

## Chapter 7 Writing Minor Scales with Key Signatures

In this chapter you will:

1. Identify notes with double sharps
2. Identify notes with double flats
3. Identify notes with natural signs
4. Write natural minor scales with key signatures
5. Write harmonic minor scales with key signatures
6. Write melodic minor scales with key signatures
7. Review writing all minor scales

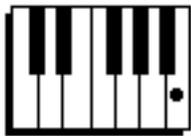
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### 7.1 Identify notes with double sharps

- A double sharp,  $\times\sharp$ , raises a note two half steps.

1. DRAW a dot on the keyboard which corresponds to the letter name.

Example: A  $\times$



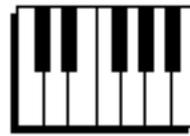
C  $\times$



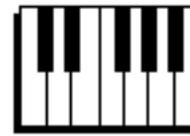
F  $\times$



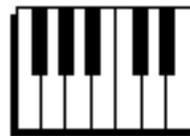
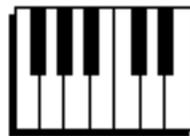
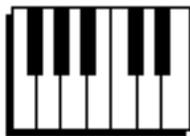
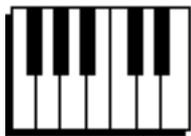
G  $\times$



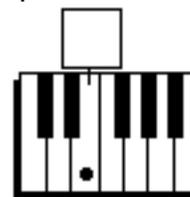
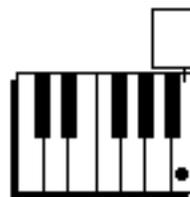
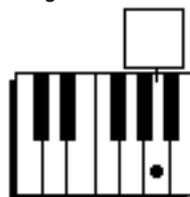
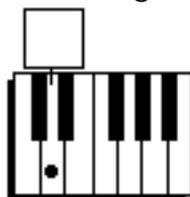
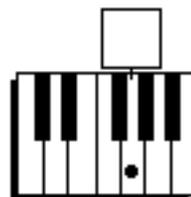
D  $\times$



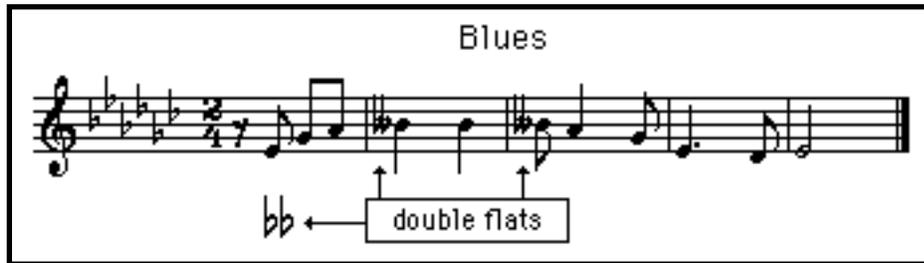
2. DRAW a dot on the keyboard which corresponds to the note on the staff.  
CAREFUL: These keyboards begin differently than those above.



3. IDENTIFY the following notes by a letter with a double sharp.



7.2 Identify notes with double flats



- A double flat,  $bb$ , lowers a note two half steps.

1. Draw a dot on the keyboard which corresponds to the letter name.

Example:  $A_{bb}$



$E_{bb}$



$B_{bb}$



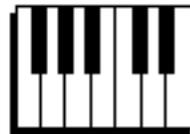
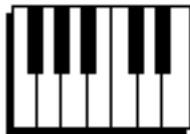
$G_{bb}$



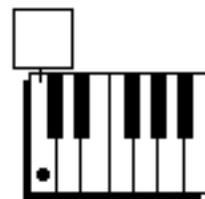
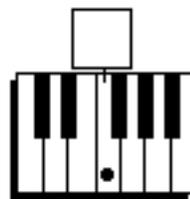
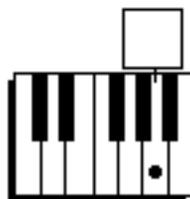
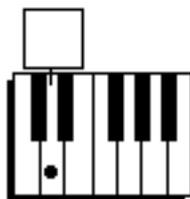
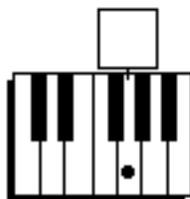
$D_{bb}$



