

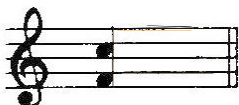
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INTERVALS¹

An **interval** is the distance between two pitches.

- Two pitches sounded together produce a **harmonic interval**.
- Two pitches sounded one after another produce a **melodic interval**.

Harmonic Interval



Melodic Interval

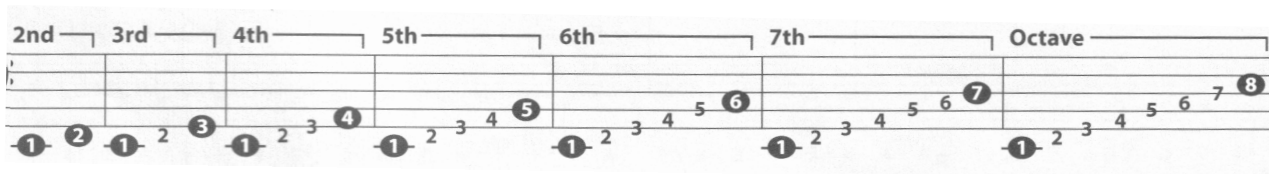


Intervals are identified by their quality - perfect (P), major (M), minor (m), diminished (d) and augmented (A) and their distance from one another. -1st (prime or unison), 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th (octave), etc.

IMPORTANT: While you are in middle school, you will only worry about the distance of an interval NOT its quality.

🔑 **How to find the distance of an interval:**

1. Start with “1 on the lower note.
2. Count each line and space between the notes. The number of the higher note is the name of the interval. (See example below.)²



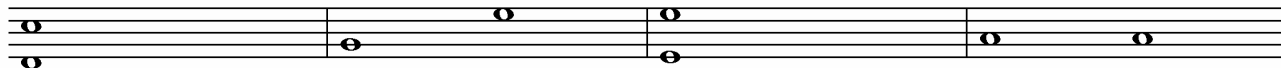
Use what you just learned about intervals to answer the questions below.

What is the interval? Write “M” if it is a melodic interval and “H” if it is a harmonic interval.



interval M or H interval M or H interval M or H interval M or H

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interval M or H interval M or H interval M or H interval M or H

¹ Garofalo, Robert. Rehearsal Handbook for Band and Orchestra. Meredith Music Publications, 1983.

² Lautzenheiser, Tim, Paul Lavender, John Higgins, Tom C. Rhodes, Charles Menghini, and Don Bierschenk. Essential Elements 2000, Book 1. Milwaukee, WI: Hal Leonard Corporation, 1999.

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It is important for you to be able to identify intervals so that when you see them in your music, you know what they are. It is even more important for you to know what each interval sounds like so that when you hear it, you can play it in tune!

One the best ways to learn how to hear intervals is to practice playing them! Be sure to add this interval exercise to your daily practice routine.

Flute
Oboe
Bells

2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave

Bb Clarinets
Bb Bass Clarinets
Bb Tenor Saxes
Bb Trumpets

2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave

Eb Alto Saxes
Eb Bari. Saxes

2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave

Horn in F

2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave

Trombones
Euphonims
Bassoons

2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th Octave

Tubas

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Fl.  
Ob.  
Bls.

2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Octave

Bb Cls.  
Bb T. Sxs.  
Bb Tpts.

2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Octave

Eb A. Sxs.  
Eb B. Sxs.

2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Octave

Hn.

2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Octave

Tbns.  
Euphs.  
Bsns.

2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Octave

Tubas