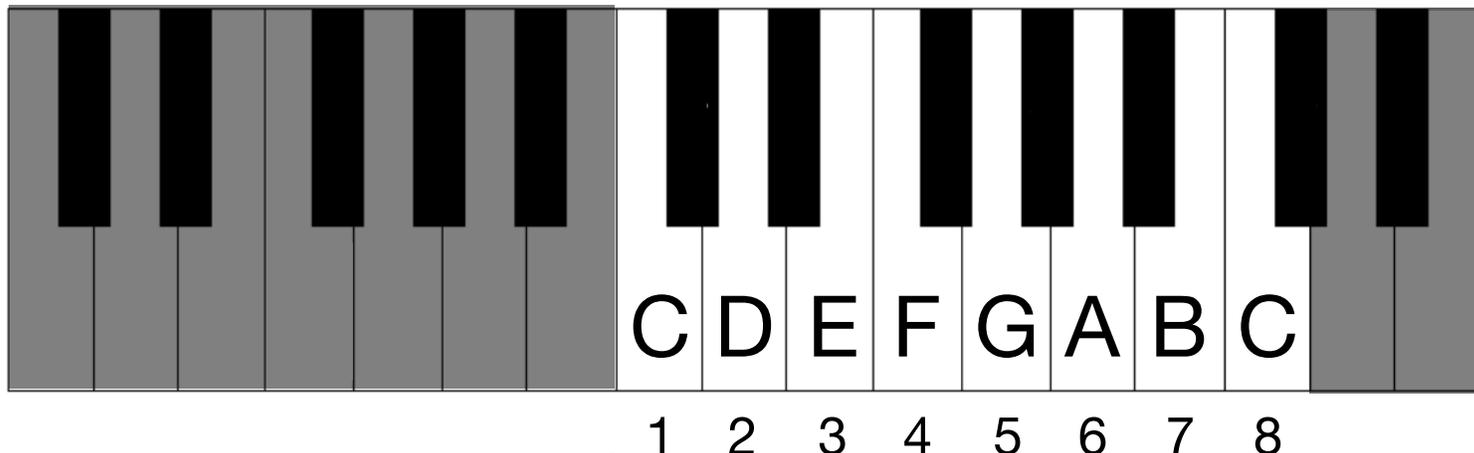


THE KEY OF C

Throughout the remainder of the course our focus will be on the key of C. The key of C is the easiest key to learn. One of the main reasons it is the easiest key to learn is because there are no black notes. The only notes that you will play in the key of C will be the white keys.

Notice the diagram below. Listed are the notes in the key of C.



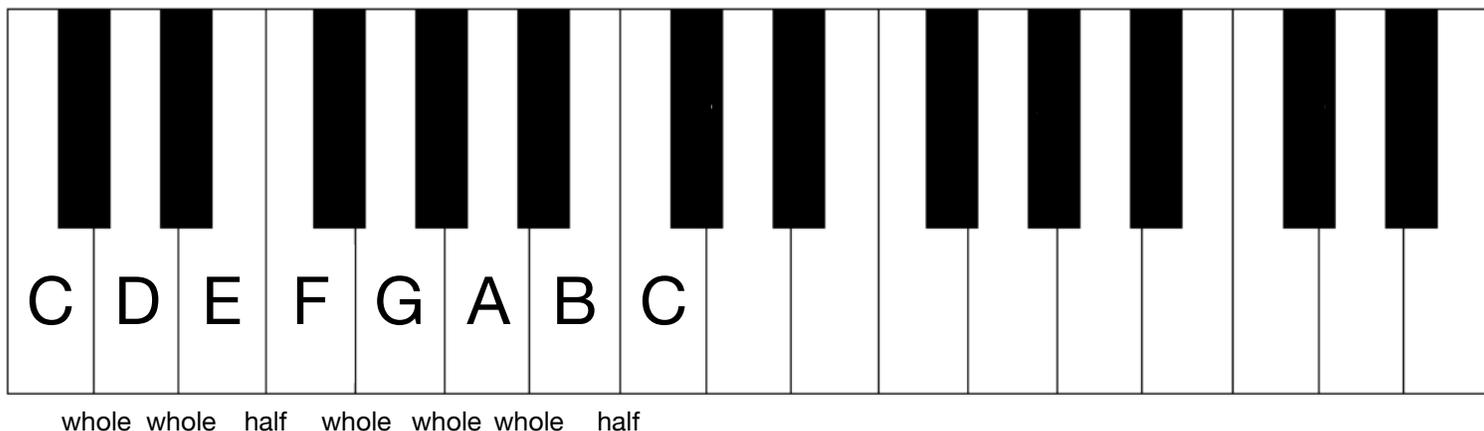
We want to point out a few things that you will need to remember.

Notice the numbers below each note. Start memorizing the numbers that correlate with each note. We will explain this in a later lesson. However, it would be good to start memorizing them now.

The other thing that is an important part to know is that the first note in every key is called the "ROOT"

The next thing we want to discuss is the "major scale" formula. Every major scale in every key has the same formula. The formula is:

WHOLE STEP / WHOLE STEP / HALF STEP / WHOLE STEP / WHOLE STEP / WHOLE STEP / HALF STEP

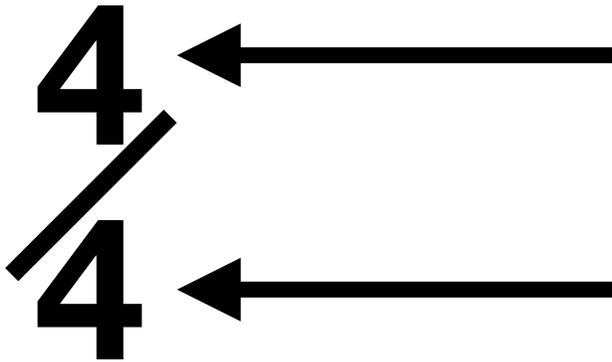


Before we move on the the C scale we need to talk about timing. All music has time. The first time signature we will be learning in this course is called **4/4 Time**. The most common and most used time signature in music is 4/4 time.

