



## LESSON 13:

# THE KEY OF A MAJOR

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Tune 1: Our tune in the key of A Major

You've learned about G major with a key signature of one sharp, and D major with two sharps.

The next tonic we're going to pick is A.

Play the scale of A major now. Start on the A to the right of middle C, and apply the formula for the major scale:

- **Start – 1 – 1 – ½ – 1 – 1 – 1 – ½**

As you're playing, notice what black notes are in the scale.

Here's what you should have played:



As you'll have discovered, A major has 3 black notes: F sharp, C sharp and G sharp. Here is its key signature:



Key signature of A major

I mentioned in the last lesson that the key signature of D major always has the sharps in the order F sharp then C sharp.

Look at the order of the sharps in the A major key signature above. As you can see, we've kept the same order – F then C – and added G sharp as the third sharp.

The key signature of A major always has the sharps in that order: F – C – G.

## Our tune for studying major scales

Here's our tune again, this time in the key of A major. Make sure you play all the Fs, Cs and Gs as sharps.



Land of My Fathers in A major.

# Practical

## Build Your Skill

These exercises all have a A major key signature, so make sure you play all the Fs, Cs and Gs as sharps.

### Exercise 1:

#### Land of Hope and Glory



### Exercise 2:

#### Scotland the Brave



### Exercise 3:

#### Danny Boy

This is in the bass clef, so play it with your left hand.



### Exercise 4:

## America the Beautiful



# Tune for Lesson 13:

## Tune 1:

Our tune in the key of A major