

Musical Keys

Using Keys in Your DAW Reference Guide

Written by Will Darling

EDMtips.com

Musical Keys | Reference Guide for DAW Users

This guide will show you the most common keys and scales you are likely to use whilst making dance music, and what they look like in your DAW's piano roll editor.

Major and Natural Minor Keys (click to view in DAW):

Major Keys:

C Major: C · D · E · F · G · A · B

G Major: G · A · B · C · D · E · F#

D Major: D · E · F# · G · A · B · C#

A Major: A · B · C# · D · E · F# · G#

E Major: E · F# · G# · A · B · C# · D#

B Major: B · C# · D# · E · F# · G# · A#

F# Major: F# · G# · A# · B · C# · D# · E#

D \flat Major: D \flat · E \flat · F · G \flat · A \flat · B \flat · C

A \flat Major: A \flat · B \flat · C · D \flat · E \flat · F · G

E \flat Major: E \flat · F · G · A \flat · B \flat · C · D

B \flat Major: B \flat · C · D · E \flat · F · G · A

F Major: F · G · A · B \flat · C · D · E

Natural Minor Keys:

C Minor: C · D · E \flat · F · G · A \flat · B \flat

G Minor: G · A · B \flat · C · D · E \flat · F

D Minor: D · E · F · G · A · B \flat · C

A Minor: A · B · C · D · E · F · G

E Minor: E · F# · G · A · B · C · D

B Minor: B · C# · D · E · F# · G · A

F# Minor: F# · G# · A · B · C# · D · E

C# Minor: C# · D# · E · F# · G# · A · B

G# Minor: G# · A# · B · C# · D# · E · F#

E \flat Minor: E \flat · F · G \flat · A \flat · B \flat · C \flat · D \flat

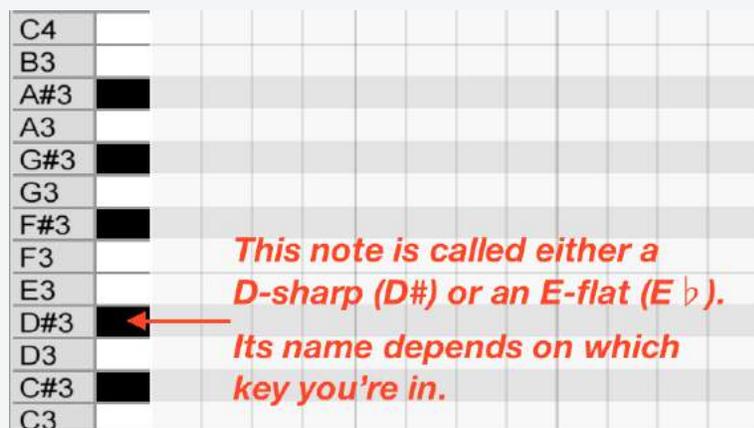
B \flat Minor: B \flat · C · D \flat · E \flat · F · G \flat · A \flat

F Minor: F · G · A \flat · B \flat · C · D \flat · E \flat

How to read the diagrams:

A sharp (“#”) means to play one half-step ABOVE the written note, and a flat (“ \flat ”), one half-step BELOW (e.g. if you see a C# written, it means play the black note directly above C, and if you see an E \flat written it means play the black note directly below E).

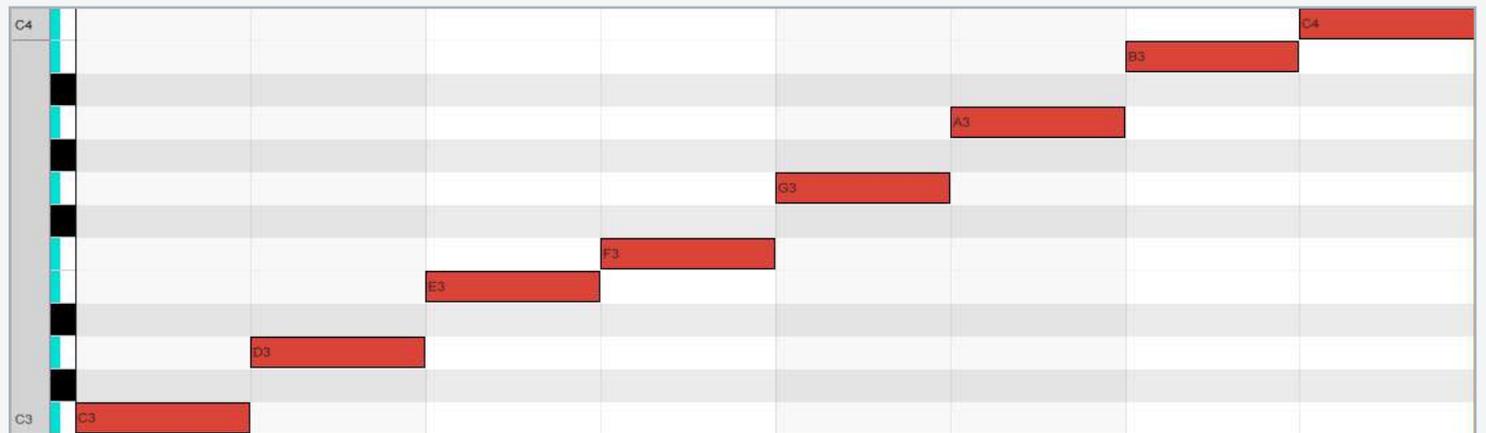
N.B. Your DAW will only display the black notes with a “#” symbol, and never with a “ \flat ” symbol, because a) your DAW doesn't know which key you're writing in and b) the “#” symbol is native to software, whereas “ \flat ” is not.



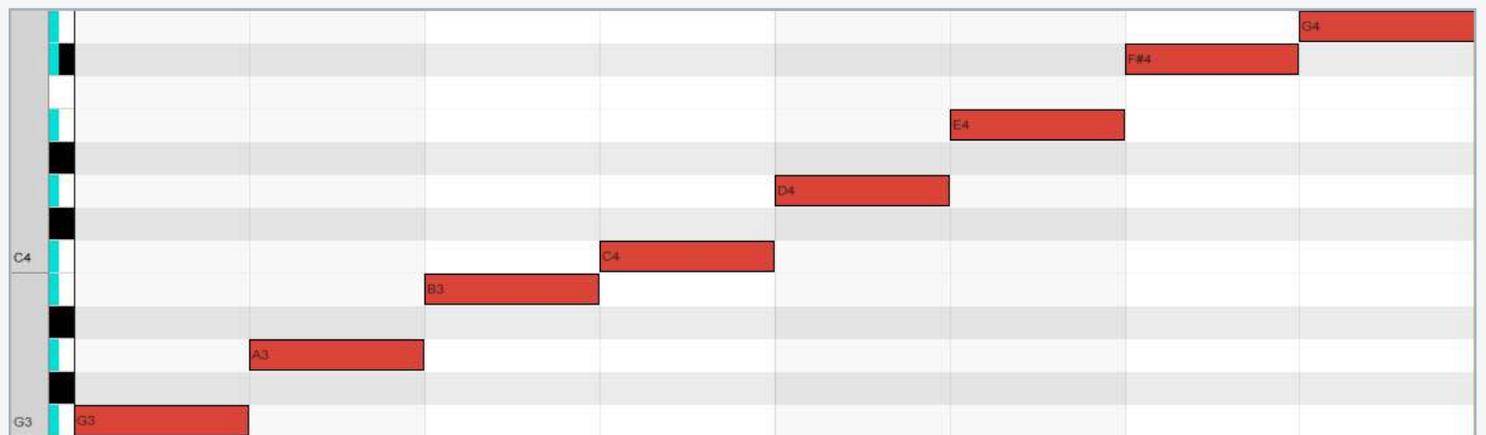
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The Major Keys:

