

# Ear Training's Greatest Hits

■ Training yourself to hear the intervals between two notes doesn't have to be a painstaking process. There are hints and tips hidden in some famous, easy-to-remember melodies to help you learn every interval in the chromatic scale.

If you can learn them from these examples, you can learn to pick them out while humming or singing along with other songs played on the radio or on TV. Soon, you'll be able to identify them in other places: in bird calls, car horns, and the tones when the subway doors close. These intervals we've chosen are often in the first two notes of the song or in the song's chorus, and many of them reoccur throughout.

All 12 intervals in the chromatic scale are shown in both ascending and descending forms and in concert pitch. Try singing them first and then try them out on your instrument of choice. For some instruments you may need to transpose. We've included songs from all styles of music, with melodies that are widely known and that will stick with you after they've helped build skills in interval recognition.



Visit [www.makingmusicmag.com/forte/clip/MayJune08.html](http://www.makingmusicmag.com/forte/clip/MayJune08.html) to hear audio samples of these intervals.

## Ascending

## Descending

Theme from "Jaws"	Minor second	Beethoven's "Für Elise"
"Happy Birthday"	Major second	"Mary Had a Little Lamb"
Brahms' Lullaby	Minor third	"The Star-Spangled Banner"
"When the Saints Go Marching In"	Major third	"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"
"Here Comes the Bride"	Perfect fourth	"My Girl" by the Temptations
"Maria" from West Side Story	Tritone (diminished fifth)	A European police siren
"Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star"	Perfect fifth	Theme from "The Flintstones"
"Sunrise Sunset" from Fiddler on the Roof	Minor sixth	Theme from "Love Story"
NBC Chime, first two notes	Major sixth	"Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen"
"Somewhere" from West Side Story, first two notes	Minor seventh	"Watermelon Man" by Herbie Hancock
"Take on Me" by A-Ha, first two notes of the chorus	Major seventh	"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," last line
"Somewhere Over the Rainbow"	Octave	"Stormy Weather," two notes on "Weather"