

SCALE DEGREES & FUNCTIONS

SCALE DEGREES	EXAMPLE SCALES		SCALE DEGREE NAMES	FUNCTIONS
	MAJOR	MINOR		
1	C	A	TONIC	<p>The TONIC is the most important scale degree, with maximum repose and the centre of gravitational pull.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it is the tonal centre, the home note, the most stable tone.
7	B	G#	LEADING NOTE	<p>The LEADING NOTE is a semitone below the TONIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it <i>strongly</i> tends <u>up</u> – or ‘leads’ – to the TONIC.
		G	SUBTONIC	<p>The SUBTONIC is a tone below the TONIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically ambiguous because it neither progresses up or down. Although weak, it can slightly tend <u>down</u> to the SUBMEDIANT.
6	A	F or F#	SUBMEDIANT	<p>The SUBMEDIANT is a minor or major 3rd below the TONIC and is midway between the SUBDOMINANT and TONIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it tends <u>down</u> to the DOMINANT.
5	G	E	DOMINANT	<p>The DOMINANT is next in importance to the TONIC and is a perfect 5th above the TONIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it is a stable tone.
4	F	D	SUBDOMINANT	<p>The SUBDOMINANT is a perfect 5th below the TONIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it tends <u>down</u> to the MEDIANT.
3	E	C	MEDIANT	<p>The MEDIANT is a major or minor 3rd above the TONIC and midway between the TONIC and the DOMINANT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it is a stable tone.
2	D	B	SUPERTONIC	<p>The SUPERTONIC is a tone above the TONIC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it tends <u>down</u> to the TONIC.
1	C	A	TONIC	<p>The TONIC is the most important scale degree, with maximum repose and the centre of gravitational pull.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Melodically it is the tonal centre, the home note, the most stable tone.