2. Draw a dot on the keyboard which corresponds to the note on the staff.



3. Identify the following notes by a letter with a double flat.



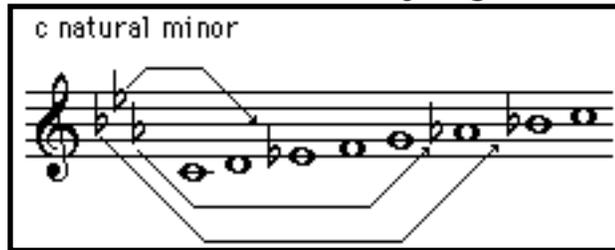
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### 7.3 Identify notes with natural signs

- Recall that a note with a sharp or flat next to it remains sharp or flat if it is repeated in the same measure (worksheet 4.3).
- Recall that key signatures show which notes are to be played sharp or flat in the music. These sharps and flats do not normally appear next to the notes themselves (worksheet 5.1).
- Natural signs, ♮, cancel sharps, flats double sharps and double flats which appear in the key signature (Example 1 above), or which appear earlier in the measure (Example 2). A note marked with a natural sign is always a white key on the keyboard.
- The natural sign affects repeated notes for the remainder of the measure.

IDENTIFY the notes which have blanks underneath in the following phrase.

7.4 Write natural minor scales with key signatures



- It is faster to write minor scales by using their key signatures, once they are known, than by using half steps and whole steps between notes.
- The natural minor scale conforms to its key signature note for note. The key signature is in fact derived from the natural minor scale. See worksheet 6.5.

1. WRITE the natural minor scales for these key signatures.

a. FIND the minor key note by:

first finding the relative major key, and then count down three half steps and skip over a letter name.

b. DRAW eight note heads beginning with the minor key note.

c. INSERT flats or sharps from the key signature between note heads

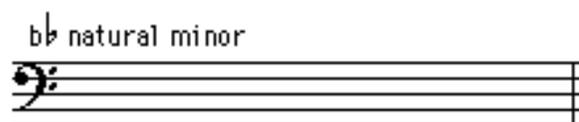


2. WRITE the natural minor scales for these key notes.

a. FIND the relative major key by going up 3 half steps and skipping a letter.

b. WRITE the key signature for these relative major and minor keys

c. PROCEED as in b. and c. above



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### 7.5 Write harmonic minor scales with key signatures

Example 1: g harmonic minor

Example 2: c harmonic minor

Example 3: g# harmonic minor

- In the harmonic minor scale, scale degree 7 is a half step higher than indicated in the key signature.
  - When scale degree 7 is not in the key signature add a sharp (example 1 above).
  - When scale degree 7 is flatted by the key signature add a natural (example 2).
  - When scale degree 7 is sharped by the key signature add a double sharp (example 3).
- Raising scale degree 7 creates a whole step plus a half step between degrees 6 and 7. This part of the scale sounds particularly exotic.

1. WRITE the harmonic minor scales for these key signatures.

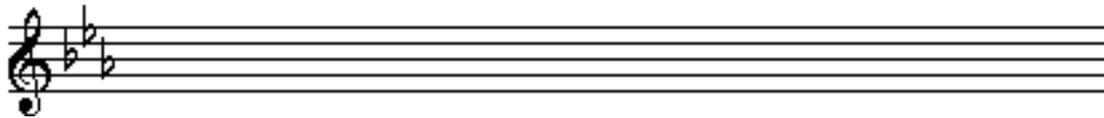
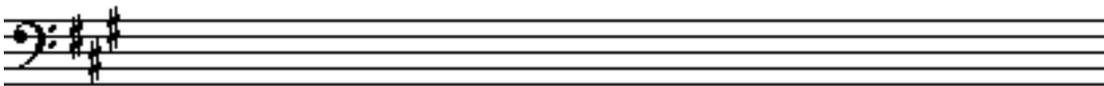
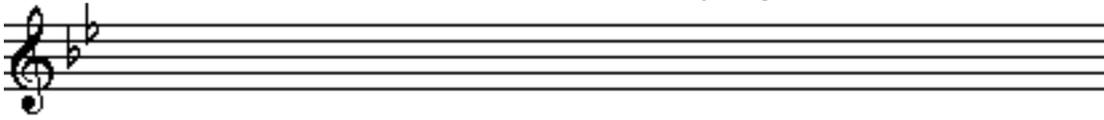
2. WRITE the harmonic minor scales for these key notes.

