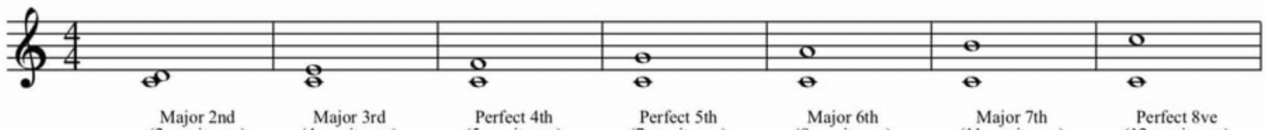


Quick Tips - Intervals | Amy Linington Music

Here is a method to work out intervals in easy to follow steps.

1. **Always count up from the bottom note.** Even if they are presented with the top note first.
2. **Whatever the key signature of the excerpt, treat the bottom note as the tonic and count up in anticipation of a major/perfect interval.**



- Any major scale will contain the same pattern of intervals shown above, when the key note is used as the bottom note of the interval.
3. **When the top note of the interval is no longer one of the notes within the major scale, e.g. by sharpening or flattening it, you get an interval that is not major or perfect.**

Three musical staves in 4/4 time showing altered intervals starting from C (middle C) on the first line. The first staff shows: Minor 2nd (C to Bb), Major 2nd (C to D), Augmented 2nd (C to Db), Minor 3rd (C to Eb), Major 3rd (C to E), and Diminished 4th (C to Fb). The second staff shows: Perfect 4th (C to F), Augmented 4th (C to F#), Diminished 5th (C to Gb), Perfect 5th (C to G), Augmented 5th (C to G#), and Minor 6th (C to Ab). The third staff shows: Major 6th (C to A), Augmented 6th (C to A#), Minor 7th (C to Bb), Major 7th (C to B), and Perfect 8ve (C to C').

- If you take the major 3rd - C to E, and change the E to E flat, it becomes a minor 3rd. By changing the E to E flat, you have made it a semitone smaller.
4. **If you make a major interval a semitone smaller, you get a minor interval**
- so if you take the major 6th: C to A, and change the A to A flat, you end up with a minor 6th = C to A flat is a minor 6th.

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- In another key: A to F# is a major 6th so A to F is a minor 6th
5. **If you make a perfect or a minor interval) a semitone smaller, you get a diminished interval.** Eg. C to G is a perfect 5th. If you change the G to G flat, you get a diminished 5th.
- In another key - B to f# is a perfect 5th so b to F is a dim 5th
6. **If you make either a major or perfect interval a semitone bigger, you get an augmented interval.** Eg. C to F is a perfect 4th. If you change the F to F# you get an augmented 4th.
- In another key - B Flat to E flat is a perf 4th so B flat to E is an aug 4th.