

Triads in the Key of C Major

Intervals are the building blocks of music.

A **Half Step** is the smallest interval. It is the distance from a note to its nearest neighbor.

A **Whole Step** is equal to two half steps.

A Half Step can also be called a *semitone* or a Minor 2nd.

A Whole step can also be called a Major 2nd.

The **Major Scale** is made of a pattern of whole steps and half steps in this order:

Whole Whole Half, Whole Whole Whole Half

W	W	½	W	W	W	½
C	D	E	F	G	A	B C

A **Major 3rd** is equivalent to 2 Whole Steps

A **Minor 3rd** is equivalent to a Whole Step + a Half Step (or vice versa)

A **Major Triad** Contains Root, Major 3rd, and Perfect 5th.

A **Minor Triad** Contains Root, Minor 3rd, and Perfect 5th.

A **Diminished Triad** Contains Root, Minor 3rd, and *Diminished* 5th.

Fill out the worksheet below. For each starting letter, find the 3rd and 5th above it. Then determine if the interval from Root to Third is a Major Third or a Minor Third. This will help you determine if the chord is Major or Minor.

Root	Third	Fifth	Quality	Full Name
C	E	G	Major	C Major
D				
E				
F				
G				
A				
B				