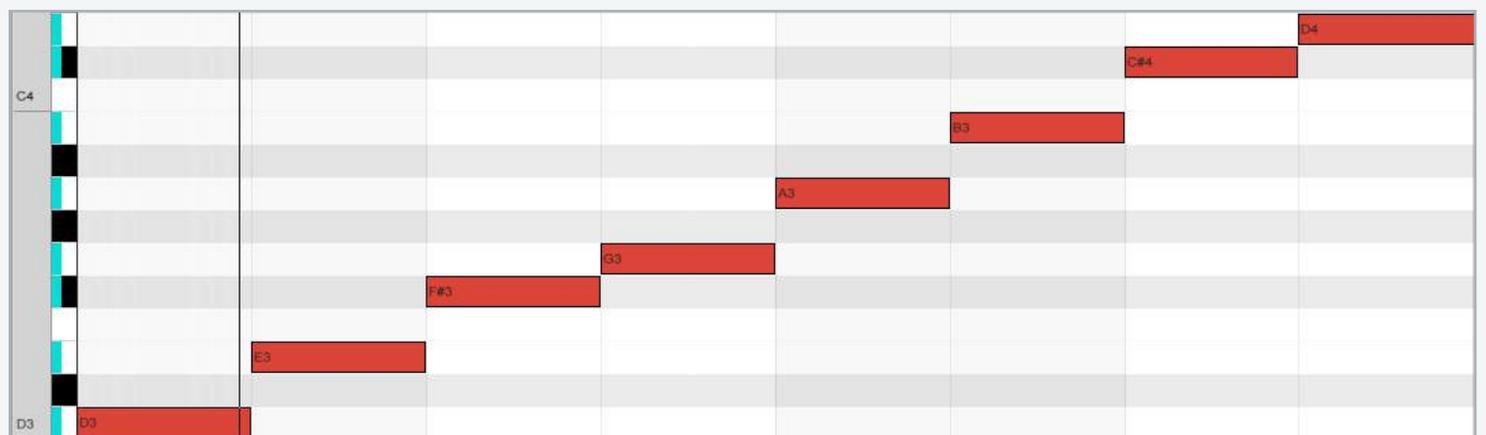
C Major: C · D · E · F · G · A · B



G Major: G · A · B · C · D · E · F#



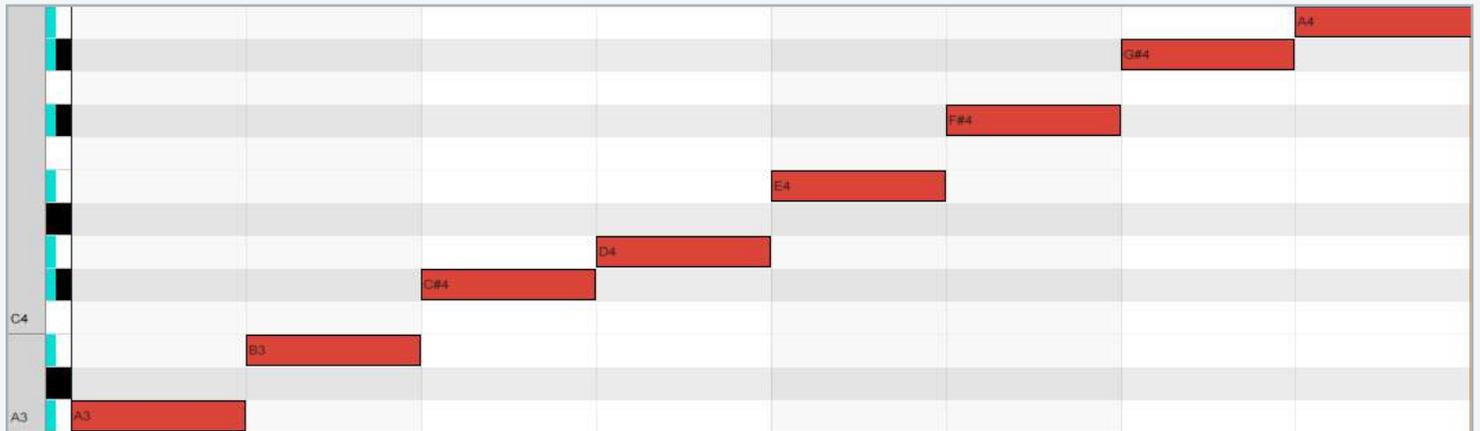
D Major: D · E · F# · G · A · B · C#



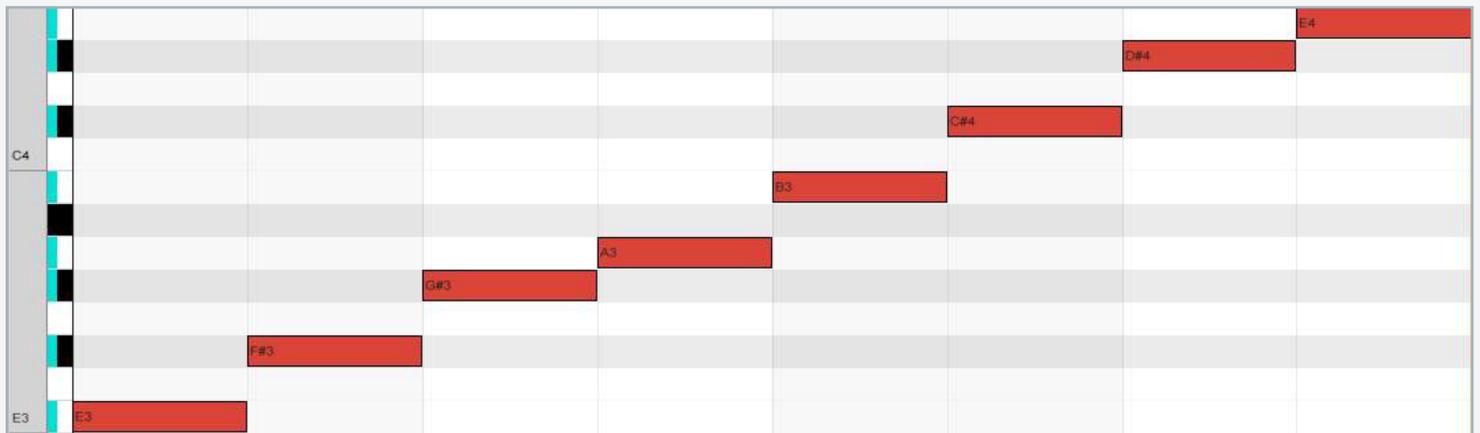
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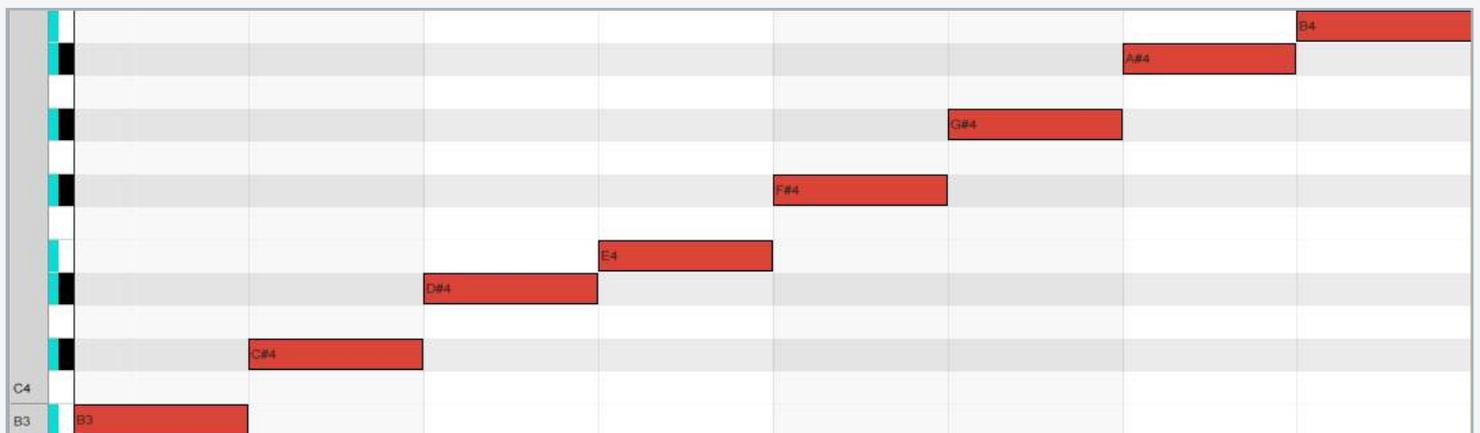
