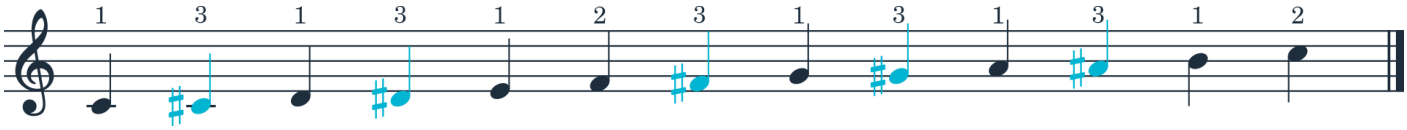
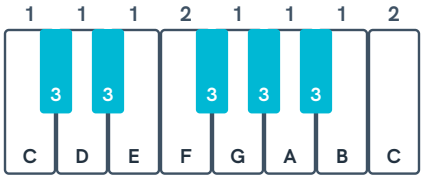
The Chromatic Scale

every key on the piano, one half step at a time

Play EVERY key — white and black — and you get the chromatic scale. Twelve different notes, every one a **half step** from its neighbor (Handout 353), before the name C returns an octave up. Written going up it uses **sharps** (colored cyan below); coming down, the same keys are spelled with **flats**. The fingering secret is tiny: **3 on every black key, thumb on every white key** — except white-to-white neighbors (E-F and B-C), which use 1-2.



R.H. going up — 3 on the black keys (cyan), thumb on the whites, 1-2 at E-F and B-C



Try it Play it slowly up and down like a caterpillar — smooth, even, no bumps at the 1-2 spots. Then the party trick: start a chromatic scale on ANY key and it sounds exactly the same, because every step is identical. It is one of the few scales with no home note at all — which is why it sounds like sneaking. Both hands, two octaves and the mirror: Handout 361. Write them: Exercise 81.

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