1. **Determine Major Key (Sharps):**
   If the key signature contains sharps, the key is determined by the last sharp in the key signature. Go half a step up from that sharp to find the major key.

   ○ Example: If the last sharp is F#, the key is G major.

2. **Determine Major Key (Flats):**
   If the key signature contains flats, the key is determined by the second-to-last flat in the key signature.

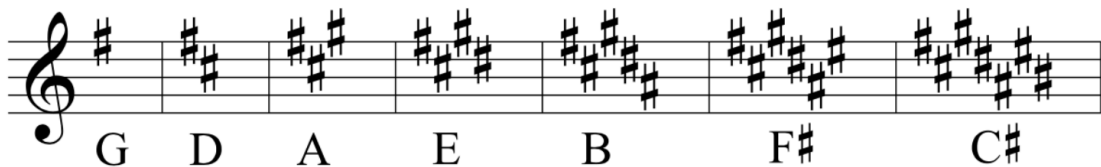   ○ Example: If the second-to-last flat is E, the key is E flat major.

OR

G   D   A   E   B   F♯   C♯

Figure 2.3.2. Major Key Signatures using Sharps

F   B♭   E♭   A♭   D♭   G♭   C♭

Figure 2.3.3. Major Key Signatures using Flats

Of course, there always has to be an exception. That would be sheet music that has <u>no sharps and flats</u> indicated.   In that case, the <u>key is C</u> and just has to be remembered.