

# SHARPS

## Father Christmas Gave Dad An Electric Blanket

Key	Key Signature		Key	Key Signature	In the music
G major 1 sharp	F#	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center; color: blue;">                     For relative minors: count down 3 semitones                 </div>	E minor 1 sharp	F#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> D#
D major 2 sharps	F# C#		B minor 2 sharps	F# C#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> A#
A major 3 sharps	F# C# G#		F# minor 3 sharps	F# C# G#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> E#
E major 4 sharps	F# C# G# D#		C# minor 4 sharps	F# C# G# D#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> B#
B major 5 sharps	F# C# G# D# A#		G# minor 5 sharps	F# C# G# D# A#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> Fx
F# major 6 sharps	F# C# G# D# A# E#		D# minor 6 sharps	F# C# G# D# A# E#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> Cx
C# major 7 sharps	F# C# G# D# A# E# B#		A# minor 7 sharps	F# C# G# D# A# E# B#	Raised 7 <sup>th</sup> Gx

The red arrows show you that if you count back one letter in the musical alphabet you will find the last sharp in the key signature. For example, to find the key signature of B major, count back one letter from B and you get A. Therefore B major has all the sharps up to A in the sharp rule (**F**ast, **C**ats, **G**o, **D**own, **A**nd – 5 sharps). Likewise, for E major, count back one letter from E and you get D. Therefore E major has four sharps (**F**ast, **C**ats, **G**o, **D**own).

The blue circles show you that to find the relative minor you simply count DOWN 3 semitones from the major key. For example, to find the relative minor of G major, you count down 3 semitones from G (on the piano) and you get E, so the relative minor to G major is E minor. Likewise to find the relative minor of C# major you count down 3 semitones from C# and you get A#, so the relative minor to C# major is A# minor. Notice that it can't be Bb minor, even though Bb and A# are the same note! This is because C# major contains sharps, not flats. Majors and relative minors MUST share the same key signature!

Green arrows show you raised 7<sup>ths</sup>. Count 7 notes up from the minor key to get your 7<sup>th</sup> note and then raise it by a semitone. For example, E minor will have D#s in the music (7 notes up from E is D, then raise it by a semitone to get D#). Likewise, B minor will have A#s in the music (7 notes up from B is A, then raise A by a semitone to get A#). Notice the raised 7<sup>ths</sup> in G# minor, D# minor and A# minor require you to raise a note that is already sharpened in the key signature. So there will be F double sharps (Fx) in G minor, C double sharps (Cx) in D# minor and G double sharps (Gx) in A# minor.