

The Three Diminished Scales

by Camden Hughes

(Starting notes are arbitrarily set to C, C#, and D, in the whole-half diminished form)

Each of the 3 scales could start on any scale tone.

There are 4 whole-half diminished and

4 half-whole diminished versions of each scale.

These whole-half and half-whole versions of each scale

alternate with each other.

Calling them #1, #2, and #3 names is completely arbitrary.

The choice to spell accidentals in terms of sharps or flats is also arbitrary.

These are the 3 versions of the scale, on arbitrary starting notes.

Each of the 3 diminished scales can start in 8 different places, on any scale tone.

Octatonic/Diminished Scale #1

Musical notation for Octatonic/Diminished Scale #1, starting on C. The scale is shown in 4/4 time, spanning three measures. The first measure contains the notes C4, D4, E4, F4. The second measure contains the notes G4, A4, B4, C5. The third measure contains the notes D5, E5, F5, G5. The notes are written in a whole-half diminished form, with a whole note followed by a half note in each measure. The treble and bass clefs are shown, with the notes distributed between them.

Octatonic/Diminished Scale #2

Musical notation for Octatonic/Diminished Scale #2, starting on C#. The scale is shown in 4/4 time, spanning three measures. The first measure contains the notes C#4, D#4, E4, F#4. The second measure contains the notes G4, A4, B4, C#5. The third measure contains the notes D#5, E5, F5, G#5. The notes are written in a whole-half diminished form, with a whole note followed by a half note in each measure. The treble and bass clefs are shown, with the notes distributed between them.

Octatonic/Diminished Scale #3

Musical notation for Octatonic/Diminished Scale #3, starting on D. The scale is shown in 4/4 time, spanning three measures. The first measure contains the notes D4, E4, F4, G4. The second measure contains the notes A4, B4, C5, D#5. The third measure contains the notes E5, F5, G5, A5. The notes are written in a whole-half diminished form, with a whole note followed by a half note in each measure. The treble and bass clefs are shown, with the notes distributed between them.