

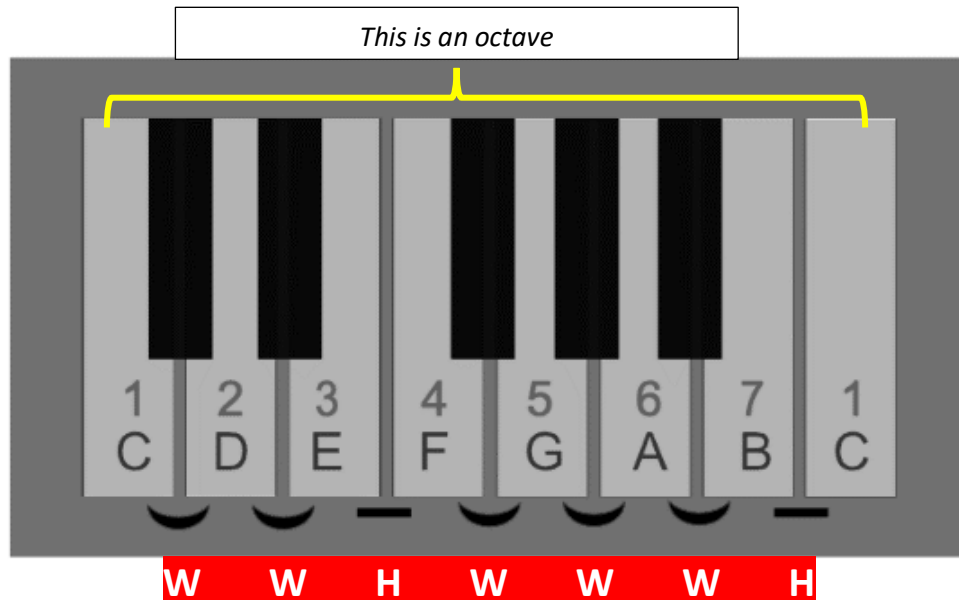
Scales, Keys and Chords

A scale is a series of notes in a certain key.

Each scale uses the same intervals, regardless of the key.

In order to understand scales, you'll have to understand **Whole** and **Half** steps or tones. Steps/tones refer to the distance from one piano key to the next.

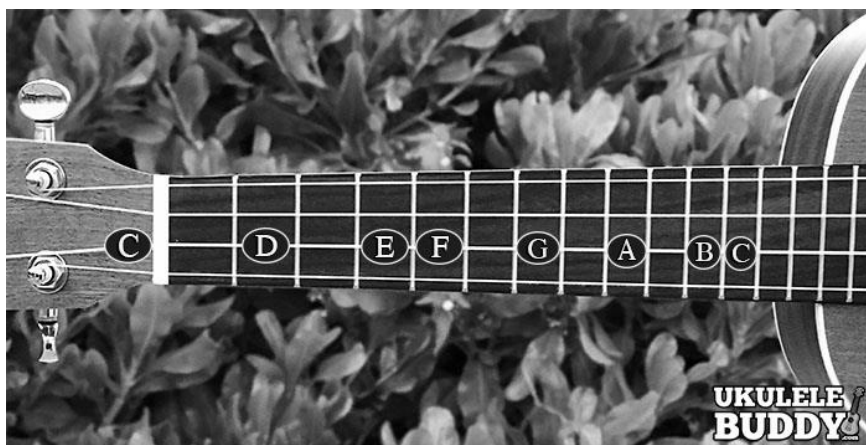
Imagine a piano. A half step is when you go from one piano key to the one directly next to it. And a whole step skips a piano key.



