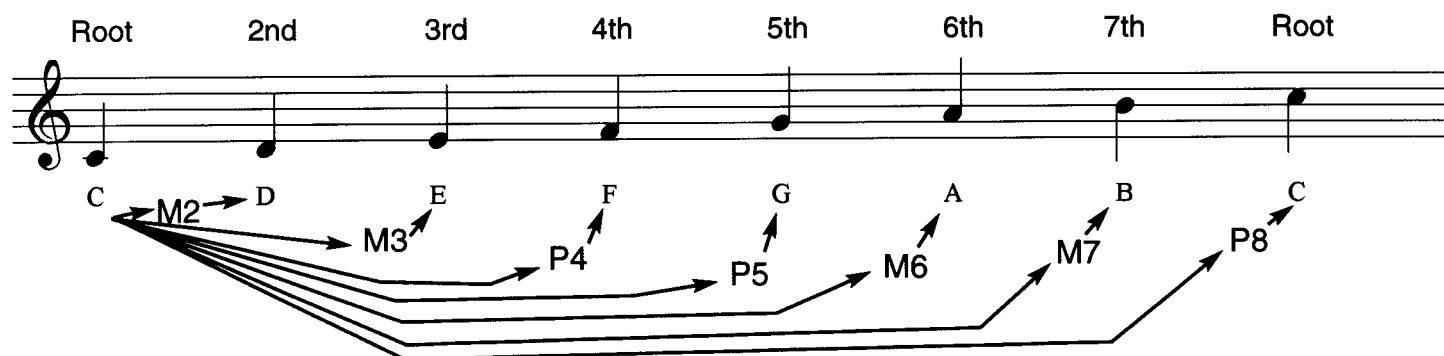


The following terms are used to identify specific intervals: *major*, *minor*, *perfect*, *diminished* and *augmented*.

We will begin our definitions of specific intervals by once again looking at a major scale and the intervals formed between the root and each scale degree. The letter “M” will stand for *major*, the letter “P” will stand for *perfect*.



Notice that in major scales, the interval between the root and the 2nd, 3rd, 6th or 7th is defined as a Major interval. The interval between the root and the 4th, 5th or 8th (octave) is defined as a Perfect interval.

Using the above major scale intervals as a point of comparison, we can from them determine all other intervals.

It is also possible to have *compound* intervals greater than one octave. For example, a M9 (“major 9th”) would consist of a P8 (“perfect octave”) plus one whole step. A M9 above the note C is D.

Following is a description of each of the simple intervals and exercises to practice building and hearing them.

1. Major 2nd (M2)

The interval from C up to D is a Major 2nd. This interval can also be viewed as a whole step. A major 2nd must encompass two letters of the musical alphabet.

Below is a melodic and harmonic representation of a M2 and a melodic fingering example.