A Major: A • B • C# • D • E • F# • G#



E Major: E • F# • G# • A • B • C# • D#



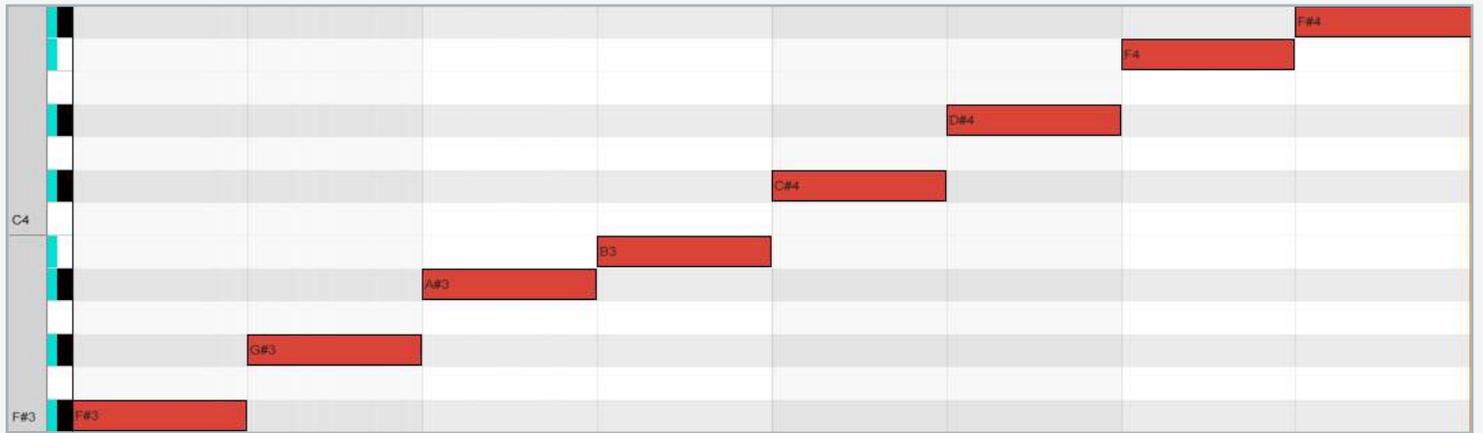
B Major: B • C# • D# • E • F# • G# • A#



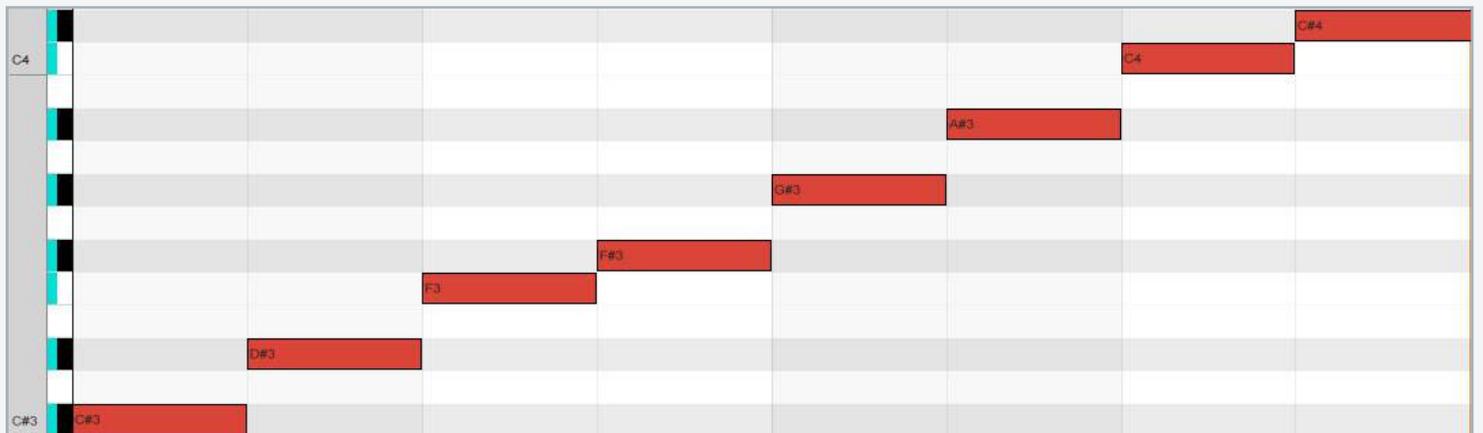
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The Major Keys:

