

55 Scale Types

Table 2.1 below shows a long list of many common and exotic scale names, their formula, and notes in the Key of C. This table is a great reference while studying and practicing all these scales. It will take some time before all these scales become memorized. Remember to use similar scales to help remember the more difficult scales by identifying the small differences between the similar scales.

Scale Name	Scale Formula	Notes in the Key of C
7 Note Scales		
Major/Ionian	1-2-3-4-5-6-7 W-W-H-W-W-W-H	C-D-E-F-G-A-B-C
Minor/Aeolian	1-2-b3-4-5-b6-b7 W-H-W-W-H-W-W	C-D-Eb-F-G-Ab-Bb-C
Harmonic Minor	1-2-b3-4-5-b6-7 W-H-W-W-H-W+H-H	C-D-Eb-F-G-Ab-B-C
Jazz Minor/Melodic Minor	1-2-b3-4-5-6-7 W-H-W-W-W-W-H	C-D-Eb-F-G-A-B-C
Dorian	1-2-b3-4-5-6-b7 W-H-W-W-W-H-W	C-D-Eb-F-G-A-Bb-C
Dorian b2/Phrygian #6	1-b2-b3-4-5-6-b7 H-W-W-W-W-H-W	C-Db-Eb-F-G-A-Bb-C
Phrygian	1-b2-b3-4-5-b6-b7 H-W-W-W-H-W-W	C-Db-Eb-F-G-Ab-Bb-C
Phrygian Dominant/Spanish	1-b2-3-4-5-b6-b7 H-H+W-H-W-H-W-W	C-Db-E-F-G-Ab-Bb-C
Lydian	1-2-3-#4-5-6-7 W-W-W-H-W-W-H	C-D-E-F#-G-A-B-C
Lydian Minor	1-2-3-#4-5-b6-b7 W-W-W-H-H-W-W	C-D-E-F#-G-Ab-Bb-C
Lydian Dominant	1-2-3-#4-5-6-b7 W-W-W-H-W-H-W	C-D-E-F#-G-A-Bb-C
Lydian Augmented	1-2-3-#4-#5-6-7 W-W-W-W-H-W-H	C-D-E-F#-G#-A-B-C
Lydian Diminished	1-2-b3-#4-5-6-7 W-H-H+W-H-W-W-H	C-D-Eb-F#-G-A-B-C
Mixolydian	1-2-3-4-5-6-b7 W-W-H-W-W-H-W	C-D-E-F-G-A-Bb-C
Mixolydian b6	1-2-3-4-5-b6-b7 W-W-H-W-H-W-W	C-D-E-F-G-Ab-Bb-C

Mixolydian Augmented	1-2-3-4-#5-6-b7 W-W-H-W+H-H-H-W	C-D-E-F-G#-A-Bb-C
Locrian	1-b2-b3-4-b5-b6-b7 H-W-W-H-W-W-W	C-Db-Eb-F-Gb-Ab-Bb-C
Locrian #2	1-2-b3-4-b5-b6-b7 W-H-W-H-W-W-W	C-D-Eb-F-Gb-Ab-Bb-C
Locrian #6	1-b2-b3-4-b5-6-b7 H-W-W-H-H+W-H-W	C-Db-Eb-F-Gb-A-Bb-C
Locrian Dominant	1-b2-3-4-b5-b6-b7 H-H+W-H-H-W-W-W	C-Db-E-F-Gb-Ab-Bb-C
Super Locrian	1-b2-b3-b4-b5-b6-b7 H-W-H-W-W-W-W	C-Db-Eb-E-Gb-Ab-Bb-C
Arabian/Major Locrian	1-2-3-4-b5-b6-b7 W-W-H-H-W-W-W	C-D-E-F-Gb-Ab-Bb-C
Enigmatic	1-b2-3-#4-#5-#6-7 H-H+W-W-W-W-H-H	C-Db-E-F#-G#-A#-B-C
Neopolitan	1-b2-b3-4-5-b6-7 H-W-W-W-H-H+W-H	C-Db-Eb-F-G-Ab-B-C
Neopolitan Major	1-b2-b3-4-5-6-7 H-W-W-W-W-W-H	C-Db-Eb-F-G-A-B-C
Hungarian Major	1-#2-3-#4-5-6-b7 W+H-H-W-H-W-H-W	C-D#-E-F#-G-A-Bb-C
Hungarian Minor	1-2-b3-#4-5-b6-7 W-H-H+W-H-H-H+W-H	C-D-Eb-F#-G-Ab-B-C
Hindu/Harmonic Major	1-2-3-4-5-b6-7 W-W-H-W-H-H+W-H	C-D-E-F-G-Ab-B-C
Iranian/Charhargan/Double harmonic	1-b2-3-4-5-b6-7 H-H+W-H-W-H-H+W-H	C-Db-E-F-G-Ab-B-C
Romanian Minor/Dorian #4	1-2-b3-#4-5-6-b7 W-H-W+H-H-W-H-W	C-D-Eb-F#-G-A-Bb-C
Persian	1-b2-3-4-b5-b6-7 H-H+W-H-H-W-H+W-H	C-Db-E-F-Gb-Ab-B-C
5 Note Scales		
Major Pentatonic	1-2-3-5-6 W-W-H+W-W-W+H	C-D-E-G-A-C
Minor Pentatonic	1-b3-4-5-b7 W+H-W-W-H+W-W	C-Eb-F-G-Bb-C
Suspended Pentatonic	1-2-4-5-b7	C-D-F-G-Bb-C

