

Berklee**Shares.com**TM

FREE music lessons from
Berklee College of Music

Berklee Music Theory: Book 1

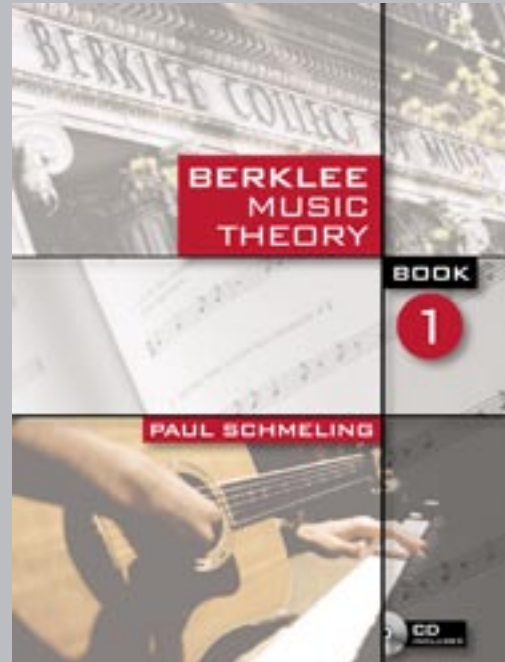
Paul Schmeling

Lesson 31

Interval Naming


Click CD icons to listen to
CD tracks from book.
Press ESC to cancel sound.

Check out Berkleeshares.com for more lessons
just like this one.



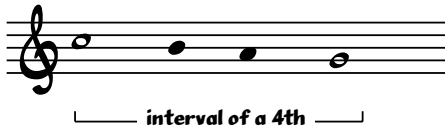
Lesson 31. Interval Naming

An **interval** is the distance between two notes. Like scale degrees, intervals are identified with numbers. These numbers are determined by counting letter names from one note to the next. For example, the interval from C up to G is a “fifth.” C is counted as 1, then D is 2, E is 3, F is 4, and G makes 5, a fifth.

46  interval of a 5th

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef. Five notes are written: C (middle C), D, E, F, and G. A bracket underneath the staff spans from the C note to the G note, with the text "interval of a 5th" written below the bracket.

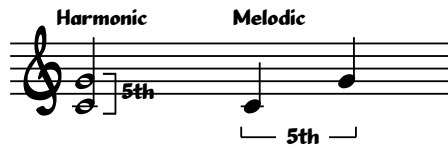
The interval from C down to G would be different. Starting with C as 1, count steps: B is 2, A is 3, and G makes 4. The interval from C down to G is a fourth.

46  interval of a 4th

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef. Four notes are written: C, B, A, and G. A bracket underneath the staff spans from the C note to the G note, with the text "interval of a 4th" written below the bracket.

An interval's notes can sound simultaneously (**harmonic**) or one note after the other (**melodic**).

Harmonic Melodic



The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef. On the left, two notes (C and G) are written simultaneously, with a bracket between them labeled "5th" and the word "Harmonic" above. On the right, two notes (C and G) are written one after the other, with a bracket between them labeled "5th" and the word "Melodic" above.

47 Listen to harmonic and melodic intervals on track 47.

Practice

1. Indicate the number name of each interval.

A musical staff in treble clef containing seven pairs of notes. The notes are: G4 and A4, A4 and B4, B4 and C5, C5 and D5, D5 and E5, E5 and F5, and F5 and G5. Below each pair is a horizontal line for the student to write the interval name.

2. Complete each measure by writing a second half note that forms the indicated melodic interval above each note.

A musical staff in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It contains five measures, each starting with a half note followed by a double bar line. The notes and their corresponding interval labels are: G4 (5th), A4 (3rd), B4 (4th), C5 (2nd), and D5 (7th).

3. Complete each measure by writing a second half note that forms the indicated melodic interval below each note.

A musical staff in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It contains five measures, each starting with a half note followed by a double bar line. The notes and their corresponding interval labels are: G4 (7th), F4 (6th), E4 (4th), D4 (3rd), and C4 (2nd).