

CHROMATIC SCALES

1 Major and minor scales are **diatonic**. That is, they are made up of tones and semitones, and they contain only notes that belong to the scale.

2 A **chromatic scale** is made up of only semitones and contains all twelve notes in the octave. There are two types of chromatic scales: the chromatic scale that has no key signature and the chromatic scale that is based on a key.

There are two simple rules for chromatic scales:

1. Never use the same letter more than twice.
2. Do not change the name of the tonic note enharmonically.

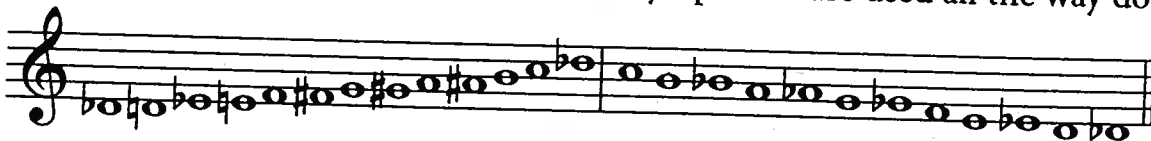
CHROMATIC SCALES WITHOUT A KEY SIGNATURE

In this chromatic scale, the notes are raised going up and lowered going down. When you write this chromatic scale, you use sharps as soon as possible on the way up, and flats as soon as possible on the way down.

Here is a chromatic scale starting on C. Sharps are used on the way up, and flats are used on the way down. Notice that the bar line in the middle cancels all the accidentals used on the way up.



Here is a chromatic scale starting on D flat. This scale must begin with flats, but it changes to sharps as soon as possible on the way up. Flats are used all the way down.



1. Write the following scales, ascending and descending.

2 Chromatic scale starting on E



Chromatic scale starting on F#



Chromatic scale starting on G



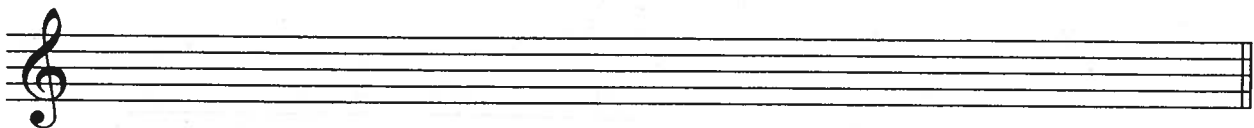
Chromatic scale starting on A \flat



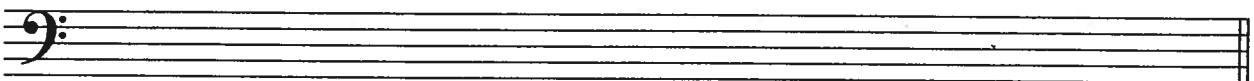
Chromatic scale starting on B



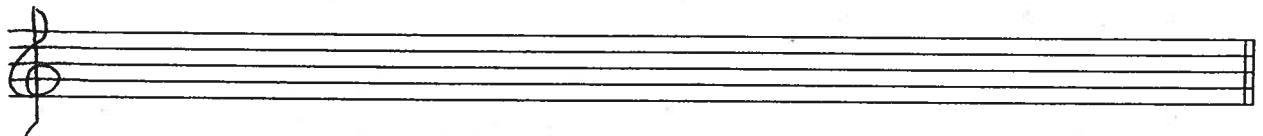
Chromatic scale starting on D



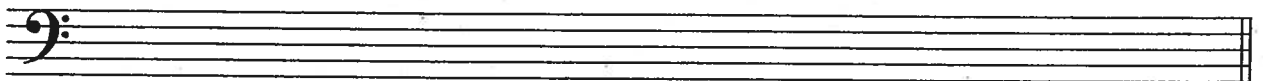
Chromatic scale starting on D \flat



Chromatic scale starting on G \sharp



Chromatic scale starting on F



Chromatic scale starting on C \sharp