Below are some helpful things to help you remember how many beats there are for each type of note.

We will be discussing quarter notes, half notes and whole notes to start off.

Lets first talk about what the 4/4 means.



The top number in 4/4 time means that there needs to be 4 notes in each measure.

The bottom number in 4/4 time represents the kind of notes that are needed in each measure.

So to put it a bit more simple. It simply means that there are four quarter notes per measure.

Let's look at some money to help us understand these for 3 types of notes and the beats they carry.



Here is a **WHOLE** dollar.
It takes **4 quarters** to make a dollar.

Here is a **WHOLE** note.
This note carries **4 quarter** beats.



Here is a **HALF** dollar.
It takes **2 quarters** to make a half dollar.

Here is a **HALF** note.
This note carries **2 quarter** beats.



Here is a **QUARTER**.
you need for of these to make a **WHOLE** dollar

Here is a **QUARTER** note.
This note carries **1 quarter** beat.



Lets take a look at some scenarios in complete measures showing different ways to make a complete measure in 4/4 time. This will help clear up any confusion.

If you were to learn how to read music or notation, it would look very similar to this. However, we are just using this to show you how many beats can fit into a measure and make it complete.

Each line marks the beginning and end of a measure.

To make a complete measure, you must have enough notes to equal 4 beats.

This measure has the following

- (1) Whole Note = 4 Beats

This measure is complete

This measure has the following

- (2) Quarter Notes = 2 Beats
- (1) Half Note = 2 Beats

All three notes equal 4 Beats

This measure has the following

- (4) Quarter Notes = 4 Beats

This measure is complete

So what does this mean for the notes on the piano? You are simply striking the notes for the length of what the beat calls for. For example. If you have a quarter note you would strike the note one time. If you had a half note you would strike the note and hold it for two beats. If you had a whole note you would strike the note and hold it for four beats.

When striking the notes or counting beats, be sure that each beat has an equal amount of space between them.

At this time, download a metronome app to your phone. This will be needed in the next part of the lesson and through the rest of the track project lessons.

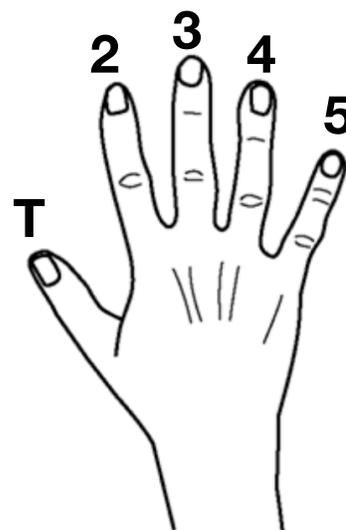
More explanation of striking the notes and counting can be found in the video links.

THE C SCALE

Notice the hand diagram to the right. At each fingertip there are numbers and for the thumb you see we have a "T".

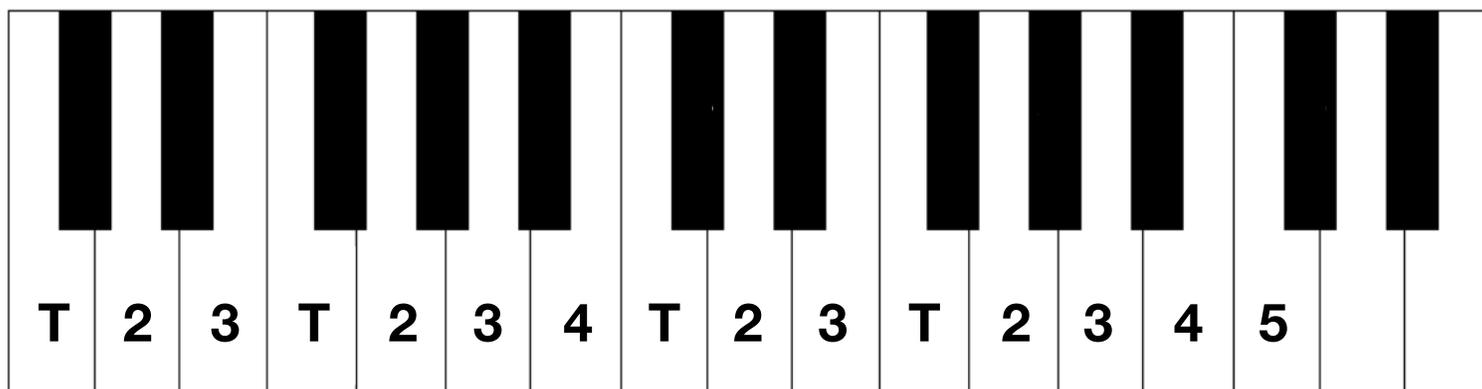
While going through this course the T and the numbers will be discussed frequently.

As we learn the C scale. Pay close attention to the finger formula that is used. This finger formula is used for every major scale.



We will be learning the C scale formula that covers two full octaves. Notice the letters and numbers on the keys below. These are the proper fingers you should use in this exercise.

Please refer to the videos for a deeper explanation of this



Set your metronome to 60 BPM's (Beats Per Minute) On every click of the metronome play a note. Be sure that each note is hit on the click. do not rush or drag. Focus on the click and play evenly with each click.

Practice this exercise in both forward and backward motion.

For a better understanding, please refer to the videos associated with this lesson.