

# 4-Note Scales: 1. The 5 Basic Tetrachords:

(The Building-Blocks for Classical Heptatonic Scales)  
Parallel Grids

JimO

## 1. MAJOR TETRACHORD: **Root-2-2-1**: Semi-Tone and Whole/Half-Step Terms

C D E F  
Root 2 2 1  
Root Whole(W) Whole(W) Half(H)

## 2. MINOR TETRACHORD: **Root-2-1-2**

C D Eb C  
Root 2 1 2  
Root Whole Half Whole

## 3. PHRYGIAN TETRACHORD: **Root-1-2-2**

C Db Eb F  
Root 1 2 2  
Root Half Whole Whole

## 4. LYDIAN TETRACHORD: **Root-2-2-2-**

C D E F#  
Root 2 2 2  
Root Whole Whole Whole

## 5. HARMONIC MINOR TETRACHORD: **Root-1-3-1** (Sometimes called Byzantine or Hungarian)

C Db E F  
Root 1 3 1  
Root Half Whole+Half Half