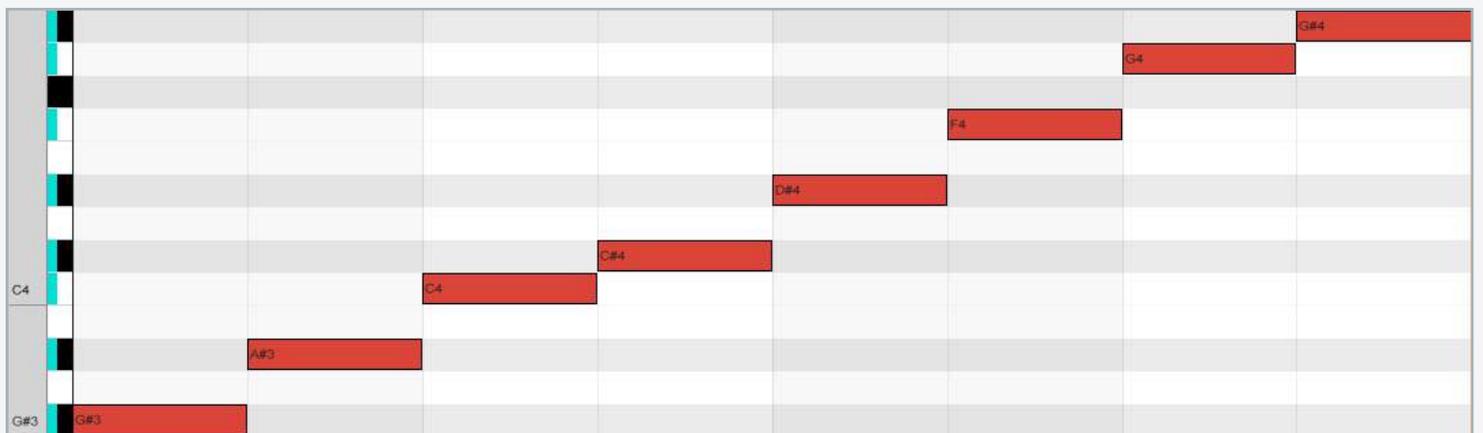
F# Major: F# · G# · A# · B · C# · D# · E#



D \flat Major: D \flat · E \flat · F · G \flat · A \flat · B \flat · C



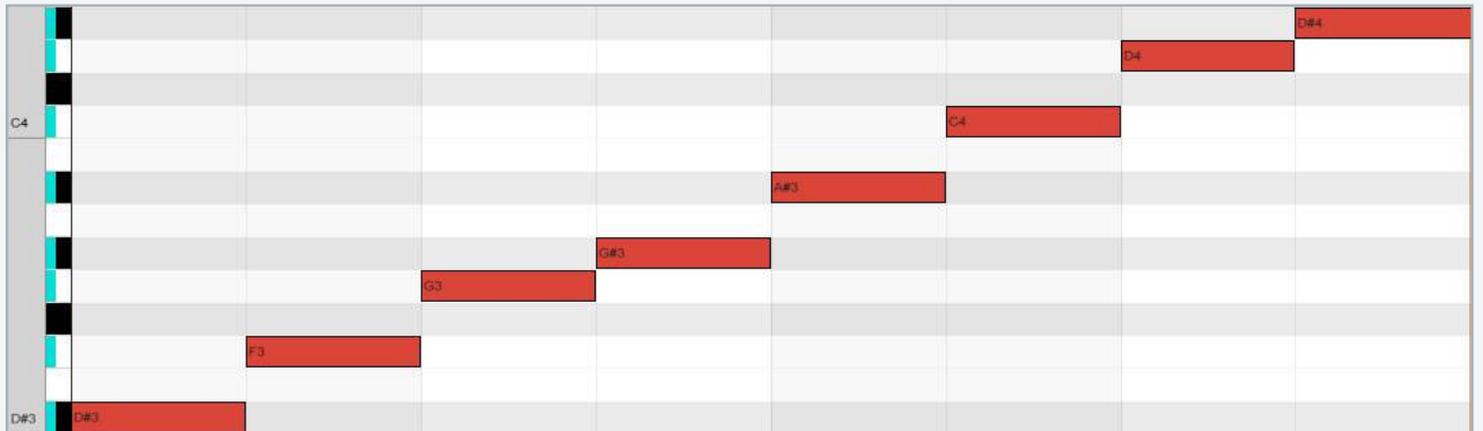
A \flat Major: A \flat · B \flat · C · D \flat · E \flat · F · G



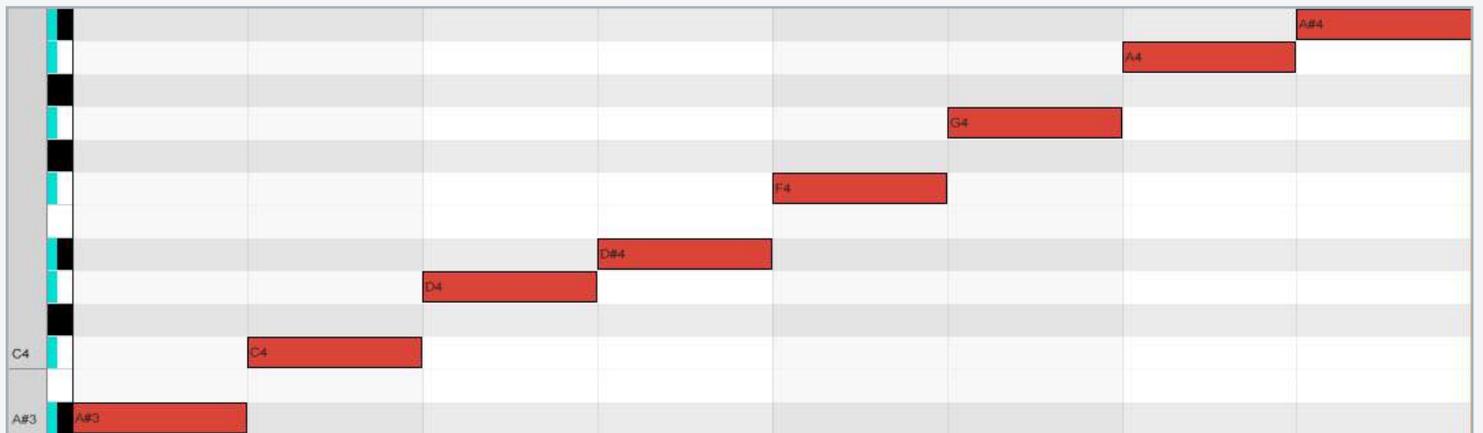
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The Major Keys:

