

# Chapter 4: The Keyboard

## 4-1: The Piano Keyboard



Press the speaker to hear it.



**Half Step:** Also called a semitone, it is the smallest musical interval in Western European music. The distance between any two neighboring piano keys.

**Chromatic Half Step:** Has the same letter name. C to C# is a chromatic half step.



**Diatonic Half Step:** Has a different, neighboring letter name: C to Db is a diatonic half-step.

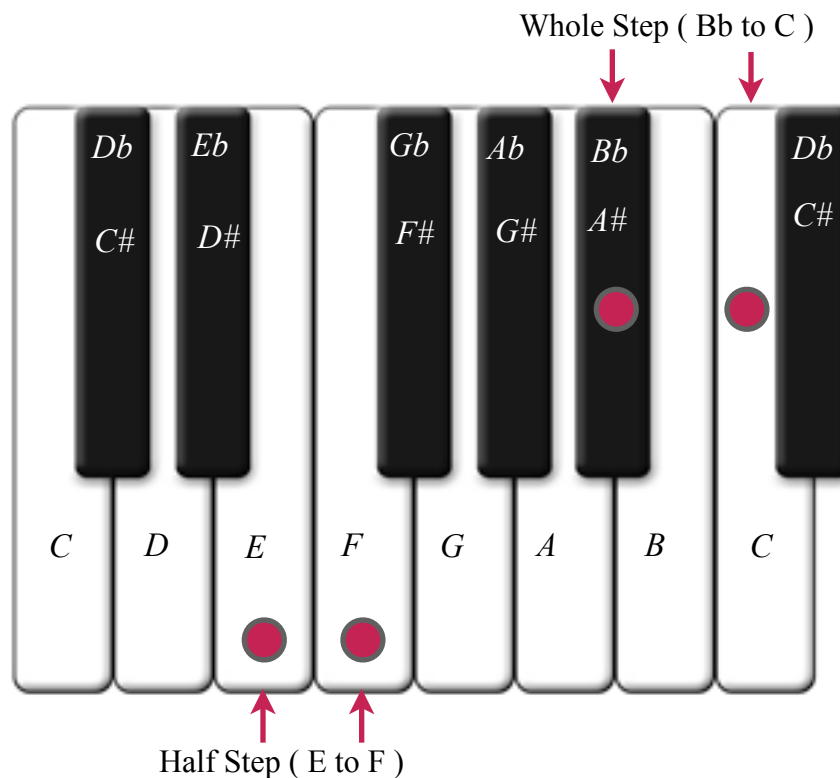


**Whole Step:** Two half steps.

One piano key sits between any two notes a whole step apart.



**Enharmonic Equivalents:** A musical pitch can have more than one name. Eb is the enharmonic of D#.



# Chapter 4: The Keyboard

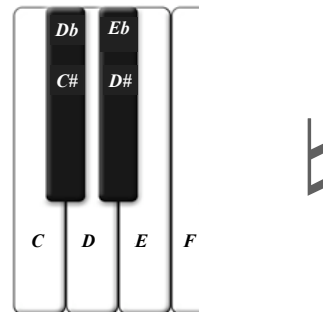
## 4-2: Sharps #, Flats, & Naturals ♮



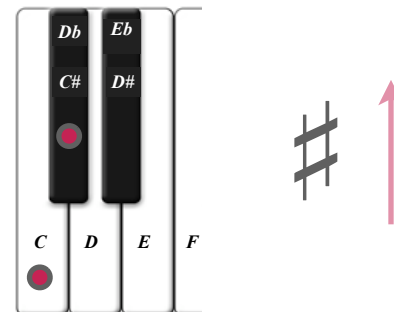
*Press the speaker to hear it.*



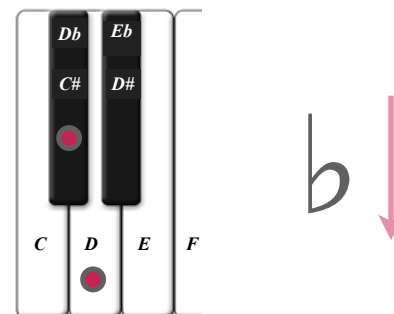
**Natural:** Natural notes are found on the white keys.



**Sharp:** A sharp raises a natural note by half a step.  
 Except for E & B, a sharp note is found on the black key to the right of the natural note by the same letter name.  
 The sharp symbol (#) is used to indicate a sharp note.



**Flat:** A flat lowers a natural note by half a step.  
 A flat note is found to the left of the natural note by the same letter name.  
 The flat symbol (b) is used to indicate a flat note.



### Writing Rules for Accidentals:

1. On the Staff:



- Left side of the note
- On the same line or space

2. In Text:



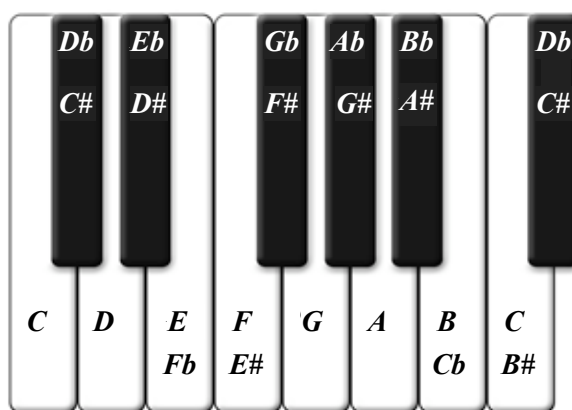
- Right side of the letter name

# Chapter 4: The Keyboard

## 4-3: Enharmonic Equivalents



**Enharmonic Equivalents:** Notes that sound the same on the piano but have a different name.



Enharmonic Equivalents								
D ♭	E ♭	G ♭	A ♭	B ♭	F ♭	C ♭	F	C
C #	D #	F #	G #	A #	E	B	E #	B #

**Double Sharp:** A double sharp raises a natural note by two half steps.



**Double Flat:** A double flat lowers a natural note by two half steps.



Examples of Enharmonic Equivalents With Double Sharps & Flats							
D ♭♭	E ♭♭	G ♭♭	A ♭♭	B	A	E	D
C	D	F	G	A x	G x	D x	C x