# Swift Guitar Lessons

#### Guitar Intervals Lesson - Music Theory Made Easy

Hello friends,

And welcome to another music theory tutorial. In today's lesson I'll be demonstrating how intervals, the space between two notes, are measured using the major scale. Discussing melodies, harmonies and chord changes by interval, instead of note names, allows us to describe techniques in the same manner across all twelve keys. Let's get started!

## 1) Whole Steps and Half Steps

The two most basic types of intervals can be performed on a single string; whole steps, a distance of two frets and half-steps, a distance of one fret. These intervals can also be performed on two strings, *E.G.* 5<sup>th</sup> fret E string (A) to 7<sup>th</sup> fret E string (B) creates the same whole step interval as 5<sup>th</sup> fret E string to 2<sup>nd</sup> fret A string. Additionally, 5<sup>th</sup> fret E string (A) to 6<sup>th</sup> fret E string (Bb) creates the same interval as 5<sup>th</sup> fret E string to 1<sup>st</sup> fret A string.

#### 2) Basic Intervals of the Major Scale

In music, intervals that are larger than a whole step are measured by their location, or proximity to the notes in the major scale. Each interval will be given a number 1-7. *E.G.* The distance between 5<sup>th</sup> fret low E string (A) to the 4<sup>th</sup> fret A string (C#) is commonly referred to as a third or major 3<sup>rd</sup> interval. Let's review our major scale, and memorize the position of it's intervals.



### 3) Flat and Sharp Intervals

The remaining intervals get their names via their proximity to the basic intervals in the major scale. These include the flat 2<sup>nd</sup>, flat 3<sup>rd</sup>, the sharp 5<sup>th</sup>, the flat 5<sup>th</sup>, flat 6, and the flat 7<sup>th</sup>.



