

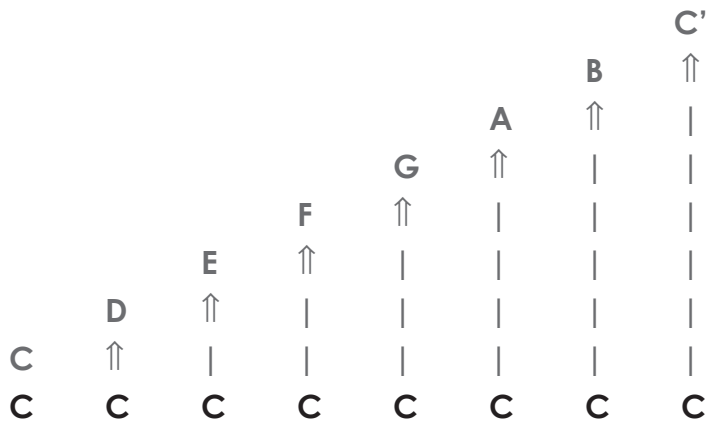
Intervals

ALL LEVELS 

An interval is the distance between two notes. An interval has a name and a type. Intervals can be played melodically, ascending or descending. Or played harmonically by playing both notes at the same time. An interval can be inverted. Intervals can be diatonic to a scale or chromatic and not from a scale.

Simple Diatonic Intervals

One Octave Major Scale



Interval	Name	Number
C to C	Prime (')	1
C to D	Major Second	2
C to E	Major Third	3
C to F	Perfect Fourth	4
C to G	Perfect Fifth	5
C to A	Major Sixth	6
C to B	Major Seventh	7
C to C'	Perfect Octave	8



Compound Diatonic Intervals

Compound = Simple Diatonic Intervals + Octave

<u>Interval</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Number</u>
C to C'	Perfect Octave	8
C to D	Major Ninth	9
C to E	Major Tenth	10
C to F	Perfect Eleventh	11
C to G	Perfect Twelfth	12
C to A	Major Thirteenth	13

Chromatic Intervals

Are created using predefined formulas.

Minor (-)

Lower upper note of any MAJOR interval 1/2 step.

Diminished (°)

Lower upper note of any PERFECT interval 1/2 step.

Lower upper note of any MAJOR interval 1 step.

Augmented (+)

Raise upper note of any PERFECT or MAJOR interval 1/2 step.





Interval Inversion

Raise lower note one octave and convert using the following formula:

Major *becomes* Minor

Perfect *stays* Perfect

Diminished *becomes* Augmented

Augmented *becomes* Diminished

Then subtract the numerical value from and you have the interval (**Rule of Nine**)

Prime	<->	Octave
2	<->	7
3	<->	6
4	<->	5
5	<->	4
6	<->	3
7	<->	2

Example: C to A is a major 6th. A to C is a minor ninth,

Interval Notation

Interval Notation uses the same notation used to define chromatic intervals.

Minor (-)

This *relative interval notation* uses negative numbers for falling intervals.

Lower upper note of any MAJOR interval 1/2 step.

Diminished (o)

This *relative interval notation* used for falling intervals.

Lower upper note of any PERFECT interval 1/2 step.

Lower upper note of any MAJOR interval 1 step.

Augmented (+)

This *relative interval notation* uses positive numbers to indicate rising intervals.

Raise upper note of any MAJOR or PERFECT interval 1/2 step.





Functional Interval Notation

(sharp sign)

b (flat sign)

maj (major)

m (minor)

dim (diminished)

aug (augmented)

Both *Interval Notation* and *Functional Interval Notation* are used for chord symbols. It really should not be mixed but that are many cases where this happens. As well as cases of misuse, where the wrong symbol is used, an example is the minus sign “-” for minor.