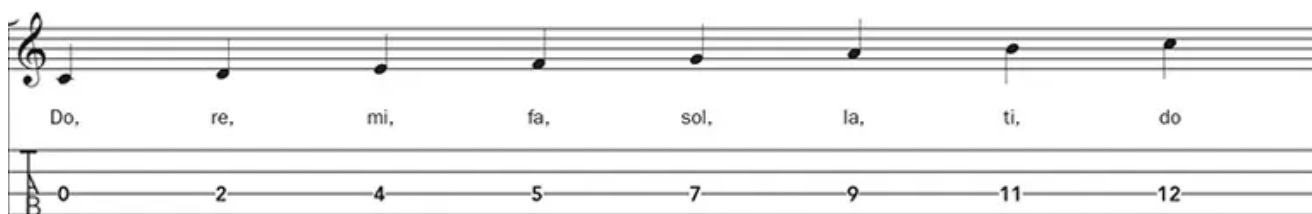
Above is the scale of **C major**. You can see the set pattern of **Whole** steps and **Half** steps. Play each note in turn and it sounds like (in fact, it IS):

"doh re mi fah soh lah ti doh,"

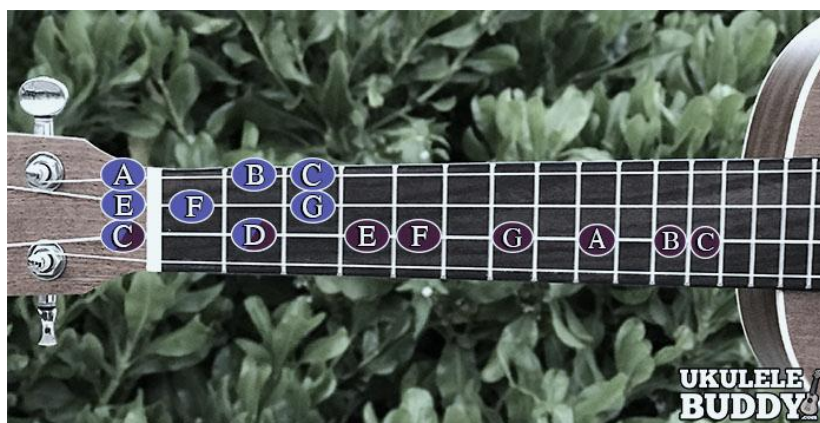
On a uke, each fret represents a half step/tone. So on a uke, the scale looks like this.



If you prefer TABs..... Try playing the scale of **C** AND singing the notes.:



You can play a **C major** scale using all of the strings, rather than just moving along a single string. Below, is another way of playing a C major scale that requires much less movement of your hand. In this picture you can see the C major scale that you just learned, as well as this new one. Try playing both ways and notice that they produce the same sound! This is because you are playing the same notes, in the same order, just in different spots on the neck.



You can use the pattern of **W**hole steps and **H**alf steps to work out a scale in any **key**.

C major scale	C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C
D major scale	D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D
E major scale	E, F#, G#, A, B, C#, D#, E
F major scale	F, G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F
G major scale	G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G
A major scale	A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G#, A
B major scale	B, C#, D#, E, F#, G#, A#, B

That's a scale in the Key of C
That's a scale in the Key of D
Etc.

WHO CARES?

Being able to play a song in various **keys** means you can choose a key that best suits someone's vocal range.

CHORDS

Also, knowing these patterns of whole- and half- notes enables you to work out which notes to play when you want to play a **chord** you are not familiar with.

A **major** chord consists of the first, third and fifth note of the **ROOT** note.

So, to play a **C major**, the root note is **C**, the third note is **E** and the fifth is **G**.

C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Octave

Work out what notes you need in order to play an **F major**. Where are those notes on a ukulele?

Other popular chords:

Minor chord - flat the 3rd note of the scale.

7th – flat the 7th note of the scale.

Chord	Major	Minor	7 th
C	C,E,G	C,Eb,G	Bb
Db/C#	Db,F,Ab	Db,E,Ab	B
D	D,F#,A	D,F,A	C
Eb/D#	Eb,G,Bb	Eb,Gb,Bb	Db
E	E,G#,B	E,G,B	D
F	F,A,C	F,Ab,C	Eb
Gb/F#	Gb,Bb,Db	Gb,A,Db	E
G	G,B,D	G,Bb,D	F
Ab/G#	Ab,C,Eb	Ab,B,Eb	F#
A	A,C#,E	A,C,E	G
Bb/A#	Bb,D,F	Bb, Db,F	Ab
B	B,D#,F#	B,D,F#	A