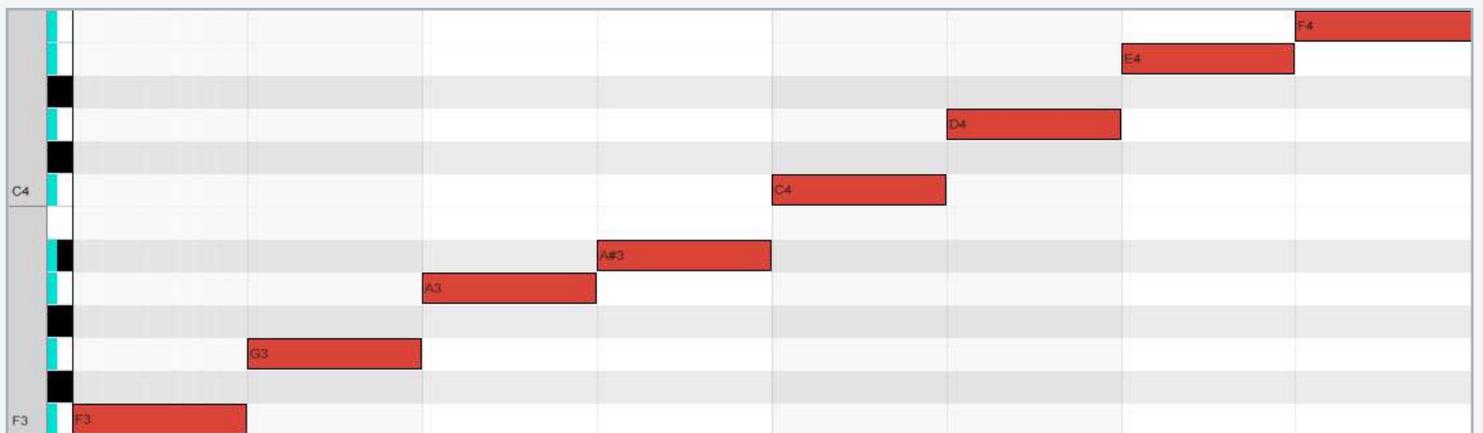
E \flat Major: E \flat • F • G • A \flat • B \flat • C • D



B \flat Major: B \flat • C • D • E \flat • F • G • A



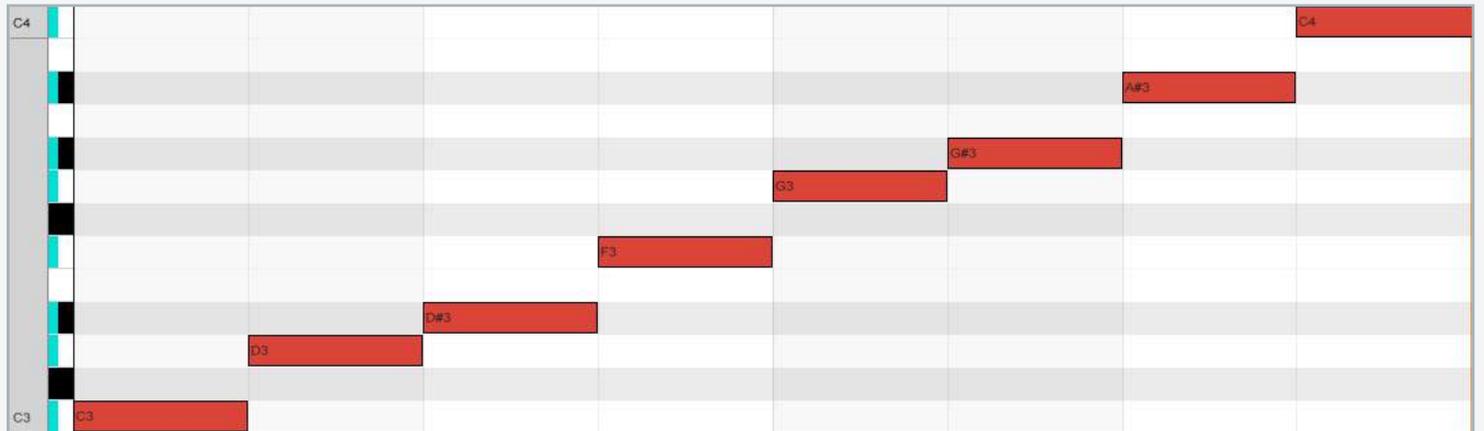
F Major: F • G • A • B \flat • C • D • E



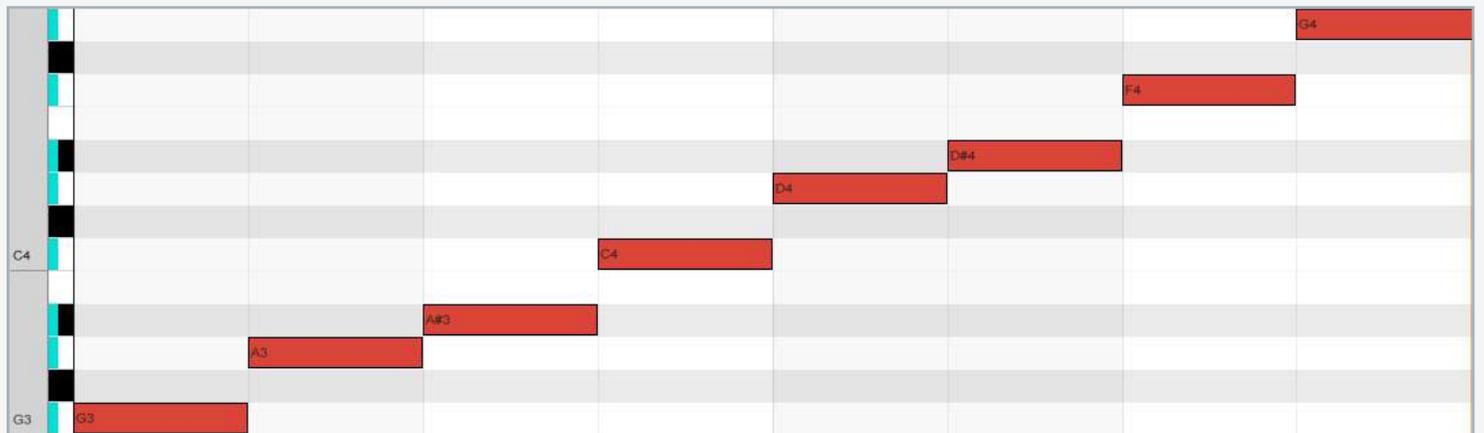
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The Minor Keys:

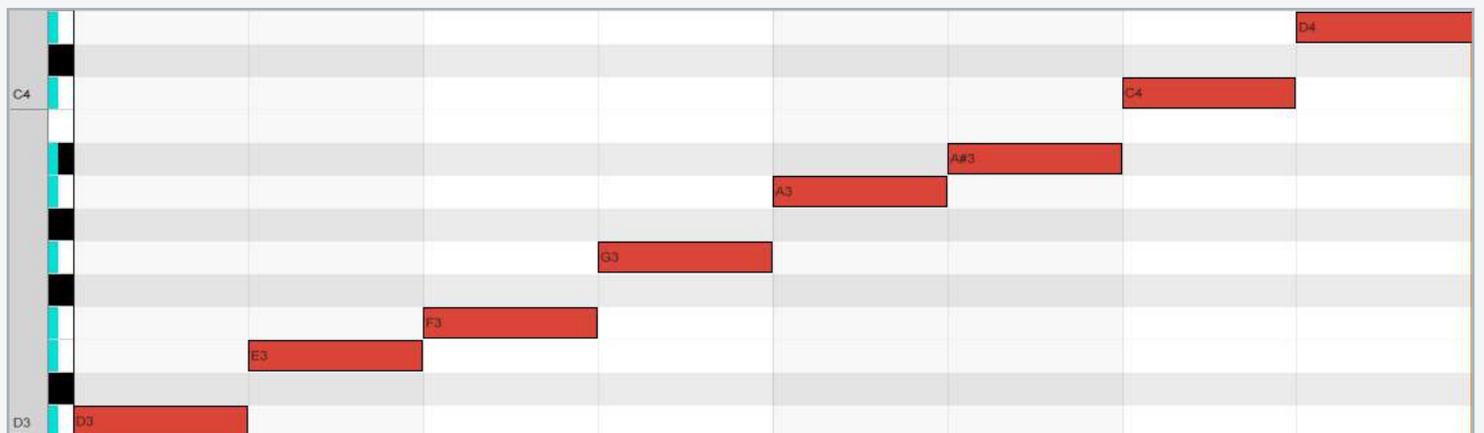
C Minor: C · D · E \flat · F · G · A \flat · B \flat



