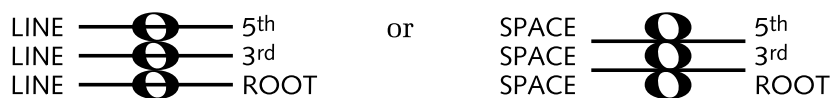


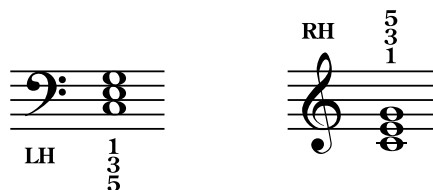
Triads (Chords)

A **triad** is a three-note chord. The three notes of a triad are the root (1), the third (3), and the fifth (5). The **root** is the note from which the triad gets its name. The root of a C triad is C. Triads in root position (with the root at the bottom) always look like this:



Triad Fingering

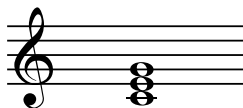
LH chords are fingered 5 3 1. RH chords are fingered 1 3 5.



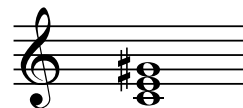
Triad Types

There are four types of triads.

Major



Augmented (Fifth raised a half step from major)



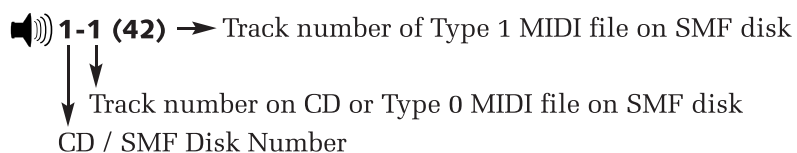
Minor (Third lowered a half step from major)



Diminished (Fifth lowered a half step from minor)



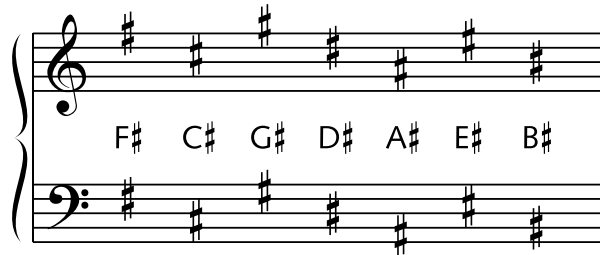
Each example in the text identified by the following icon is fully supported by Compact Discs and Standard MIDI File (SMF) disks. The first number after the icon denotes the CD/SMF disk number. The second number is the track number on the CD and the Type 0 MIDI file on the SMF disk. The third number (in parentheses) is the track number of the Type 1 MIDI file on the SMF disk. (See MIDI disk documentation for more information on MIDI file types.)



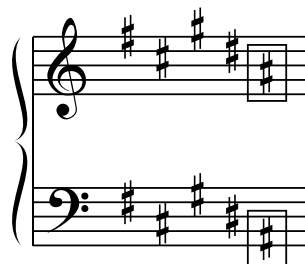
Key Signatures

Sharps or flats that follow the clef signs are called the **key signature**. The key signature indicates the notes that are to be sharped or flatted throughout the piece and aids in identifying the key in which the piece is written.

Sharps appear in the following order in the key signature:

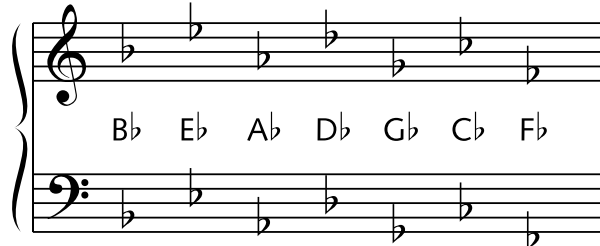


The name of a sharp major key can be determined by moving up a half step from the last sharp.



This is the key signature for the **key of B major**. A half step up from A# is B.

Flats appear in the following order in the key signature:
The order of flats is reversed from the order of sharps in key signatures.



The name of a flat major key can be determined by the name of the next-to-last flat.



This is the key signature for the **key of Ab major**. The next-to-last flat is Ab.

Two major key signatures cannot be determined using the above rules:

- C major—no sharps or flats
- F major—one flat (Bb)