

# Let's Read Music: Viola

## XII. "C" Major Scale

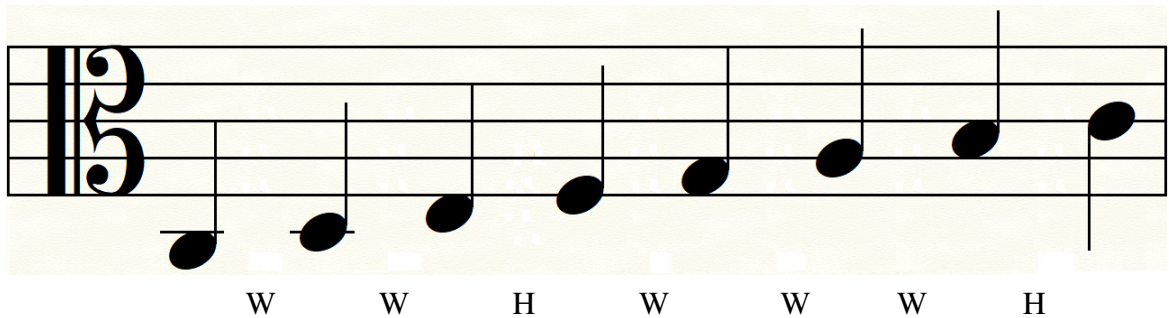
Our next scale is C Major, which requires us to learn the notes on the violin C string.

**Goal:** learn to read notes on the C string, and how to play a C Major Scale.



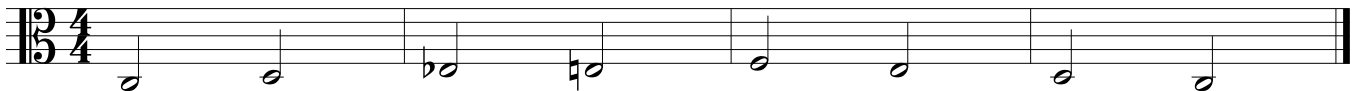
This measure shows all the notes you can play on the C-string of the viola. The bottom note is the pitch "C" that is played with the open C-string. This is the lowest note the viola is capable of playing. The notes that follow are D, E♭, E, F, and G. Your teacher will demonstrate how to play these notes using the same finger patterns you have used on the A, D, and G strings.

The C-string gives us all the notes we need to play a C Major Scale. Like the G Major Scale, the C Major Scale is built on the same pattern of whole<sup>2</sup> steps and half steps. The different steps are marked between each note on the graphic below with the C Major Scale.



While playing the exercises below, pay close attention to which notes you play are Whole Steps (W) and Half Steps (H). Mark "W" and "H" under the measure and in between the notes to indicate whole and half steps.

Exercise 12.1 - While counting in four, play the following C-string notes.



Exercise 12.2 - While counting in four, play the ascending C Major scale below.

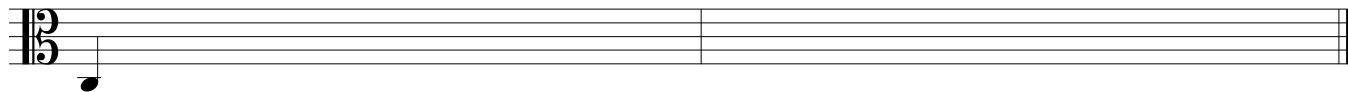


Exercise 12.3 - While counting in four, play the ascending and descending C Major Scale.

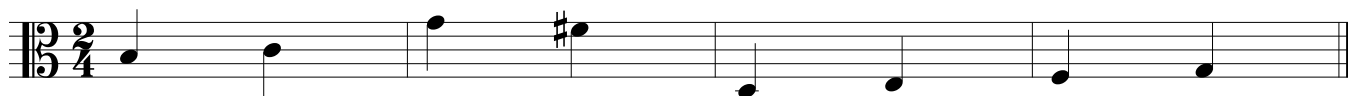


# Coursework

Coursework 12.1 - You are given the first note of the C Major Scale. Using quarter notes, draw the rest of scale, ascending. Be sure to add sharps to the correct notes of the scale.



Coursework 12.2 - Identify if the notes in each measure are a Whole Step (W) or a Half Step (H) apart. Use your violin as a reference.



Creativity Exercise: Fill out the following measures with your own assortment of notes and rests. You may use any note values and letter names you desire, but the new C-String notes must be used at least once.

