

Introduction to Modes

In C major

Piano

C Ionian D Dorian G Mixolydian A Aeolian

This system shows the first four modes in C major. Each mode is represented by a four-measure phrase in a grand staff. The C Ionian mode is the standard C major scale. The D Dorian mode starts on D and has a natural B. The G Mixolydian mode starts on G and has a natural F. The A Aeolian mode starts on A and has a natural G.

Pno.

E Phrygian F Lydian B Locrian

This system shows the next three modes in C major. The E Phrygian mode starts on E and has a flat B. The F Lydian mode starts on F and has a natural B. The B Locrian mode starts on B and has a flat F.

Ionian, Dorian, Mixolydian, Aeolian in different keys

Pno.

C Ionian (Major) C Dorian C Mixolydian C Aeolian (Natural Minor)

This system shows the four modes in the key of C. The C Ionian (Major) mode is the standard C major scale. The C Dorian mode has a flat B. The C Mixolydian mode has a natural B and a flat F. The C Aeolian (Natural Minor) mode has a flat B and a flat F.

Pno.

Bb Ionian Bb Dorian Bb Mixolydian Bb Aeolian

This system shows the four modes in the key of Bb. The Bb Ionian mode is the standard Bb major scale. The Bb Dorian mode has a natural B. The Bb Mixolydian mode has a natural B and a flat F. The Bb Aeolian mode has a natural B and a flat F.

Pno.

Eb Ionian Eb Dorian Eb Mixolydian Eb Aeolian

This system shows the four modes in the key of Eb. The Eb Ionian mode is the standard Eb major scale. The Eb Dorian mode has a natural Bb. The Eb Mixolydian mode has a natural Bb and a flat F. The Eb Aeolian mode has a natural Bb and a flat F.