	W-W+H-W-W+H-W	
Japanese	1-b2-4-5-b7 H-W+W-W-W+H-W	C-Db-F-G-Bb-C
Balinese	1-b2-b3-5-b6 H-W-H+W-H-W+W	C-Db-Eb-G-Ab-C
Egyptian	1-2-4-5-b7 W-W+H-W-W+H-W	C-D-F-G-Bb-C
Hirajoshi	1-2-b3-5-b6 W-H-W+W-H-W+W	C-D-Eb-G-Ab-C
Chinese 1	1-3-#4-5-7 W+W-W-H-W+W-H	C-E-F#-G-B-C
Chinese 2	1-2-4-5-6 W-W+H-W-W-W+H	C-D-F-G-A-C
6 Note Scales		
Major Blues	1-2-b3-3-5-6 W-H-H-W+H-W-W+H	C-D-Eb-E-G-A-C
Minor Blues	1-b3-4-b5-5-b7 W+H-W-H-H-W+H-W	C-Eb-F-Gb-G-Bb-C
Minor Blues variation	1-b3-4-b5-5-6 W+H-W-H-H-W-W+H	C-Eb-F-Gb-G-A-C
Minor Pentatonic variation	1-2-b3-4-5-b7 W-H-W-W-W+H-W	C-D-Eb-F-G-Bb-C
Whole Tone	1-2-3-b5-b6-b7 W-W-W-W-W-W	C-D-E-Gb-Ab-Bb-C
Augmented	1-b3-3-5-#5-7 W+H-H-H+W-H-W+H-H	C-Eb-E-G-G#-B-C
Prometheus	1-2-3-b5-6-b7 W-W-W-W+H-H-W	C-D-E-Gb-A-Bb-C
Prometheus Neopolitan	1-b2-3-b5-6-b7 H-W+H-W-W+H-H-W	C-Db-E-Gb-A-Bb-C
8 Note Scales		
Dorian variation	1-2-b3-4-b5-5-6-b7 W-H-W-H-H-W-H-W	C-D-Eb-F-Gb-G-A-Bb-C
Whole Step-Half Step	1-2-b3-4-b5-b6-6-7 W-H-W-H-W-H-W-H	C-D-Eb-F-Gb-Ab-A-B-C
Half Step-Whole Step	1-b2-b3-3-b5-5-6-b7 H-W-H-W-H-W-H-W	C-Db-Eb-E-Gb-G-A-Bb-C

Major Bebop	1-2-3-4-5-#5-6-7 W-W-H-W-H-H-W-H	C-D-E-F-G-G#-A-B-C
Minor Bebop	1-2-b3-3-4-5-6-b7 W-H-H-H-W-W-H-W	C-D-Eb-E-F-G-A-Bb-C
Dominant Bebop	1-2-3-4-5-6-b7-7 W-W-H-W-W-H-H-H	C-D-E-F-G-A-Bb-B-C
12 Note Scale		
Chromatic Scale	H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H-H	C-C#/Db-D-D#/Eb-E-F-F#/Gb-G-G#/Ab-A-A#/Bb-B-C

Table 2.1 – Common and exotic scale types