

Music 27 Beginning Guitar

Introduction to Harmony

Intervals

Interval = The distance between two notes.

Harmonic (Vertical) Interval = Two notes played at the same time.

Melodic (Horizontal) Interval = One note played after the other.

Interval Name or Quantity = Comes from the number of diatonic notes contained within the interval or the mathematical distance between the two pitches. (i.e. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc)

Quality = Determined by the number of steps contained in an interval.

P1	=	Perfect Prime (Unison)	=	0 Steps
M2	=	Major Second	=	1 Steps
M3	=	Major Third	=	2 Steps
P4	=	Perfect Fourth	=	2 ½ Steps
P5	=	Perfect Fifth	=	3 ½ Steps
M6	=	Major Sixth	=	4 ½ Steps
M7	=	Major Seventh	=	5 ½ Steps
P8	=	Perfect Octave	=	6 Steps

Interval Identification = Intervals are identified by their quantity and quality and are given names such as perfect, major, minor, diminished and augmented.

Harmony

Chord = at least three different tones sounding simultaneously.

Triad = Three note chord built in thirds. Three notes that sound at the same time.

Triad Root = Bottom note of the triad. This note gives the chord its letter name.

Triad Third = Middle note of the triad.

Triad Fifth = Top note of the triad.

Tertian System = Chords that are built using the interval of the third.

Three Basic Triads = Major, Minor, Diminished.

Chord Formulas

Major Triad:	M3 (2 steps)	+	m3 (1 ½ steps)	=	P5 (3 ½ steps)
Minor Triad:	m3 (1 ½ steps)	+	M3 (2 steps)	=	P5 (3 ½ steps)
Diminished Triad:	m3 (1 ½ steps)	+	m3 (1 ½ steps)	=	D5 (3 steps)