

Scales are the building blocks of all music.

From them we create melodies, harmonies, chords, bass lines and more.

Modes are simply the scales within a scale. There are 7 modes, 1 for each note of the scale.

The Ionian Mode is the normal major scale beginning on the 1st / Tonic / Naming note.

The Dorian Mode uses the same notes as the Ionian but begins on the 2nd / Super-Tonic note.

The Phrygian Mode uses the same notes as the Ionian but begins on the 3rd / Mediant note.

The Lydian Mode uses the same notes as the Ionian but begins on the 4th / Sub-Dominant note.

The Mixolydian Mode uses the same notes as the Ionian but begins on the 5th / Dominant note.

The Aeolian Mode uses the same notes as the Ionian but begins on the 6th / Sub-Mediant note.

The Locrian Mode uses the same notes as the Ionian but begins on the 7th / Sub-Tonic / Leading note.

Basic chord progression for each mode demonstrated in the Key of C Notice how the value of each chord changes in each mode, the possibilities are endless.				
Note Position	Mode	Position Name	Triad (3 note) I - IV - V - I	Tetra-Chord (4 note) IΔ7 - IVΔ7 - V7 - IΔ7
1	Ionian	Tonic	C . F . G . C	CΔ7 FΔ7 G7 CΔ7
2	Dorian	Super-Tonic	Dm . G . Am . Dm	D-7 G7 A-7 D-7
3	Phrygian	Mediant	Em . Am . Bm . Em	E-7 A-7 B-7 E-7
4	Lydian	Sub-Dominant	F . Bm . C . F	FΔ7 B-7 CΔ7 FΔ7
5	Mixolydian	Dominant	G . C . Dm . G	G7 CΔ7 D-7 G7
6	Aeolian	Sub-Mediant	Am . Dm . Em . Am	A-7 D-7 E-7 A-7
7	Locrian	Sub-Tonic	Bm . Em . F . Bm	B-7 E-7 FΔ7 B-7

The Cycle of Keys is a reference point for all musicians playing in any style/ genre of music.

The Abridged Cycle of Moveable Keys

