

A \flat Major Scale and Arpeggio, 1 Octave Starting On Low First Finger on the G String

This handout can be paired with the video of the “A \flat Major Scale and Arpeggio, 1 oct, Starting on Low First Finger on the G String”

Today's objectives:

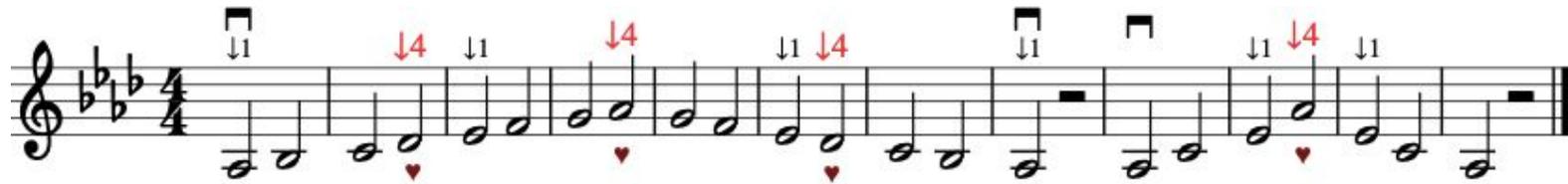
- I can play an one octave A \flat major scale and arpeggio starting on the low first finger on the G string.
- I can play D \flat and A \flat in tune using a low fourth finger ($\downarrow 4$).
- I can sing an A \flat major scale using the musical alphabet and the A \flat major key signature.

Pro tip today: Let's make sure we are holding our instrument parallel to the ground and check for your straight wrist.

Use a drone on A \flat to play with since we're playing an A \flat major scale. I will also turn on a metronome at 60 beats per minute. $\text{♩} = 60$

Pro tip today: Let's make sure we are holding our instrument parallel to the ground and check for your straight wrist.

Let's play our 1 octave A \flat Major scale and arpeggio starting on the low first finger on the G string.



♥ Notes that need a little extra tender, love, and care ♥ are D \flat and A \flat because they are “low 4’s.” In the music we write $\downarrow 4$ as a reminder.

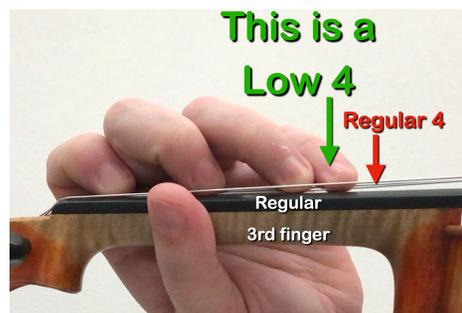
A “low 4” is when our fourth finger is next to our regular third finger. It is called “low” 4 because the closer your finger is to the scroll, the lower the pitch.

$\downarrow 4$

This is not a $\downarrow 4$

D \flat on the G string is $\downarrow 4$

A \flat on the D string is $\downarrow 4$

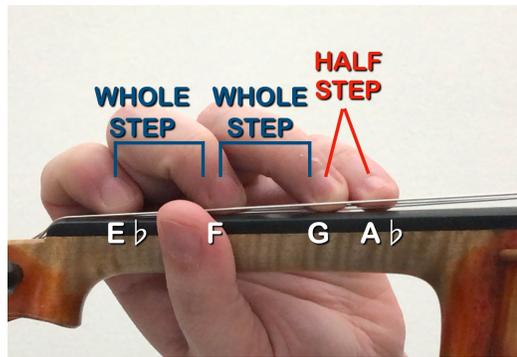
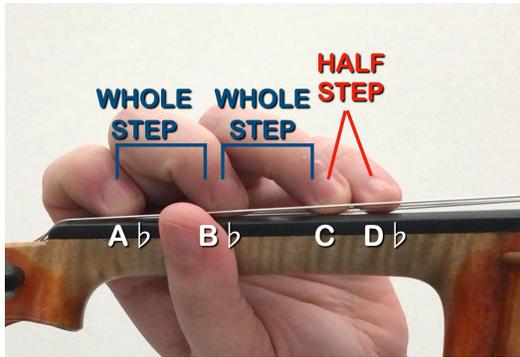


Here's another way of approaching our hand frame - all scales are made up of half steps and whole steps.

Half steps are when the notes are **right next to each other**.

One **whole step** equals two half steps..

In the A \flat major scale we are learning today:



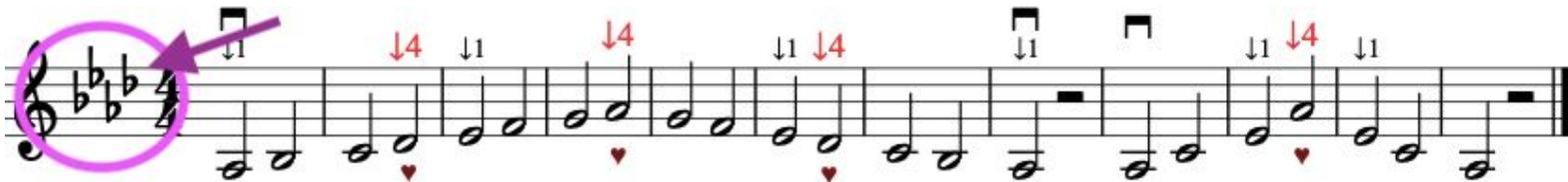
Let's play our 1 octave A \flat Major scale and arpeggio again looking out for the \downarrow 4's.

Pro tip today: Let's make sure we are holding our instrument parallel to the ground and check for your straight wrist.

Building and Singing the Scale

Since we're building a A \flat major scale, our first note name is A, then B C D E F and G. Remember after G we always go back to A. So our note names would be **A B C D E F G A**.

But wait we're not done, let's check out our key signature first. The \flat falls on the B E and A lines, that means ours flat are **B \flat E \flat A \flat and D \flat** .

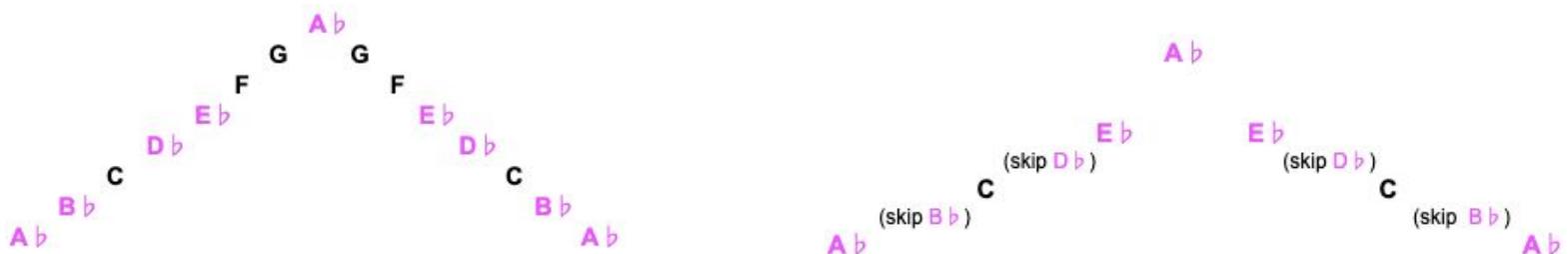


So the notes of the A \flat major scale are **A \flat B \flat C D \flat E \flat F G A \flat**

Let's use our note names to sing an A \flat major scale and arpeggio.

A \flat Major Scale, 1 octave

A \flat Major Arpeggio, 1 octave



Let's play our 1 octave A \flat Major scale and arpeggio again looking out for the \downarrow 4's.