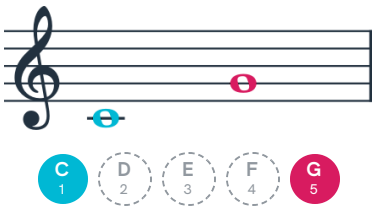
Intervals: the 5th

The biggest interval in your five-finger world: the **5th** — five letters from bottom to top, like C up to G. You already know this pair by another name.

COUNT THE LETTERS

One letter wider than the 4th: the **5th** spans five letters, counting both ends.

C up to G: C is 1, D is 2, E is 3, F is 4, G is 5. Sound familiar? **C to G is home to away** — the tonic and the dominant. The 5th *is* their distance.
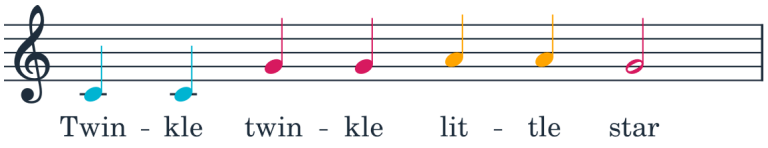


THE SHAPE



Like a 3rd, a 5th goes **line → line** or **space → space** — but one floor higher, with a whole line or space skipped between. On the keyboard: four keys apart. C–G, D–A and E–B are all 5ths.

A SONG YOU KNOW



"Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" — the leap from the second C up to G is a perfect example of a 5th.

Try it Play C–C–G–G and sing "twin-kle twin-kle" — you just leapt a 5th. Play C and G **together**: wide open, strong, almost hollow — the sound of home and away ringing at once. Then find more: D–A, E–B, G–D. Songs for every interval, up and down: Handout 375.

LISTEN
Scan to hear every example
tissimo.co/worksheets/interval-5th

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