

Intro To Secondary Notes

We have already covered the 7 Primary Notes, so we still have 5 more notes to go!

Secondary notes are simply modifiers. They are modifiers because they take the original primary note and add either a sharp or flat to that note. (sharp = #, flat = b)

Remember that the Primary Notes are A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.

You also know that they repeat. Logically, this is ALSO the case for secondary notes. These secondary notes respectively raise or lower the pitch of a note by a half step. These are used to create the additional five notes necessary to complete the chromatic scale. The sharp symbol is #, the flat symbol is similar to a lower-case italic b, as shown in parentheses above. These accidentals are written after the note name; for example F# represents the note F sharp, Bb is B flat.

These secondary (modified) notes have dual names, meaning one note can be called either sharp or flat. Think of a sharp as meaning "go up one fret" and a flat as "go down one fret".

The 5 secondary notes are called G# or Ab, A# or Bb, C# or Db, D# or Eb, and F# or Gb

	A#/Bb			C#/Db		D#/Eb			F#/Gb		G#/Ab
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

The main thing to remember is that every note is separated by a whole step, except B and C, and E and F.

With all 12 blocks filled you can see a sharp always follows a primary note and a flat always precedes a primary note:

A	A#/Bb	B	C	C#/Db	D	D#/Eb	E	F	F#/GB	G	G#/Ab
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12