

Chapter 6

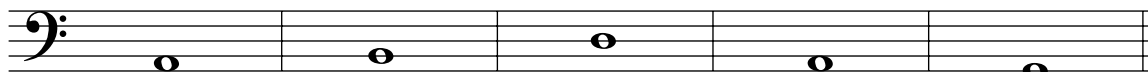
Pitch Intervals

BASIC ELEMENTS

I. Writing generic intervals

Write a whole note on the correct line or space to make each interval specified below. Do not add sharps or flats.

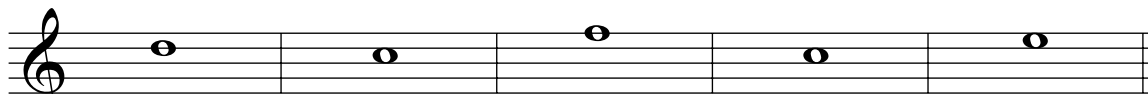
(a) Write the generic harmonic interval *above* the given note.



A musical staff with a bass clef. It contains five measures, each with a single whole note. The notes are on the following lines and spaces from left to right: the first space (F), the second line (G), the third space (A), the fourth line (B), and the fifth line (C).

6th 5th 3rd 4th 7th

(b) Write the generic harmonic interval *below* the given note.



A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains five measures, each with a single whole note. The notes are on the following lines and spaces from left to right: the first space (F), the second line (G), the third space (A), the fourth line (B), and the fifth line (C).

4th 5th 7th 2nd 6th

II. Writing perfect and major pitch intervals

To write an interval *above* a given pitch, first write out the generic interval. Now imagine the major-key signature associated with the bottom pitch, and add a flat or sharp, if necessary, to the upper pitch to make the correct interval quality. When writing an interval *below* the given note, first write the generic interval. Does the upper note fit in the major-key signature of the lower note? If not, add an accidental to the bottom note (which will change the key signature you are using to spell the interval). Do not change the given pitch.

(a) Begin by writing some major and perfect intervals *above* the same note: D4.

Write melodic intervals. Imagine a key signature of two sharps.

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The starting note is D4 (middle C). The staff is divided into five measures, each containing a single note. Below each measure is a label: M3, P5, M7, M6, and P4.

(b) Now write some major and perfect intervals *below* the same note: F#3. Write

melodic intervals.

A musical staff in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The starting note is F#3 (F-sharp). The staff is divided into five measures, each containing a single note. Below each measure is a label: M3, M6, P5, M7, and P4.

III. Writing perfect, major, and minor pitch intervals

For the exercises below, first write out major or perfect intervals. When a minor interval is requested, add an accidental to the major interval you have just spelled, in order to make it smaller in size. As before, do not change the given pitch.

(a) Write the specified melodic interval *above* the given note.

P8 M2 m3 P5 m6 m7

M6 m3 m6 P4 M6 m2

(b) Write the specified melodic interval *below* the given note.

P5 M7 m6 P8 m2

m2 M2 m7 P5 M6

IV. Writing diminished and augmented pitch intervals

For the exercises below, first write out major, minor, or perfect intervals. When an augmented interval is requested, start with a perfect or major interval, then add an accidental to make it a half step larger. When a diminished interval is requested, start with a perfect or minor interval, then add an accidental to make it a half step smaller. As always, do not change the given pitch.

A. Melodic intervals

1. Write the specified melodic interval *above* the given note.

A musical staff in treble clef containing six notes. Below each note is a label for the interval to be written above it. The notes and their labels are: A4 (first line), A2 (second space), d7 (third space), d5 (third space), A4 (second line), and A6 (third space).

2. Write the specified melodic interval *below* the given note.

A musical staff in bass clef containing six notes. Below each note is a label for the interval to be written below it. The notes and their labels are: d5 (second space), A2 (second space), A4 (third space), d5 (third space), d7 (third space), and A6 (third space).

B. Harmonic Intervals

1. Write the specified harmonic interval *above* the given note.

A musical staff in treble clef containing six notes. Below each note is a label for the interval to be written above it. The notes and their labels are: d5 (second space), A2 (second space), d7 (third space), A6 (third space), d5 (third space), and A4 (second line).

2. Write the specified harmonic interval *below* the given note.

A6 d7 A4 d5 A2 A6

V. Enharmonically equivalent intervals

For each interval shown below, write another interval beside it that is enharmonically equivalent. There may be several correct answers for each given interval—see how many you can identify.

VI. Interval inversion

A. Identify each interval shown below. In the empty measure beside it, invert each given interval by rewriting the second note, followed by the first note transposed up an octave (as shown in the example). Then identify the new interval you have written.

M3 m6

B. Identify each interval shown below. In the empty measure beside it, invert each given interval by rewriting the second note, followed by the first note transposed down an octave (as shown in the example). Then identify the new interval you have written.

P4 P5