The Major Scale Formula on Guitar

Tone = whole step (2 frets) **Half-tone** = half step (1 fret)

Tone	Tone	Half-tone	Tone	Tone	Tone	Half-tone
W	W	H	W	W	W	H

Musical Alphabet

A	A#/Bb	B	C	C#/Db	D	D#/Eb	E	F	F#/Gb	G	G#/Ab

Natural half steps occur between **B–C** and **E–F.**

Example: A Major on One String

A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G#	A
	Tone	Tone	Half-tone	Tone	Tone	Tone	Half-tone

A Major Scale on the Low E String (5th–17th fret)



Takeaway: To build any major scale, start on your root note and follow:
Tone, Tone, Half-tone, Tone, Tone, Tone, Half-tone.