

## A Music Primer

Creativity is something that cannot be taught, the language of creativity can. For a musician that language is music. Music is the building blocks of what we do and with any type of construction there are rules.

These are the rules:

**Rule 1. There are only 12 notes. The Chromatic Scale**

C C# D D# E F F# G G# A A# B C

**Rule 2. The Major Scale (which is the cornerstone of western music) is created by removing the altered tones from the Chromatic Scale.**

C D E F G A B C

**Rule 3. Each note of a Scale represents a Mode (a pattern of notes that create a Major or Minor sound).**

The Modes are;

- Ionian - the Scale from which all the Modes are created.
- Dorian - the second degree of the Major Scale. It has a Minor sound.
- Phrygian - the third degree of the Major Scale. It has a Minor sound.
- Lydian - the fourth degree of the Major Scale. It has a Major sound.
- Mixolydian - the fifth degree of the Major Scale. It has a Major sound.
- Aeolian - the sixth degree of the Major Scale. This is the Relative Minor.
- Locrian - the seventh degree of the Major Scale. It has a Diminished sound.

**Rule 4. Each note of the Scale is also the Root note of a Chord. The I Chord is Major, the ii and iii Chord are Minor, the IV and V Chord are Major, the vi Chord is Minor and the vii Chord is a half Diminished. i.e. in the Key of C Major;**

C<sup>2</sup> Dm<sup>2</sup> Em<sup>2</sup> F<sup>2</sup> G Am Bm7<sup>b</sup>5