

WHAT ARE SCALES?

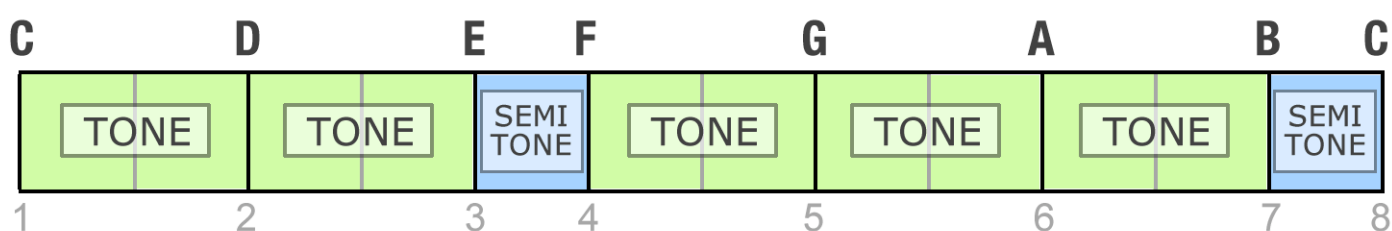
A scale is an arrangement of notes in an ascending or descending order of pitch.

The scale starts at a root note and ascends or descends to the same note, either one octave higher or one octave lower.

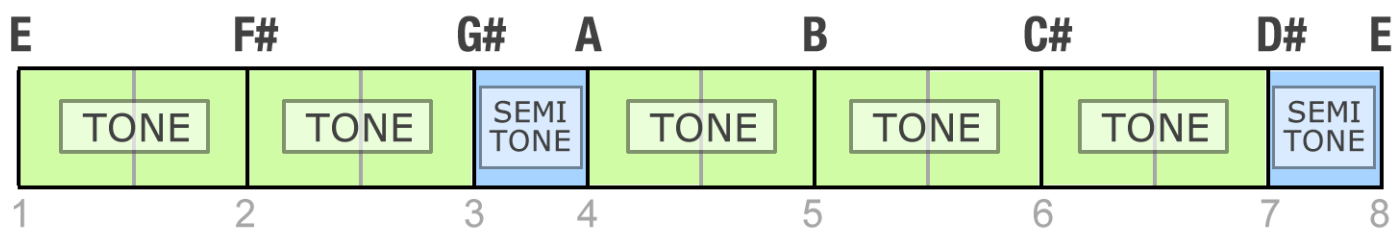
Different scales are created by either starting on a different note (ROOT) or using a different arrangement of notes.

EXAMPLES

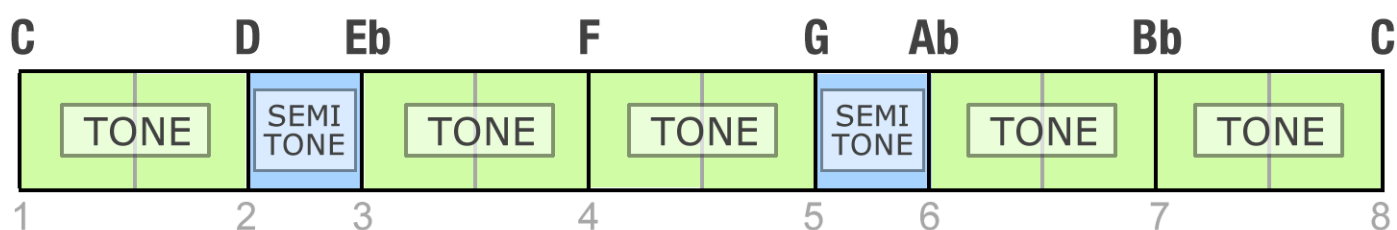
C major scale



E major scale



C minor scale (natural)



Scales usually contain 8 notes, but not always.

Scales usually follow a sequential progression, but not always.

Scales are the building blocks of chords.

On a guitar, each fret represents a semi-tone.

In the USA, a tone is called a step and a semi-tone is called a half-step.

Learning and practicing scales is an important step on the road to being a melodic player and lead guitarist.