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1st Position Intervals

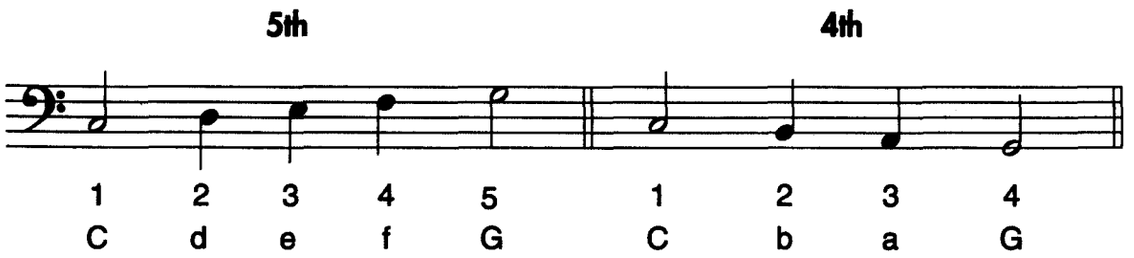
Interval Facts:

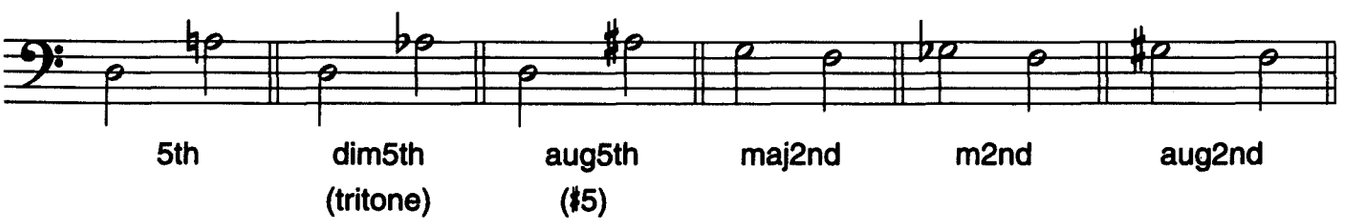
1. The term "interval" is used to describe the distance between two notes.

2. Intervals are defined by both ***type*** (2nds, 3rds, 4ths, etc.) and by ***quality*** (major, minor, perfect, augmented and diminished).

3. The distance between the letters of the alphabet used in music (A–B–C–D–E–F–G) determines the **type** of interval. For example, C *up* to G is called a 5th because the note G is five letters *above* the note C (C–d–e–f–G); C *down* to G is a 4th (C–b–a–G)—four letters *below* the note C.

Example 3:



4. The **type** (or number) of the interval does not change as its quality changes. For example, D *up* to A will always be some kind of a 5th no matter if sharps or flats are used; G *down* to F will always be some kind of a 2nd. Remember that the number given to an interval is determined by the number of spaces between its letters, not by the accidentals (flats – ♭, double flats – ♭♭, sharps – ♯ or double sharps – 𝄪) attached to it.

Example 4: