An interval is the difference in pitch between two notes

In order to understand Major and minor scales (which are made up of a sequence of notes either a whole-step or a half-step apart) you need to understand two basic types of interval

**Whole-step interval**

Example: whole-step interval
A to B is a whole-step

```plaintext
A  Bb  C  D  E  D#  F  F#  G  G#  A
```

**Half-step interval**

Example: half-step interval
A to Bb is a half-step

```plaintext
A  A#  Bb  C  D  E  F  G  A
```

Study the two Major Scales below
The sequence of whole-step and half-step intervals are defined by the letters “W” and “H” in the boxes between the note names
Use the graphics above to follow how the sequence of intervals creates each scale

**C Major Scale**

```plaintext
C  D  E  F  G  A  B  C
```

**A Major Scale**

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

Note how even though the notes are different the sequence of whole-step and half-step intervals is the same for both (and in fact all) Major scales