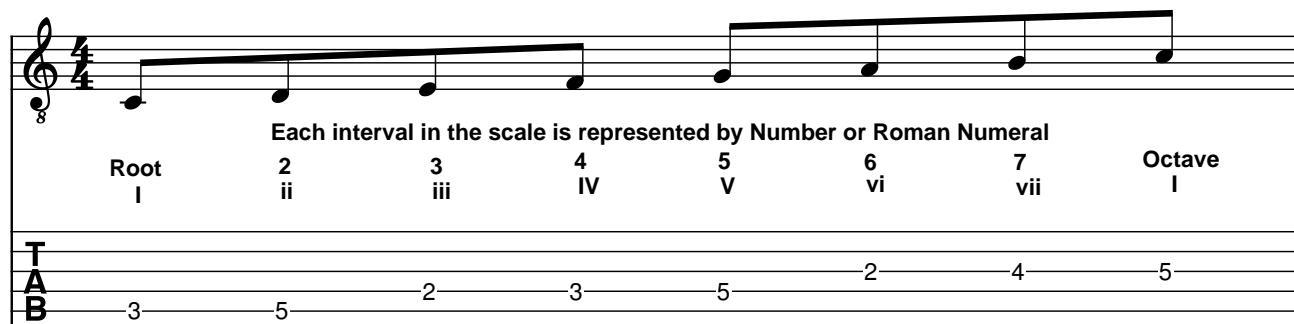


# The Major Scale

The major scale is a foundational building block used to communicate many of the melodic and harmonic structures of music. Much of the vocabulary used to describe chord spellings, alterations, and melodic concepts come directly from the major scale.



Each interval in the scale is represented by Number or Roman Numeral

Root I 2 ii 3 iii 4 IV 5 V 6 vi 7 vii Octave I

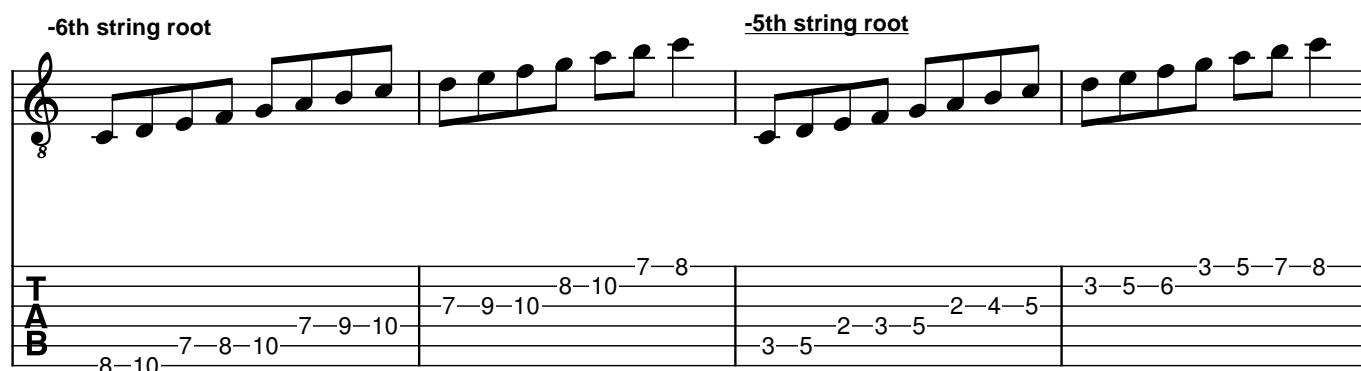
T  
A  
B 3 5 2 3 5 2 4 5

W = Whole Step  
H = Half Step

Root 2 3 4 5 6 7 Octave  
W W H W W W H

-No matter the key center each interval in the major scale is always the same distance from the next

## Major Scale (two octaves)



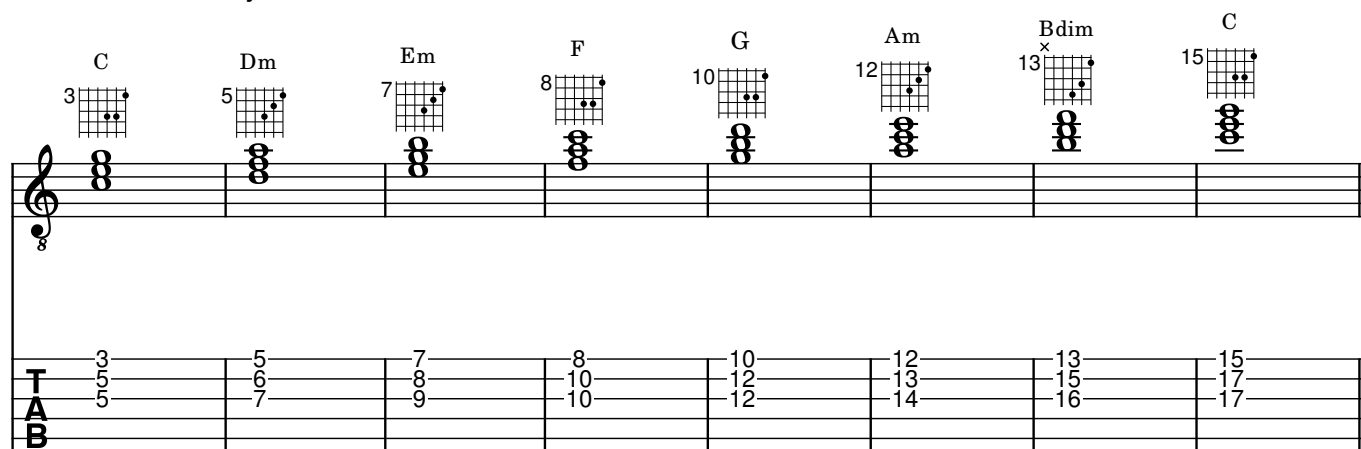
-6th string root -5th string root

T  
A  
B 8-10 7-8-10 7-9-10 7-9-10 8-10 7-8 3-5-6 3-5-7-8

## -Major Scale Harmony

When represented by Roman numerals, the uppercase and lowercase numerals indicate if chord is major or minor.

Maj min min Maj Maj min dim (min)  
I ii iii IV V vi vii  
Uppercase numerals indicate Major Chords  
Lowercase numerals indicate Minor Chords



C Dm Em F G Am Bdim C

T  
A  
B 3 5 7 8 10 12 13 15

## Notes:

- Learn the major scale as more than just a fingering. You should be familiar with interval distance, relationships, and harmony
- Learn the pitches of the 15 major scales as those scales will be used to describe chord spellings and alterations
- Practice identifying interval relationships
- Use the major scale as a framework improvising