

Interval Identification Helps

Intervals in One-Octave Major Scale

Minor 2nd (m2): Mi-Fa, Ti-Do
Major 2nd (M2): Do-Re, Re-Mi, Fa-Sol, Sol-La, La-Ti
Minor 3rd (m3): Re-Fa, Mi-Sol, La-Do
Major 3rd (M3): Do-Mi, Fa-La, Sol-Ti
Perfect 4th (P4): Do-Fa, Re-Sol, Mi-La, Sol-Do
Augmented 4th (A4): Fa-Ti
Perfect 5th (P5): Do-Sol, Re-La, Mi-Ti, Fa-Do
Minor 6th (m6): Mi-Do
Major 6th (M6): Do-La, Re-Ti
Minor 7th (m7): Re-Do
Major 7th (M7): Do-Ti
Perfect Octave (P8): Do-Do

Ascending Intervals in Well-Known Tunes**

Minor 2nd (m2): “Jaws,” “Stardust”
Major 2nd (M2): “Happy Birthday,” “Oh, Susanna”
Minor 3rd (m3): “Greensleeves”/“What Child Is This?”
Major 3rd (M3): “When the Saints Go Marching In”
Perfect 4th (P4): “Bridal Chorus” (from *Tannhauser*), “Jeopardy” theme
Augmented 4th (A4): “Maria” (from *West Side Story*)
Perfect 5th (P5): “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,” “Star Wars” theme
Minor 6th (m6): “Let My People Go”
Major 6th (M6): “N-B-C,” “My Bonnie”
Minor 7th (m7): “Somewhere” (from *West Side Story*)
Major 7th (M7): “Take On Me,” “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” *Interval from first note to third note.”
Perfect Octave (P8): “Somewhere Over the Rainbow”

Descending Intervals in Well-Known Tunes**

Minor 2nd (m2): *Für Elise*
Major 2nd (M2): “Yesterday” (Beatles)
Minor 3rd (m3): “Hey Jude” (Beatles), “Na-na-na-na na” (children taunting)
Major 3rd (M3): Chime from Big Ben (clock)
Perfect 4th (P4): “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
Augmented 4th (A4): “Blue 7” (Sonny Rollins)
Perfect 5th (P5): “The Flintstones” theme
Minor 6th (m6): “Love Story” theme
Major 6th (M6): “Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen”
Minor 7th (m7): *An American in Paris*, “Watermelon Man”
“Major 7th (M7): “I Love You” (Cole Porter)
Perfect Octave (P8): “Doogie Howser, M.D.” theme

**If you don’t know some of these tunes, then search for them in Google or YouTube. Some are certainly better-known than others—the descending intervals are harder to find and have required my choosing a few tunes that might not be that well-known. If you can think of a better tune to use for one or more of these intervals, then use it...and tell me about it, too!