

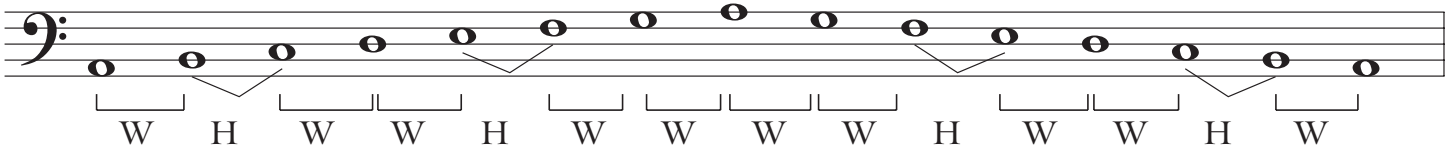
A Minor Intervals: 4ths, 5ths, Octaves

Key Signature
A Minor

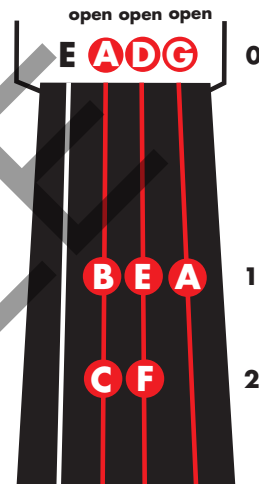
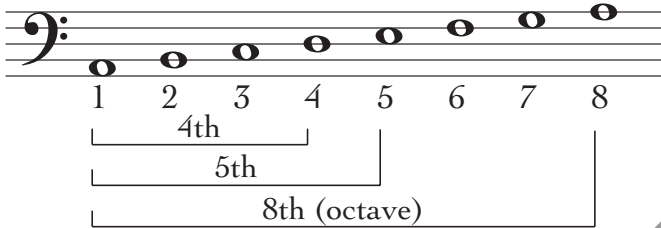


= No sharps in the key signature. A minor has the same key signature as C major.

Here is the **A Minor Scale**. The A minor scale starts and ends on A.



4th, 5th, & 8th Intervals = Start with the first note (scale degree) of a major and minor scale, then go to the 4th, 5th, or 8th scale degrees.



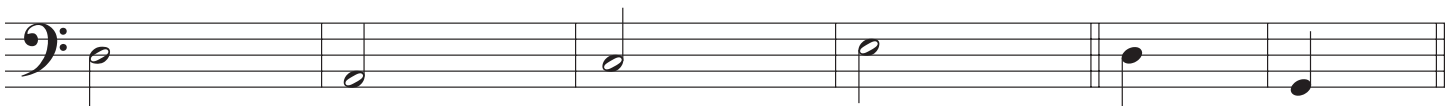
Practice!

- Write the letter names under the notes and color in the corresponding place of each note on the fingerboard. In the box, name the interval between the first two notes (your answer will be 4th, 5th, or octave).

 <input type="text"/> Interval Name	 <input type="text"/> Interval Name	 <input type="text"/> Interval Name	 <input type="text"/> Interval Name
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- Using half notes, write a note that is a 5th above the given note.

- Using quarter notes, write a note that is an octave (8th) above the given note.



Music of Sweden: Nyckelharpa



The **nyckelharpa** is a unique string instrument from Sweden. It can be easily identified by the rows of keys along the neck of the instrument. When a key is pressed, it causes a tangent to reach out and stop the string.

*

The nyckelharpa played today has up to 37 keys, 3 playing strings that are tuned G-C-A, a **drone string** that is tuned C, and 12 sympathetic strings.



Photo Credit: Mikael Bodner



Bronze statue of Eric Sahlström, 1992. Photo credit: Hisselsberg

The nyckelharpa has roots back as far as 1400. Through the centuries, this keyed instrument went in and out of popularity. In the 18th and 19th centuries, nyckelharpa fiddlers were considered very prominent, important members of their communities. By the 20th century, however, the popularity of both the fiddlers and nyckelharpas had faded again. There was another revival of the nyckelharpa in the 1960s and 1970s, and today it is played across Sweden and in many other countries.

As in other fiddling traditions, nyckelharpa tunes are best learned by listening to another fiddler. It's not possible to learn the style and feel of the music just by reading printed music. Also, fiddlers often create their own interpretations of a tune by using special bowing techniques or adding ornaments (trills, grace notes, or double stops) that are not written in the music.

Pause for the String Challenge! Is it the drone, sympathetic, or playing strings?

1. Strings bowed by the fiddler _____
2. String that vibrates because certain other strings are played _____
3. Strings that each produce many different notes _____
4. Strings that sound only one pitch (the pitch it has been tuned to) _____

Look back over pages 38-40 to compare and contrast the Hardanger fiddle and nyckelharpa.

Similarities between the instruments or music	Differences between the instruments or music
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____

View a performance of a traditional Swedish folk tune performed on the nyckelharpa by Griselda Sanderson or Eric Sahlström. Complete each task, and be ready to share your answers with others.

Describe the bow and bow strokes.	Describe the playing position of the nyckelharpa.
Describe the use of ornaments.	Do you think the keys make the nyckelharpa easier or more challenging to play than your own instrument? Explain.

*Image taken at Musical Instrument Museum, Phoenix, AZ
L66SB