

LESSON 62

TRANSPOSITION BY ONE SEMITONE

Locate the first note of the original melody on a keyboard diagram.

The diagram shows a musical staff in 4/4 time with a melody starting on C4. Below it is a keyboard diagram with the first C key highlighted, corresponding to the first note of the melody.

Count the number of steps (semitones) for the required transposition (eg. 5 semitones) on a keyboard diagram (do not count the starting note).

A keyboard diagram showing the interval from C to G, which is 5 semitones. A bracket below the keys is labeled "5 Semitones".

The original melody is shown on a staff. A bracket below it indicates a transposition of 3 positions higher. The transposed melody starts on E4.

Count the number of lines or spaces that the first note has moved on the staff. In this example the first note of the original melody has moved up three positions on the staff and therefore the remainder of

the melody must also move up similarly.

The original melody is shown on a staff. A bracket below it indicates a transposition of 3 positions higher. The transposed melody starts on E4.

Move up the remainder of the notes of the original melody the same number of lines and spaces on the staff.

A keyboard diagram showing the interval from C to G, which is 5 semitones. A bracket below the keys is labeled "5 semitones".

The original melody is shown on a staff. A bracket below it indicates a transposition of 5 semitones higher. The transposed melody starts on G4.

Using a keyboard diagram, check the semitone intervals between each of the notes of the original melody and the transposed melody. Add accidentals as necessary. In the example above a sharp is required on the first note of the second bar to ensure that the 5-semitone interval transposition is maintained.

1. Transpose the following melody (in C-major) to D-Major. Write the key signature of D-Major at the beginning of the staff.

The exercise shows a melody in C major on a staff. Below it is an empty staff for the student to write the transposition to D major.