

Key Signatures

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Keys are essentially collections of notes.
The key signature tells the player which key
the music is to be played in.

C Major / A Minor: 0 sharps or flats

G Major / E Minor: 1 sharp

For every major key, there is a relative minor key that shares the same key signature.

This is a key signature, it means every F notated in this measure is an F#.

F#

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is in C Major (0 sharps or flats) and the second staff is in G Major (1 sharp). The key signature for G Major is one sharp (F#). The text explains that for every major key, there is a relative minor key that shares the same key signature. It also notes that the key signature means every F notated in this measure is an F#.

3 D Major / B Minor: 2 sharps

A Major / F# Minor: 3 sharps

The key signature will have more or less sharps and flats, depending on which key the music is in.

F#

C#

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is in D Major (2 sharps) and the second staff is in A Major (3 sharps). The key signature for D Major is two sharps (F# and C#). The key signature for A Major is three sharps (F#, C#, and G#). The text explains that the key signature will have more or less sharps and flats, depending on which key the music is in.

5 E Major / C# Minor: 4 sharps

B Major / G# Minor: 5 sharps

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is in E Major (4 sharps) and the second staff is in B Major (5 sharps). The key signature for E Major is four sharps (F#, C#, G#, and D#). The key signature for B Major is five sharps (F#, C#, G#, D#, and A#).

7 F Major / D Minor: 1 flat

Bb Major / G Minor: 2 flats

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is in F Major (1 flat) and the second staff is in Bb Major (2 flats). The key signature for F Major is one flat (Bb). The key signature for Bb Major is two flats (Bb and Eb).

9 Eb Major / C Minor: 3 flats

Ab Major / F Minor: 4 flats

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is in Eb Major (3 flats) and the second staff is in Ab Major (4 flats). The key signature for Eb Major is three flats (Bb, Eb, and Ab). The key signature for Ab Major is four flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, and Db).

11 Db Major / Bb Minor: 5 flats

Gb Major / Eb Minor: 6 flats

The image shows two musical staves. The first staff is in Db Major (5 flats) and the second staff is in Gb Major (6 flats). The key signature for Db Major is five flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, and Gb). The key signature for Gb Major is six flats (Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, Gb, and Cb).