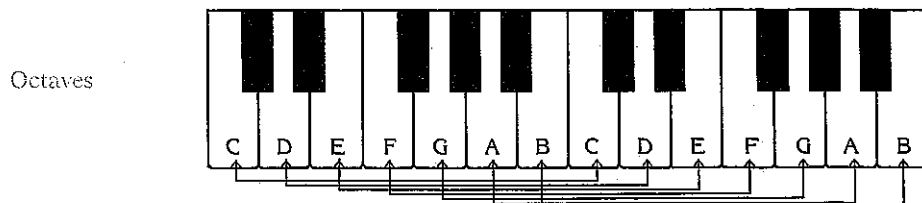
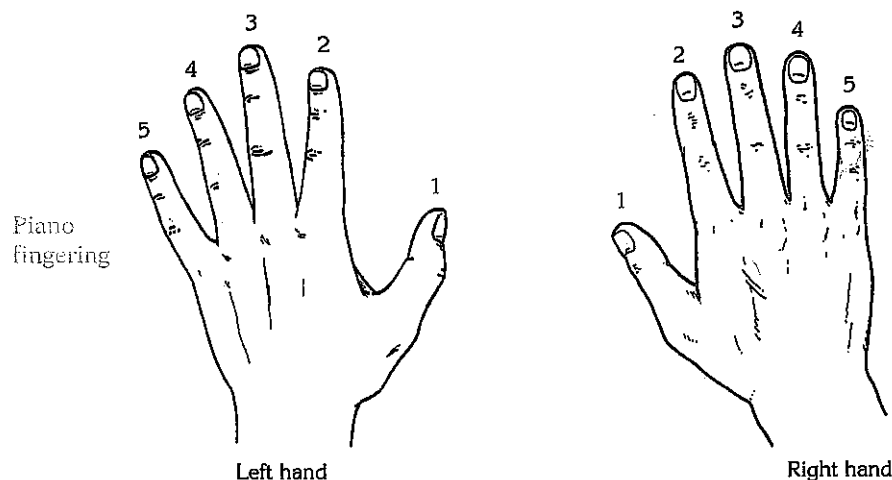


Most of the adjacent white keys have a black key between them (C–D, D–E, F–G, G–A, and A–B). However there is no black key between E and F or between B and C. We thus have two different sizes of step: the smaller steps (where no black key intervenes) are called *half steps* and the larger steps (where there is a black key between two adjacent white keys) are called *whole steps*.

Moving from any white key to a nonadjacent white key is a *leap*. If you start on any key and leap up or down seven steps, you end up on another key with the same letter name. Seven steps span eight white keys and comprise an *octave*. Pitches related by one or more octaves share the same name because they sound so much alike.



In playing the piano, it is customary to refer to your fingers by number: the thumb is the first finger; the index finger is the second finger, and so on.



## Lesson 2: In-class activities

1. Singing. The instructor will play a note. Sing the note you hear, and then the note an octave higher or lower, as requested.
2. Singing. The instructor will play two white notes slowly in succession. Sing the notes, then identify them as an ascending or descending step or leap.
3. Reciting. Recite the letter names of the notes, ascending and descending, as follows (working for speed and accuracy):
  - a. ascending: A–B–C–D–E–F–G–A–B–C–D–E–F–G–A–B–  
C–D–E–F–G–A–B–C–D–E–F–G–A–B–C–D–E–  
F–G–A–B–C–D–E–F–G–A–B–C–D–E–F–G
  - b. descending: A–G–F–E–D–C–B–A–G–F–E–D–C–B–A–G–  
F–E–D–C–B–A–G–F–E–D–C–B–A–G–F–E–D–C–B–A–G–  
F–E–D–C–B