7.6 Write melodic minor scales with key signatures

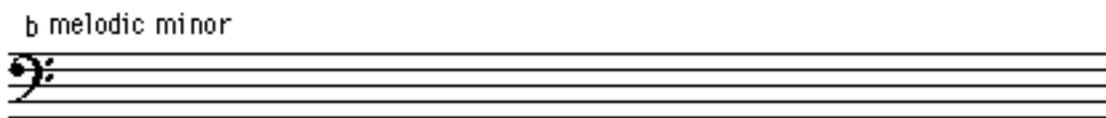
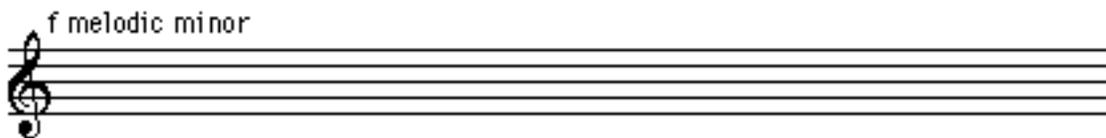
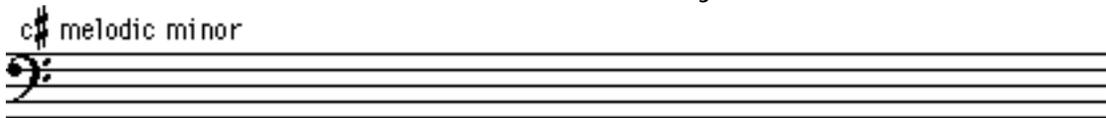


- The melodic minor scale goes both up and down.
  - On the way up, scale degrees 6 and 7 are a half step higher than indicated in the key signature. These notes always require a natural, a sharp or a double sharp. See the above illustration.
  - On the way down this scale conforms to the key signature exactly.
- For clarity, sharps, flats and naturals should be written on scale degrees 6 and 7 when the scale goes down as well as up. See the above illustration.
- Raising scale degrees 6 and 7 on the way up in the melodic minor scale makes those notes "lead" to scale degree 1. That is, raising these notes makes listeners anticipate that scale degree 1 will follow.

1. WRITE melodic minor scales for these key signatures.



2. WRITE melodic minor scales for these key notes.



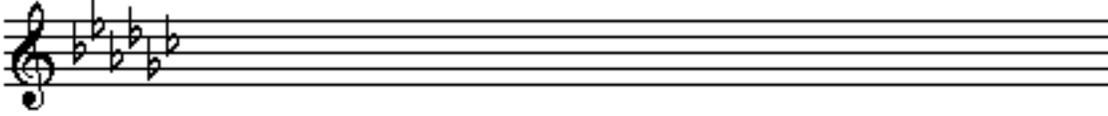
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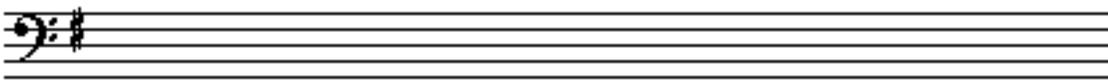
7.7 Review writing all minor scales

1. WRITE the following scales.

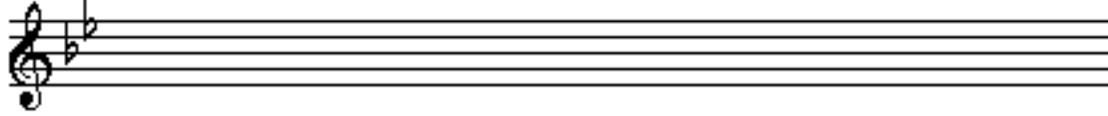
harmonic minor



natural minor

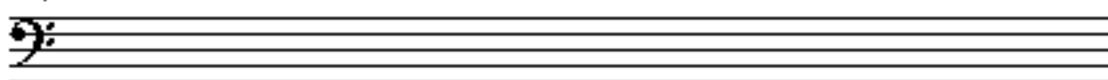


melodic minor

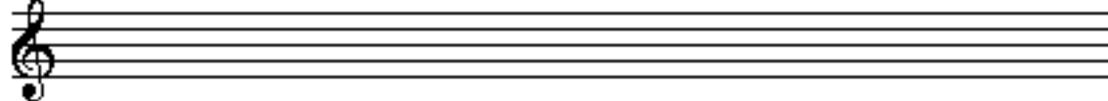


2. WRITE the following scales. INCLUDE the key signatures.

d# melodic minor



f natural minor



c# harmonic minor

