

FLATS

Blanket Explodes And Dad Gets Cold Feet

Key	Key Signature		Key	Key Signature	In the music
F major 1 flat	? Bb	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> For relative minors: count down 3 semitones </div>	D minor 1 flats	Bb	Raised 7 th C# ←
Bb major 2 flats	Bb Eb		G minor 2 flats	Bb Eb	Raised 7 th F# ←
Eb major 3 flats	Bb Eb Ab		C minor 3 flats	Bb Eb Ab	Raised 7 th Bb ←
Ab major 4 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db		F minor 4 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db	Raised 7 th Eb ←
Db major 5 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db Gb		Bb minor 5 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db Gb	Raised 7 th Ab ←
Gb major 6 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb		Eb minor 6 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb	Raised 7 th Db ←
Cb major 7 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb Fb		Ab minor 7 flats	Bb Eb Ab Db Gb Cb Fb	Raised 7 th Gb ←

The red arrows show you that if you count forward one letter in the flat rule you will find the last flat in the key signature. For example, to find the key signature of Eb major, count forward one letter from Eb in the flat rule and you get Ab. Therefore Eb major has all the flats up to A in the flat rule (**Blanket, Explodes, And** – 3 flats). Likewise, for Db major, count forward one letter from Db and you get Gb. Therefore Db major has five flats (**Blanket, Explodes, And Dad, Gets**). 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 Gb major, you count down 3 semitones from Gb (on the piano) and you get Eb, so the relative minor to Gb major is Eb minor. Likewise to find the relative minor of Cb major you count down 3 semitones from Cb and you get Ab, so the relative minor to Cb major is Ab minor. Notice that it can't be G# minor, even though Ab and G# are the same note! This is because Cb major contains flats, not sharps. Majors and relative minors MUST share the same key signature! Green arrows show you raised 7ths. Count 7 notes up from the minor key to get your 7th note and then raise it by a semitone. For example, D minor will have C#s in the music (7 notes up from D is C, then raise it by a semitone to get C#). Likewise, G minor will have F#s in the music (7 notes up from G is F, then raise F by a semitone to get F#). Notice the raised 7th in C minor, F minor, Bb minor, Eb minor and Ab minor requires you to raise a note that is already flattened in the key signature. So there will be Bb in C minor, Eb in F minor, Ab in Bb minor, Db in Eb minor and Gb in Ab minor (all are raised 7^{ths}).