## Section 2.8

## Learning Major Key Signatures

Flats / sharps on the staff

Pairs add to seven (shortcut)

The order of flats on the staff is B-E-A-D-G-C-F, or BEAD-Greatest Common Factor. The order of sharps on the staff is F-C-G-D-A-E-B, or Fat Cats Go Down Alleys Eating Birds.

For each letter name, there is a flat key and a sharp key. Only one will have an accidental in the key name (except C flat/C/C sharp). The total number of accidentals for the two keys always adds up to seven. For instance, G flat major has 6 flats, and G major has 1 sharp. See 2.5 Key Signatures SelfStudy Tips for more tips.


