

LESSON 22

Date: _____

In addition to the size of an interval, we will also study the *quality* of the interval. The quality of the intervals you will study in Level 2 are: *perfect*, *major*, and *minor*. These are relative terms whose meanings are rooted in history and tradition.

The interval between the tonic of a major scale and any other note of the scale will be perfect (P) or major (+). Within this context, unisons, fourths, fifths, and octaves are called perfect intervals while seconds, thirds, sixths, and sevenths are called major intervals.

C+

A musical staff in treble clef showing intervals from C to C. The notes are C, D, E, F, G, A, B, and C. Below the staff, the intervals are labeled: PU (unison), +2 (major second), +3 (major third), P4 (perfect fourth), P5 (perfect fifth), +6 (major sixth), +7 (major seventh), and P8 (perfect octave).

To determine the quality of the interval we must consider the bottom note of the interval. If the upper note of the interval is a member of the scale of the bottom note, the interval will either be perfect or major depending on its size.

As a result, it is important that each scale we have studied so far is memorized. To review, add accidentals to form the 9 major scales we have studied.

A musical staff showing the C major scale (C+) and nine other major scales. The scales are: F+ (one flat), Bb+ (two flats), Eb+ (three flats), Ab+ (four flats), G+ (one sharp), D+ (two sharps), A+ (three sharps), and E+ (four sharps). The accidentals are highlighted in pink.

PRACTICE

1. Draw each of the following intervals above the given note.

+3 P4 +6 PU +7

+6 P4 +3 P5 +7

P4 P5 P8 +6 +7

P8 +7 +3 P5 P4

P4 P8 +6 P5 +3

P8 +7 +3 P5 P4

+6 +7 P4 +3 P5

+7 +6 +3 +2 P4

P8 P4 +6 PU +3

P5 +2 +7 +6 P8

+3 +7 P8 PU +6

P5 +3 P4 +2 +6

2. Identify the following intervals as PU, +2, +3, P4, P5, +6, +7, or P8.

A musical staff with ten intervals marked for identification. The intervals are: P8, PU, +6, P5, +2, +3, +6, +6, P5, P5.

P8 PU +6 P5 +2 +3 +6 +6 P5 P5

3. Describe why each of the following are incorrect. Then, in the space provided make any necessary corrections to the interval.

A musical staff with four intervals marked for correction. The intervals are: P6, +6, +3, and P4.

P6
 ↳ 6ths are major, not perfect

+3
 ↳ the size of this interval is 4 not 3

A musical staff with four intervals marked for correction. The intervals are: +8, +7, +7, and +7.

+8
 ↳ octaves are perfect, not major
 ↳ in an octave, both notes must have the same accidental

+7
 ↳ in G+, the 7th note of the scale is F#