

## Major & Minor Scales (Diatonic Scale)

In music, a diatonic scale is any heptatonic (7 tones) scale that has **five whole steps (whole-tones) separations and two half steps (semi-tones) separations** per octave.

A major scale octave consists of 7 tones which are named after the seven letters of the musical alphabet, ( A, B, C, D, E, F, G ). The major scale can begin with any letter of the alphabet but must follow in sequence ( C, D, E, F, G, A, B ).

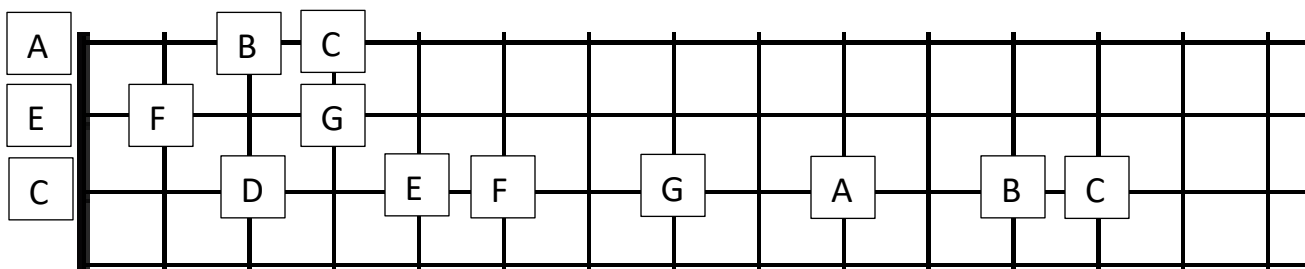
On the Ukulele whole-tones would be a separation of two frets while semi-tones would be a separation of one fret.

Remember a diatonic scale has 5 Whole-tones and 2 semi-tones separations. These separations can be positioned anywhere within the group of 7 tones and will still be a diatonic scale.

Example: The “Major Diatonic Scale” would have the separations (W, W, H, W, W, W, H), whereas a “Minor Diatonic Scale” would have the separations (W, H, W, W, H, W, W).

Location of the five whole-tones separations and two semi-tones separations are specific to the scale used. To be called a Major Scale, the tones need to be in a particular order (W, W, H, W, W, W, H).

The “C Major Scale” is the only major diatonic scale without sharps or flats, all others would have at least 1 sharp or flat and/or possibly up to 7 sharps or flats



Remember: To be a “Diatonic Scale”, the scale needs five (5) whole steps and two (2) half steps. The order is not important, but it needs 5 and 2, that is important.

Root (1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	Octave (8)
A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#	A
B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A#	B
C	D	E	F	G	A	B	C
D	E	F#	G	A	B	C#	D
E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D#	E
F	G	A	Bb	C	D	E	F
G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G

### Basic Major Diatonic Scales (A through G)

### Minor Scale (Diatonic Scale)

To create a relative minor scale of a major scale, use the same notes but begin the minor scale at the 6<sup>th</sup> note of the major scale which will give the following formula (W, H, W, W, H, W, W).

Root (1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	Octave (8)
F#	G#	A	B	C#	D	E	F#
G#	A#	B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	A
B	C#	D	E	F#	G	A	B
C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A	B	C#
D	E	F	G	A	Bb	C	D
E	F#	G	A	B	C	D	E

### Basic Minor Diatonic Scales (F# through E)