G Minor: G · A · B \flat · C · D · E \flat · F



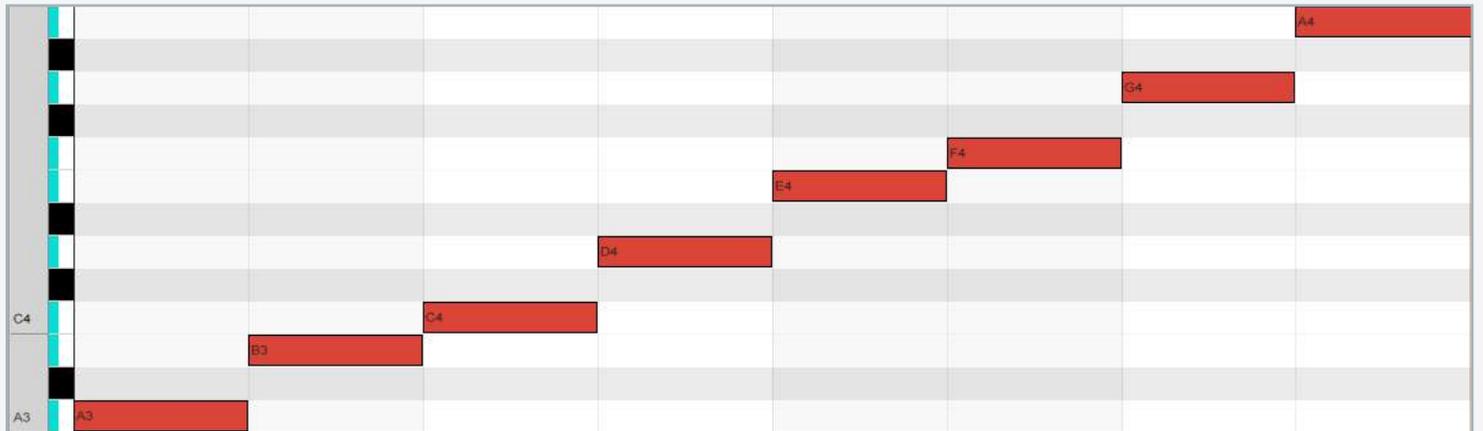
D Minor: D · E · F · G · A · B \flat · C



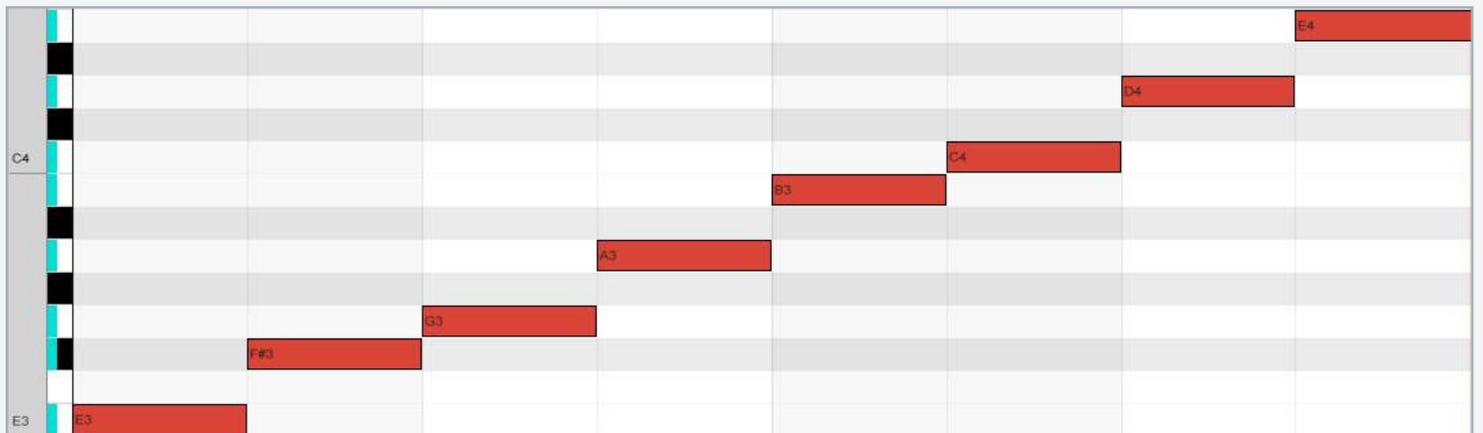
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The Minor Keys:

