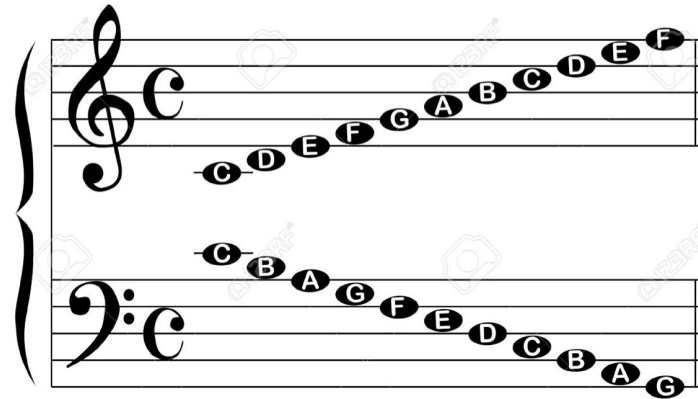


# Finding the Interval

## Name that Note

One way to determine the name of any note is to locate it on the chart in Figure 1.

FIGURE 1: Name of Notes



Another method is use mnemonic devices for the lines and spaces on your sheet music.

For the **Treble Clef** (upper) used by Tenors and Leads:

- The spaces starting at the bottom spell **FACE** .
- The lines from the bottom can be remembered by **Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge**.

For the **Bass Clef** (bottom) used by Baritones and Basses:

- The mnemonic for the spaces from the bottom is **All Cows Eat Grass**.
- The lines (from the bottom) can read **Good Boys Do Fine Always**.

## Finding the Interval

### Determine the Key Signature (AKA Pitch Note)

The icons, symbols and numbers that start each line of music tell you a lot about the song. For now, all we need is to identify how many sharp (#) or flat (b) symbols are associated with this piece. The number of sharps or flats identify the key of the song. It is the note that will be sounded by the pitch pipe. For instance, if the key of the song is B, the keynote is B. Figure 2 shows the signatures you are most likely to encounter.

**FIGURE 2: Key Signatures**

Key of C (no sharps or flats)	Key of F (1 flat)	Key of B Flat (2 flats)	Key of E Flat (3 flats)	Key of A Flat (4 flats)	Key of D Flat (5 flats)	Key of G Flat (6 flats)	Key of C Flat (7 flats)
Key of G (1 sharp)	Key of D (2 sharps)	Key of A (3 sharps)	Key of E (4 sharps)	Key of B (5 sharps)	Key of F Sharp (6 sharps)	Key of C Sharp (7 sharps)	

### Name Your Start Note

Now you know the key of the song and therefore the note that the pitch pipe will sound. It's time to give a name to the note you will be starting on.

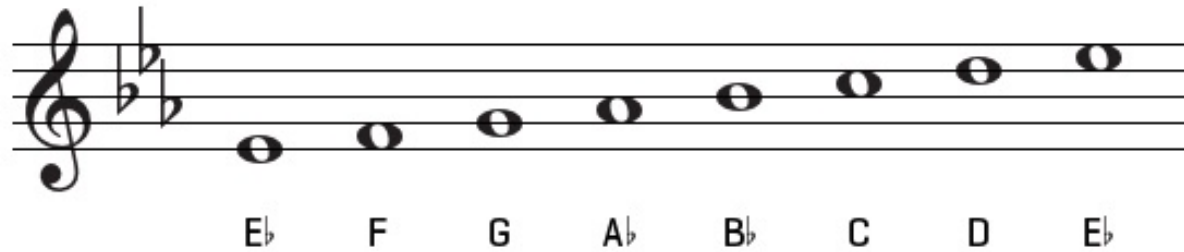
## Finding the Interval

To name the note, two things must be considered.

1. What is the name of the line or space your note falls on? (Refer to Figure 1)
2. Does that line or space have a sharp or flat on it. If it does, your starting note will be the sharp or flat version of the note. Be aware that the sharp or flat carries over to all similarly named notes an octave higher or lower. In the example in Figure 3, the lowest note is an E-flat even though the flat symbol is on the E line an octave higher.

**FIGURE 3: Example**

### E flat major scale



# Finding the Interval

## Putting It All Together

The following examples show the start of some familiar songs. Cover up the answers on the right, and see if you can identify the Key Signature and the starting note for the Tenor, Lead, Bari and Bass. Be careful when the Key Signature includes sharps and flats!

Once you can do this step, continue with the next article found on the website: *Singing the Interval*.

## ANSWERS

### AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

Key: C  
 Tenor: E  
 Lead: G  
 Bari: C  
 Bass: C

**Chorus 1**

Tenor  
 Lead  
 Bari  
 Bass

O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies,

### ALL ALONE

Key: F  
 Tenor: F  
 Lead: C  
 Bari: A  
 Bass: F

**Verse freely**

Tenor  
 Lead  
 Bari  
 Bass

Just like a mel - dy

# Finding the Interval

**CHORUS 1:**

Tenor Lead

Baritone Bass

A- maz- ing— Grace!

Detailed description: This musical score is for the chorus of 'Amazing Grace'. It features two vocal parts: Tenor Lead and Baritone Bass. The Tenor Lead part is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics 'A- maz- ing— Grace!' are written below the notes. The Baritone Bass part is written in a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The music consists of four measures. The first measure has a quarter note on G4 and a quarter note on C4. The second measure has a quarter note on G4 and a quarter note on C4. The third measure has a quarter note on G4 and a quarter note on C4. The fourth measure has a quarter note on G4 and a quarter note on C4. There are first and second endings indicated by '1' and '2' above the notes in the third and fourth measures.

## AMAZING GRACE

Key: G  
Tenor: C  
Lead: D  
Bari: D  
Bass: A

Tenor Lead

Baritone Bass

By the light

By the light,

Detailed description: This musical score is for the chorus of 'By the Light of the Silvery Moon'. It features two vocal parts: Tenor Lead and Baritone Bass. The Tenor Lead part is written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics 'By the light' and 'By the light,' are written below the notes. The Baritone Bass part is written in a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The music consists of four measures. The first measure has a quarter note on G3 and a quarter note on C3. The second measure has a quarter note on G3 and a quarter note on C3. The third measure has a quarter note on G3 and a quarter note on C3. The fourth measure has a quarter note on G3 and a quarter note on C3. There is a first ending indicated by '1' above the notes in the third and fourth measures.

## BY THE LIGHT OF THE SILVERY MOON

Key: B-Flat  
Tenor: D  
Lead: D  
Bari: B-Flat  
Bass: G

*This one's tricky. Did you catch the starting note for the Bari was a B-Flat?*