps.
- * F Major / D minor both have 1 flat.
- * Ab Major / F minor both have 4 flats.



Enharmonic Keys: B Major will sound the same as Cb Major, F# Major will sound the same as Cb Major, and Db Major will sound the same as C# Major. Different names, but same notes.

The diagram is called the "Circle of Fifths" because as you go clockwise the next note is a "Fifth" away (G is a 5th away from C, D is a 5th away from G, and so on).

