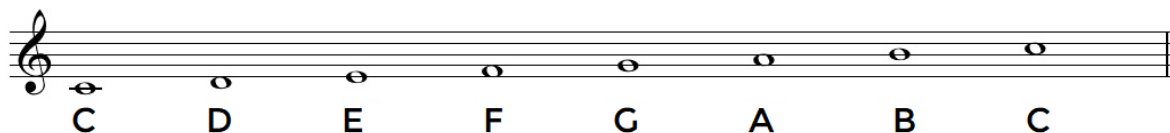


## The Degrees of a Scale or Key

The II-V-I chord progression is the most common progression found in Jazz and is the foundation of a lot of mainstream Jazz harmony. The roman numerals II-V-I refer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> degrees of a key or scale. For example, if you take the C Major scale:



A scale is a series of notes played in order. The image above is the C Major scale, which goes from C, through all the white keys to the C above. If you give each of these notes a number from I (1) through to VII (7), these numbers are called the degrees of the scale. The top C is a I (1) again because it's the same note as the starting note, a C, but just one Octave higher.

