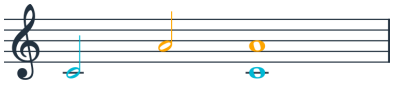The 6th, the 7th & the Octave

the wide intervals — completing the family from 2nds to the full eight-note span

You measured 2nds through 5ths — here are the three wide ones. Same counting rule as always: count every letter name from bottom to top, including both ends. The **6th** (C to A) is warm and singing; the **7th** (C to B) is tense and reaching — one step short of home; the **octave** (C to C) is the same letter name reborn eight notes higher, so perfectly matched it almost sounds like ONE note.

The 6th

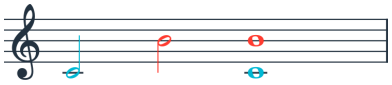
C → A · warm & singing



Song hook: the first two notes of **"My Bon-nie lies over the ocean"** leap up a 6th. Too wide for one hand position — the hand must open.

The 7th
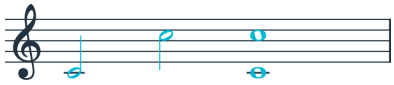
C → B · tense & reaching



One step short of the octave — it **aches to resolve**. Rare as a melody leap, but it lives inside every G7 chord you play (G up to F!).

The octave

C → C · the same, higher



Song hook: **"Some-where over the rainbow"** opens with a soaring octave. Eight letters, same name — the interval that gives the piano its shape.

Try it Play each interval melodically (one note, then the other) and harmonically (together), and rank them by **spice**: the octave is the plainest (almost no spice), the 6th is sweet, the 7th is chili. Then measure with your hand: a 6th needs a small stretch, a 7th a big one, and the octave is the full handspan — thumb and pinky as far as they go. Songs for every interval, up and down: Handout 375.

LISTEN
Scan to hear every example
tissimo.co/worksheets/intervals-6th-7th-octave

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