

CHROMATIC AND WHOLE TONE SCALES

CHROMATIC SCALE, ASCENDING



CHROMATIC SCALE, DESCENDING



WHOLE TONE SCALES

WHOLE TONE SCALES ARE BEST SUITED FOR THESE CHORDS:
C+7 C+9 C+9 (USING "C" FOR PURPOSES OF EXAMPLE ONLY)



THERE IS ONLY ONE CHROMATIC SCALE. IT INCLUDES ALL TWELVE NOTES TRADITIONALLY FOUND IN MUSIC OF THE WESTERN WORLD. SINCE THIS SCALE IS SYMMETRIC, ANY NOTE IN THE SCALE CAN ACT AS THE ROOT, AND IT HAS NO KEY SIGNATURE. THE CHROMATIC SCALE IS MADE UP EXCLUSIVELY OF HALF STEPS. THE FULL CHROMATIC SCALE SHOWN HERE INCLUDES ALL 32 NOTES IN THE NORMAL RANGE OF THE SAXOPHONE.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO DIFFERENT SOUNDING WHOLE TONE SCALES. SINCE THEY'RE SYMMETRIC, ANY NOTE IN THE SCALE CAN ACT AS THE ROOT, AND THEY HAVE NO KEY SIGNATURES. WHOLE TONE SCALES ARE MADE UP EXCLUSIVELY OF WHOLE STEPS. IT CAN BE SAID THAT A WHOLE TONE SCALE IS EVERY OTHER NOTE FROM A CHROMATIC SCALE. THE NOTES LEFT OUT OF SUCH A SCALE WOULD CREATE THE SECOND WHOLE TONE SCALE. THE SCALE CONTAINS ONLY SIX NOTES.

A WHOLE TONE SCALE WILL CREATE AN AUGMENTED TRIAD.