

Chromatic Scale (12 Pitches)

A chromatic scale is a musical scale with twelve (12) pitches or tones per octave, each with a semitone separation. As a result, in 12-tone equal temperament (the most common tuning in Western music), the chromatic scale covers all 12 of the available pitches (A, A#/Bb, B, C, C#/Db, D, D#/Eb, E, F, F#/Gb, G, G#/Ab).

Chromatic scales can start from any of the twelve tones, so there are twelve different iterations or inversions of the scale.

Note: A#/Bb are the same tone, but can be called by either A# or Bb and are enharmonics (alternative name for same tone), same for C#/Db, D#/Eb etc.

On the ukulele, each fret is a semitone change, so if you start at fret 1, and play one fret at a time up the neck to the 12th fret you will play a chromatic scale.

Chromatic scales can begin on any fret example:

If you begin on fret 2 of the C String and play up the neck to fret 13 you will play the D chromatic scale (D, D#/Eb, E, F, F#/Gb, G, G#/Ab, A, A#/Bb, B, C, C#/Db).