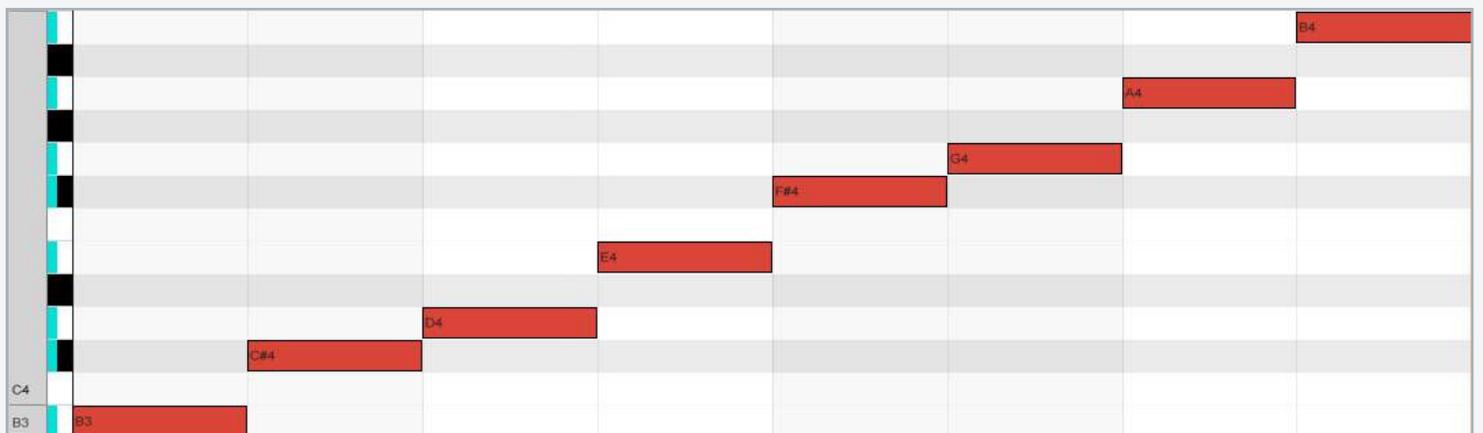
A Minor: A • B • C • D • E • F • G



E Minor: E • F# • G • A • B • C • D



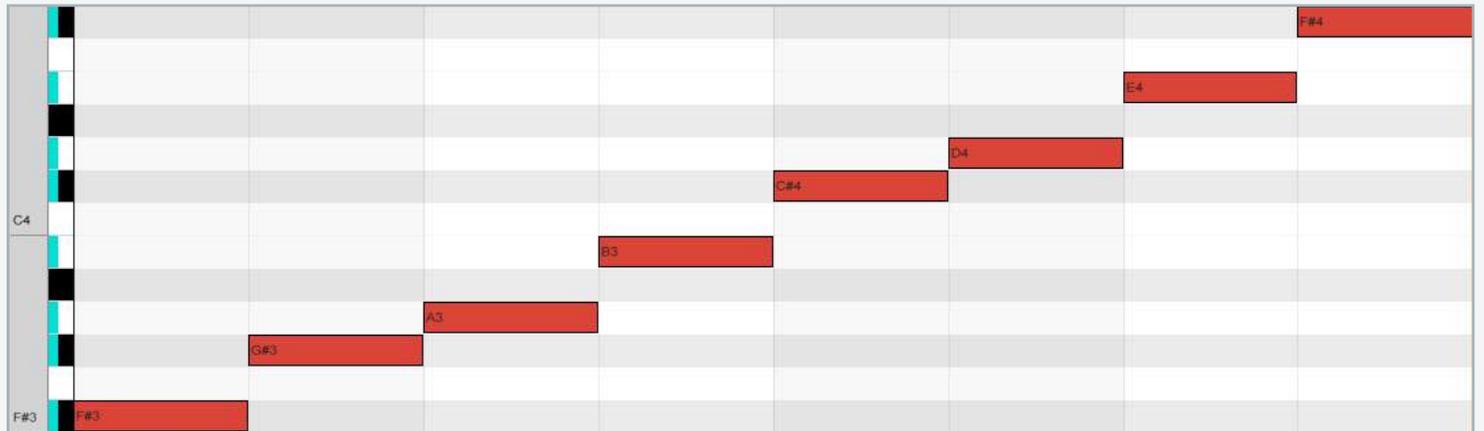
B Minor: B • C# • D • E • F# • G • A



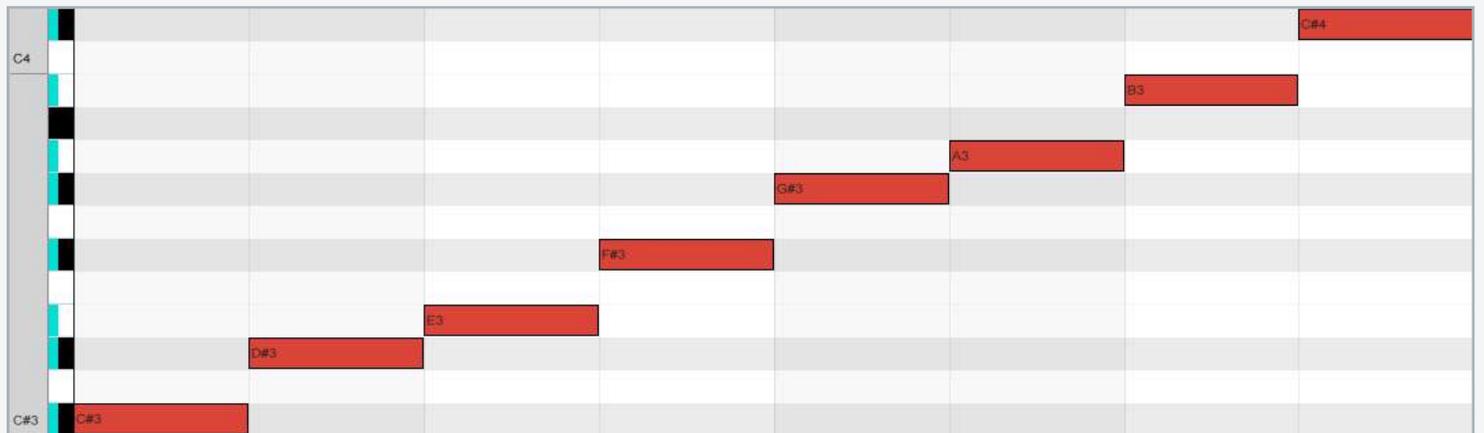
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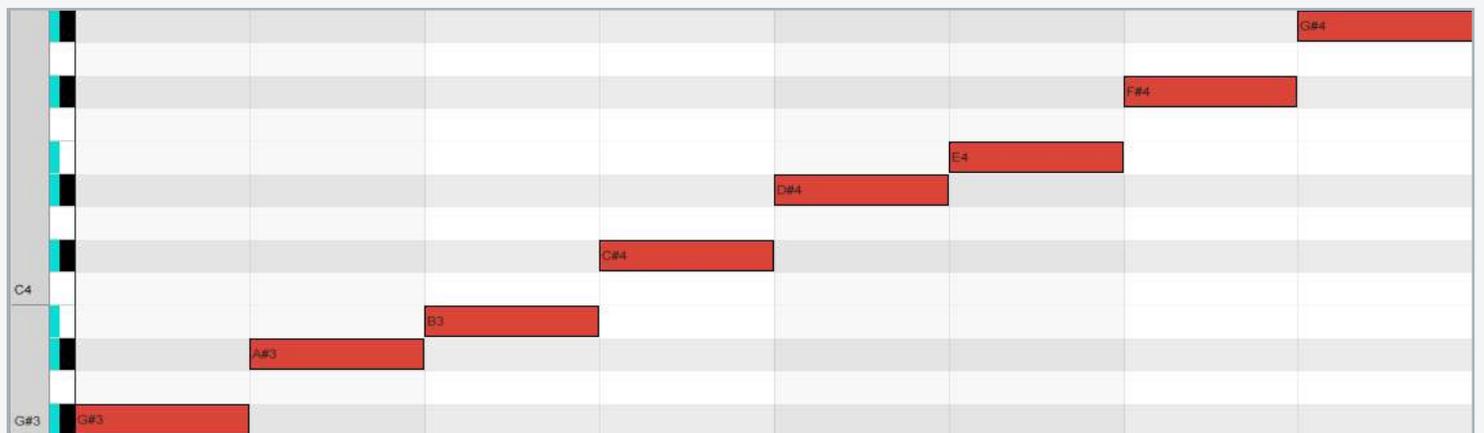
F# Minor: F# · G# · A · B · C# · D · E



