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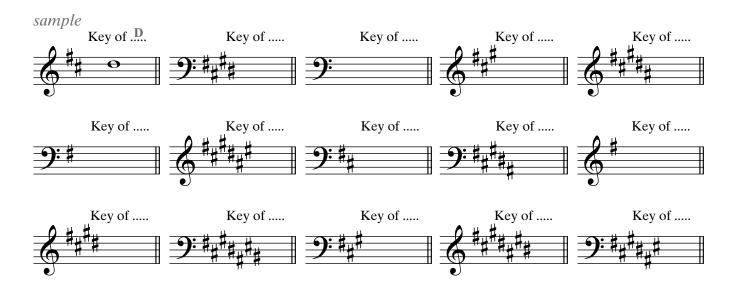
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Lesson 1. Finding the Tonic

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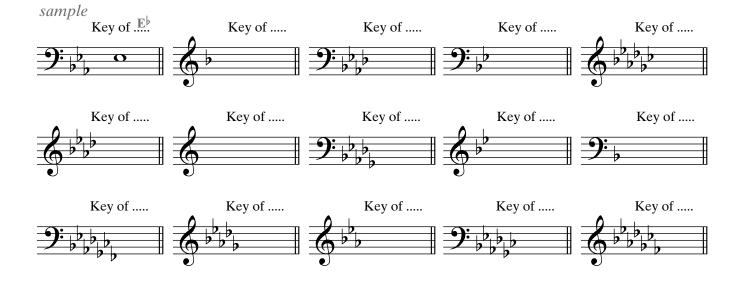
The *first note* of a scale is called the **tonic.** It is considered the most important note of a scale. To find the tonic in sharp keys, GO UP ONE HALF STEP from the LAST SHARP (the sharp in the key signature that is farthest from the clef sign). For example, if the key signature has two sharps, the last sharp is C^{\sharp} . Going up one half step from C^{\sharp} is D. Therefore, D is the tonic.

DIRECTIONS: Write the key name and draw a whole note to indicate the tonic in each of the following examples. The sample is correctly marked.



In flat keys, the tonic has the SAME NAME as the SECOND LAST FLAT of the key signature. For example, if the key signature has three flats, the second last flat is E^{\flat} . Therefore, the tonic is E^{\flat} . Exception to the rule: if the key signature has only one flat (B^{\flat}) , the tonic is F.

DIRECTIONS: Write the key name and draw a whole note to indicate the tonic in each of the following examples. The sample is correctly marked.



KEYBOARD ASSIGNMENT: Play all of the above tonic notes on the piano.