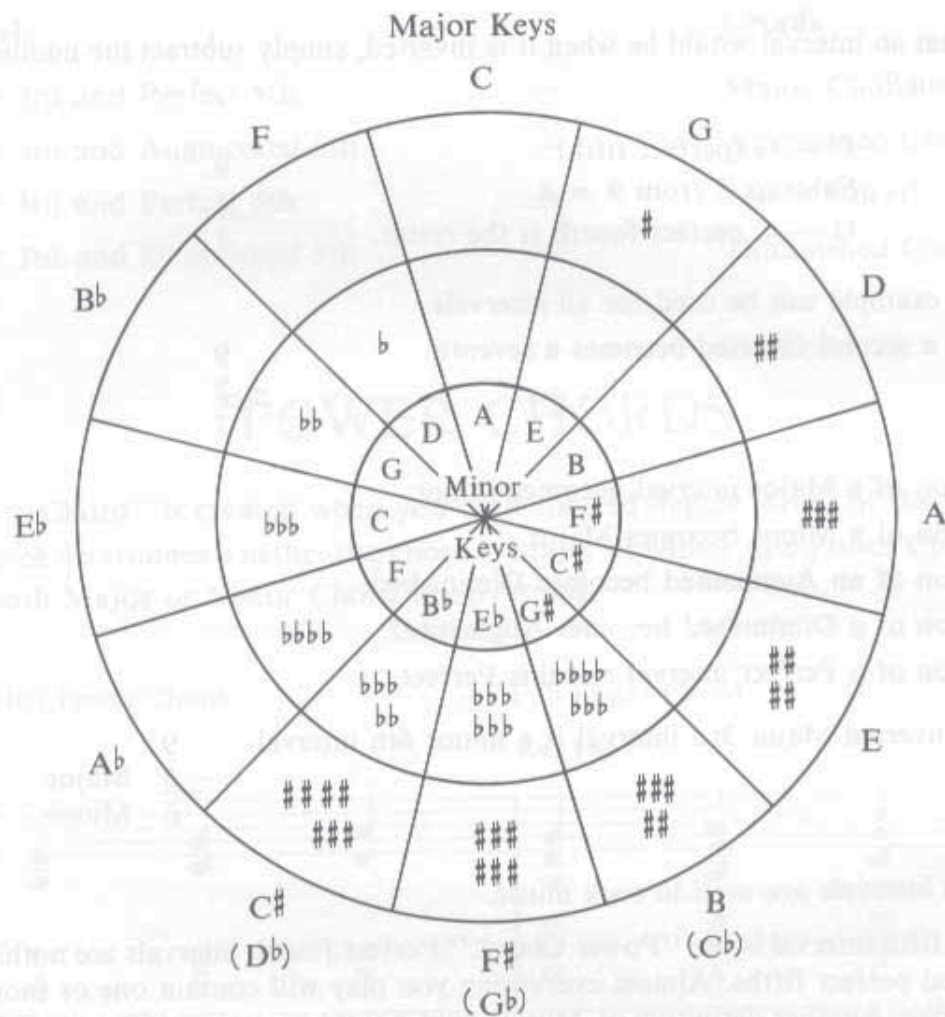


CIRCLE OF FIFTHS



Circle of Fifths

The circular, clockwise arrangement of the 12 keys in order of ascending fifths (C, G, D, A, etc.).

The circle shows that after 12 steps, the first key is reached again.

The keys are presented in their natural order, which is increasing by one the number of sharps in the signature. Viewing the circle counter-clockwise (or, in order of descending fifths: C, F, B^b, etc.) the keys follow each other with one more flat in the signature.

The transition from the sharp keys to the flat keys must be made at one point in the circle. For example, at G-sharp = A-flat (enharmonic change).

By starting from A instead of from C, the circle of signatures might also be used for the minor keys.