C# Minor: C# · D# · E · F# · G# · A · B



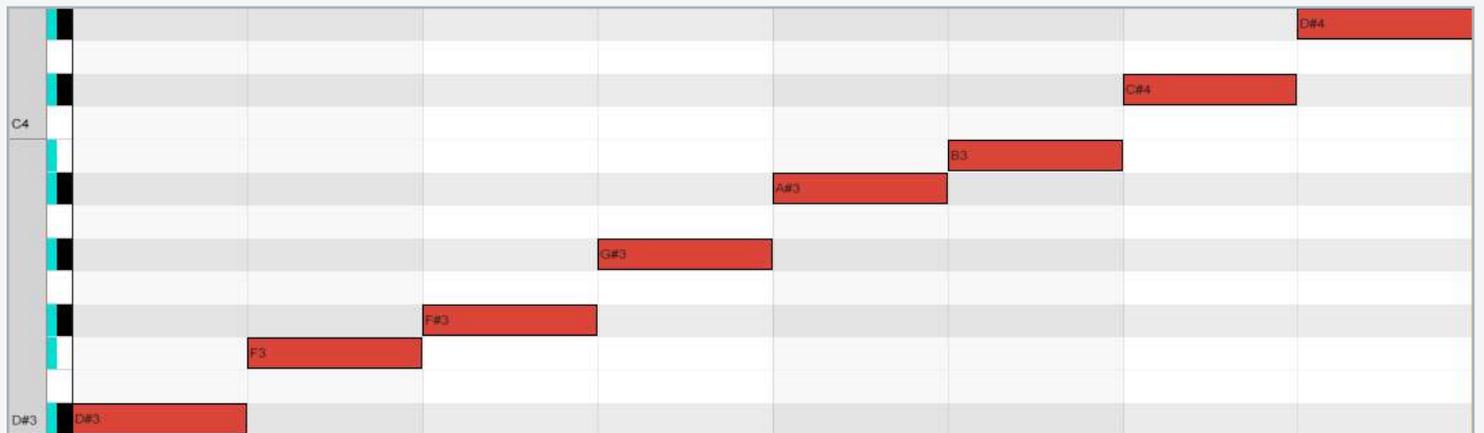
G# Minor: G# · A# · B · C# · D# · E · F#



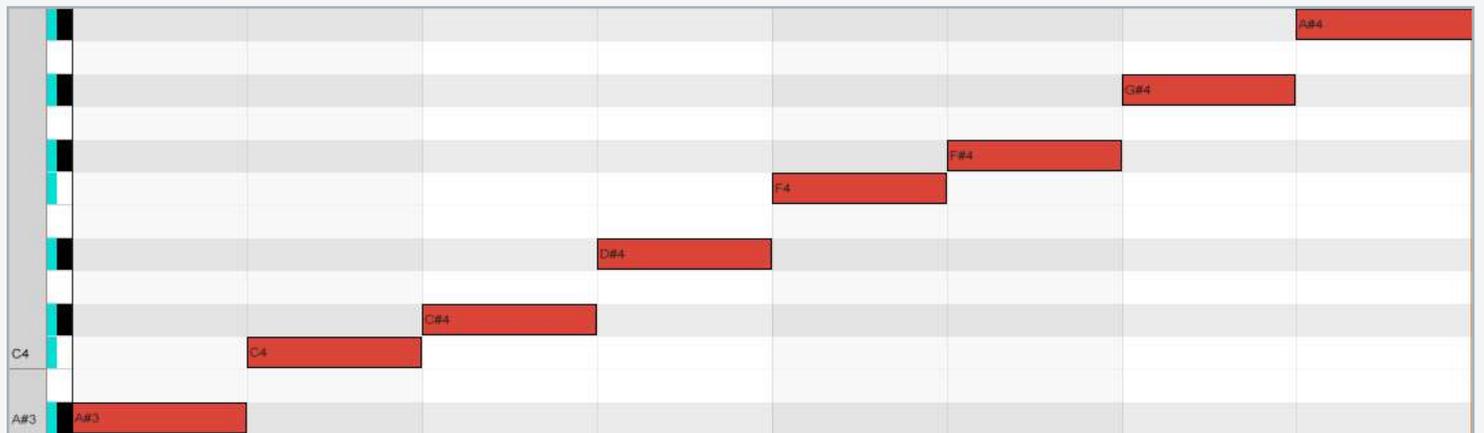
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The Minor Keys:

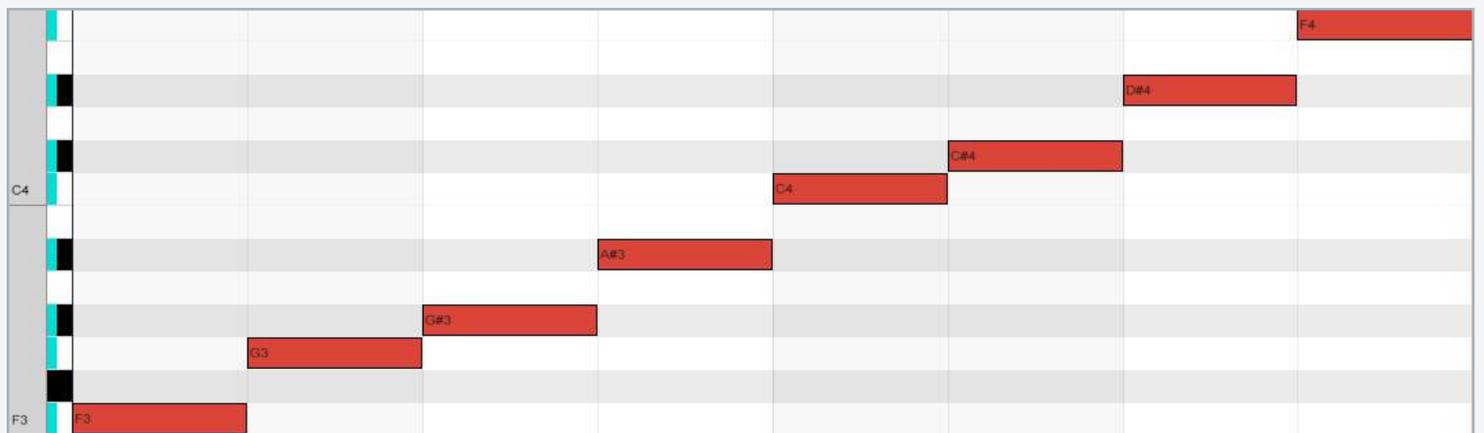
E \flat Minor: E \flat • F • G \flat • A \flat • B \flat • C \flat • D \flat



B \flat Minor: B \flat • C • D \flat • E \flat • F • G \flat • A \flat



F Minor: F • G • A \flat • B \flat • C • D \flat • E \flat



I hope you've enjoyed this guide. Feel free to share it with anyone you think might find it useful.

If anything is unclear, or if you have feedback and suggestions, please email [**support@edmtips.com**](mailto:support@edmtips.com).

Thanks, and happy producing!

Will Darling
EDMtips.com