

The following are examples of whole steps:

G      A      E      F#      Eb      F      F      G  
 0      2      0      2      1      3      1      3

A “chromatic scale” is formed by playing a succession of half steps through a distance of one octave. A chromatic scale can be easily played on the guitar by starting with an open string and playing the note at each successive fret on that string until the octave is reached at fret 12.

The following is an example of a chromatic scale. For convenience, it is shown here using sharps for the ascending form and flats for the descending form, however the use of “accidentals” is more dependent on key than scale direction (more on this later).

A      A#      B      C      C#      D      D#      E      F      F#      G      G#      A  
 0      1      2      3      4      0      1      2      3      4      0      1      2

A      Ab      G      Gb      F      E      Eb      D      Db      C      B      Bb      A  
 2      1      0      4      3      2      1      0      4      3      2      1      0