

Circle Of Fifths

Think of the Circle of Fifths like a musical roadmap that helps you navigate keys and chords.

1. What Does It Show?

It's a circle with 12 points, each representing a musical key.

Each step clockwise moves up by a perfect fifth (C → G → D...).

Each step counterclockwise moves down by a perfect fourth (C → F → B \flat ...).

3. Major vs. Minor

Every major key has a relative minor (same key signature).

Example: C major (no sharps or flats) → A minor (also no sharps or flats).

The minor key is always three steps down from its major.

2. The Shortcut to Key Signatures

Starting at C major (12 o'clock), which has no sharps or flats.

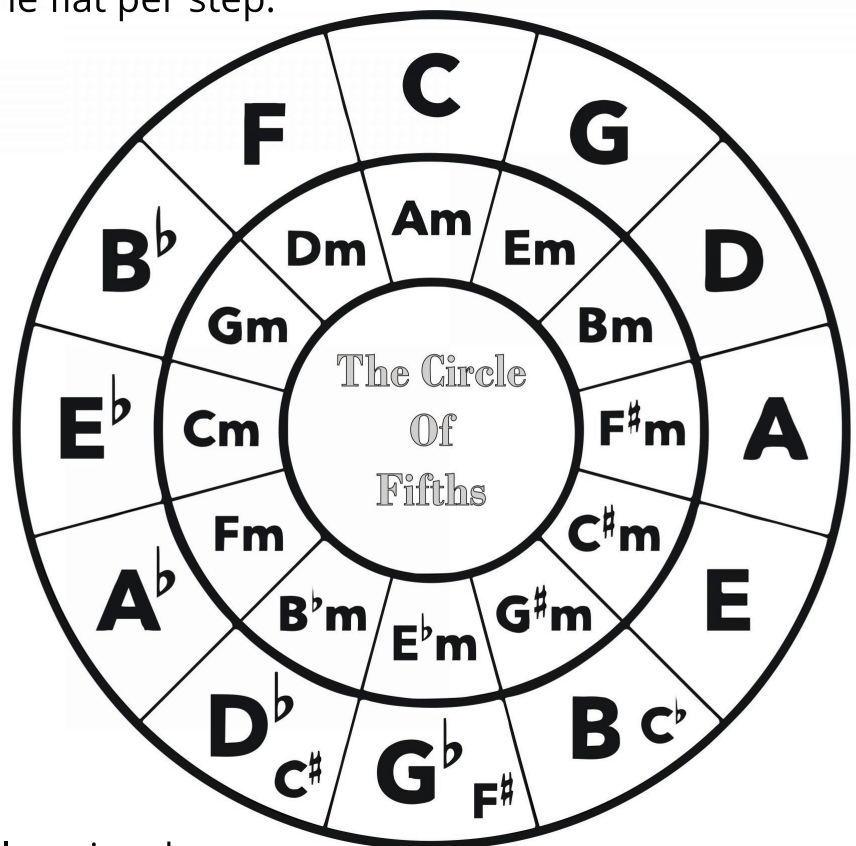
Moving clockwise adds one sharp per step:

G major (1 sharp), D major (2 sharps), A major (3 sharps), etc.

Moving counterclockwise adds one flat per step:

F major (1 flat), B \flat major (2 flats),

E \flat major (3 flats), etc.



4. How It Helps You in Music

Makes reading music easier.

Helps you know which chords belong in a key.

Essential for improvising, writing, and transposing music.

Think of it like a cheat sheet that helps you understand music theory without memorizing everything!