

# Key – Key Signature

The word **Key** has many definitions. In music there is an easy one, the piece either white or black on a piano that one can push down to produce a sound. The Keyboard includes all the keys, 88 on a full scale piano keyboard.

The word **Key** has also a second meaning in music when it is used in conjunction with Key Signature.

To make it simple, a Key has a starting note, a scale and 3 typical chords which are unique. Example the key of C-major has the starting point C, the major scale C-D-E-F-G-A-B-C and the 3 chords C, G7 and F.

There are a total of 12 major keys and 12 minor keys. To visualize them use the Circle of Fifths. However, when considering the following table you will find 15 keys. The reason for this is enharmonic overlapping of 3 keys.

C-sharp is equal D-flat

F-sharp is equal G-flat







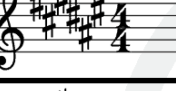
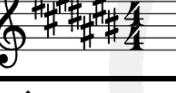
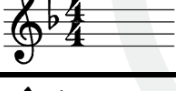
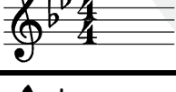
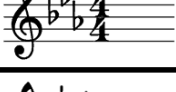
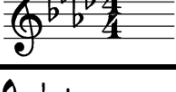
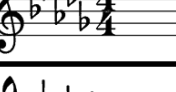
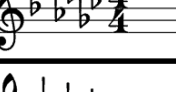
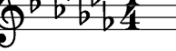
C-flat is equal B

**Enharmonic means:** relating to notes that are the same in pitch (in modern tuning) though bearing different names (e.g., F sharp and G flat or B and C flat).

Each key is represented by a Key Signature which is visualized in the Table below.

## Finale

When creating a document in Finale with the Wizard you will be prompted for time signature and key signature. Select an easy key signature first, such as C-major.

Key Signature	Major Key	Minor Key
	C	a
	G	e
	D	b
	A	f sharp
	E	c sharp
	B	g sharp
	F Sharp	d sharp
	C Sharp	a sharp
	F	d
	B Flat	g
	E Flat	c
	A Flat	f
	D Flat	b flat
	G Flat	e flat
	C Flat	a flat