

## Scales

*Tasks built: ear training, sense of tonic*

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**A.** On your instrument, practice the following scales: C major, C natural minor, G major, G natural minor. Sing along on scale degrees as you play.

**B.** Choose a recording of a song you like. Sing and play its tonic note. Then figure out if the key of the song is in minor or major. Try soloing while the song plays, moving around inside the key/scale of the song (eg. Bb major). If it doesn't sound good, pay attention to which notes clash and try to figure out why: maybe one of the song's chords is outside of the scale (aka. chromatic chords); maybe the song isn't actually in natural minor or major (maybe it's in one of the modes, instead (dorian, mixolydian, etc)).

**C.** Convert the melody Happy Birthday to natural minor. Play it and sing it on scale degrees in both ways (major and minor). Take the melody of "Stairway to Heaven" (just for these lyrics: There's a lady who's sure / All that glitters is gold / And she's buying a stairway to heaven) and convert it to major. Play it and sing it on scale degrees, in both ways (major and minor).