

Finding Your Way Home (Tonality)

**This part is difficult to understand simply by reading, so watching the related video or putting it into practice will really help this section make more sense.

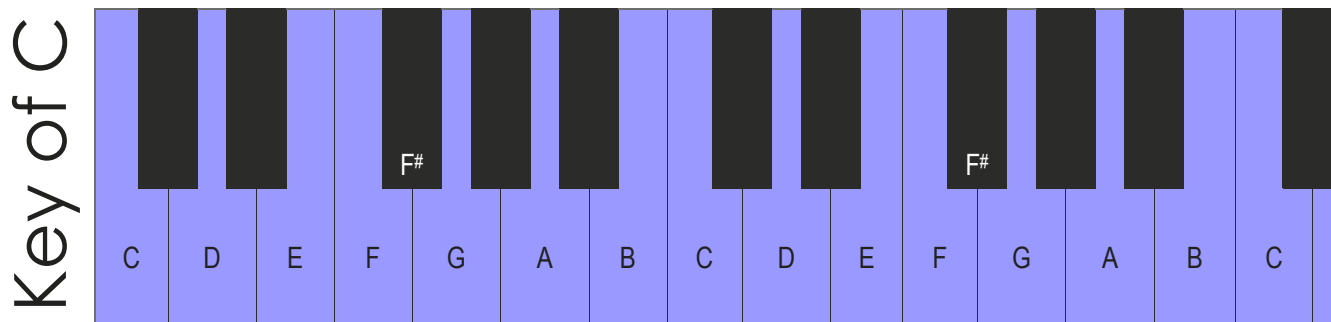


There's no such thing as a wrong note, only a right note at the wrong time. At any point during any song, all the listeners (audience) have a perception of which notes are acceptable and which ones aren't. That collection of acceptable notes is called a "key" or a "tonality" or sometimes a "scale". Notes outside of that tonality sound wrong.

However, in some other song, those exact same "wrong notes" will sound great! It is the performer's job to tell the audience which notes are the right notes by playing only notes from that tonality, or key. Therefore, "staying in the key" during a song is very important.

Here's a great example...

The notes in the tonality (or key) of C are highlighted below. Notice that the F# is not highlighted. If a song is in the key of C, the audience is expecting any of the highlighted notes, but notes like F# will sound horrible.



However...

The F# sounds great in the key below because it is one of the expected notes—one of the notes from the tonality.

