

INFORMATION

A careful review should now be conducted to ferret out and shore up any perceived weak points in the preceding lessons. As with most lines of endeavour, this "process" operates best from strength. Do not be casual with the first few preliminary lessons. They are important and may very well determine your ultimate success with the rest of the "process."

In music, the alphabets starting from letter one to letter eight are called diatonic scales. The first is called the Major Scale and has the musical sounds so arranged that the half tones fall between the third and fourth, and the seventh and eighth steps or notes. (The notes of the scale are often referred to as "degrees.")

Choosing the letter "C" as a starting point (called the key note) we get a scale of this kind without using sharps or flats. The scale of "C" is therefore called the Natural Major Scale.

		1/2			1/2	
C	D	E-----F	G	A	B-----C	
1	2	3-----4	5	6	7-----8	

If we take the sounds of the "C" scale and rearrange them using the letter "A" as the key note, we get another form of diatonic scale called the Natural Minor Scale.

If a Major scale is begun on any other letter as a key note, it is necessary to use sharps and flats in the key signature to make the half tones fall in their proper places.

In the course of musical composition, sharps and flats not contained in the key signature are called accidentals.

Until otherwise indicated, all alphabets dealt with up to this point will be regarded as some part of a "C" major scale with the half tones always occurring between "E" and "F", and between "B" and "C". The significance of this statement will become evident when we discuss the use of the left hand on the guitar fingerboard.

The methodology you have just completed will have its supporters and its detractors, and everything in between. You, the student, having had the fortitude to complete and understand the "process" will now reap your rewards as the practical playing part is revealed and you begin to realize that indeed, you really are the teacher and your progress depends entirely on your own efforts.

No one else can teach you to PLAY! Only YOU! Again!

Good Luck