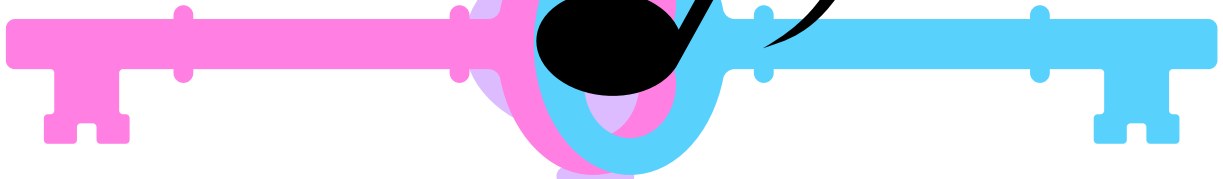


Keys to the Keys



While there are more kinds of tonality than what we call *Keys*, most of the music we hear or play *is* in a key: the pitches are drawn from a major or minor *scale*, and the music is in the major or minor *key* of that name. (The music may also morph into, or flirt with, other keys as well.)

A key signature is indeed a *signature*, shared by a major key and a minor key.

If the key signature has **one or more**

sharps, #

go to the **last sharp**, then **UP** one pitch. **That's** the name of the **Major Key** represented by that key signature.

If the key signature has **TWO or more**

flats, bb

then go to the **next-to-last flat**. **That's** the name of the **Major Key** represented by that key signature.



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...And if you know the name of the Major Key,

take that name and go down 2 note-names in that key (they have to be **3 half-steps** apart),

and **that's** the name of the **Minor Key** that uses the same key signature.

That covers all key signatures but two:

No sharps or flats
= C MAJOR

("all Clear" 😊)

&

One flat
= F MAJOR

("I Flat is **F**" 😊)

Next order of business? **Learn the CIRCLE OF FIFTHS**: music's circle of life!