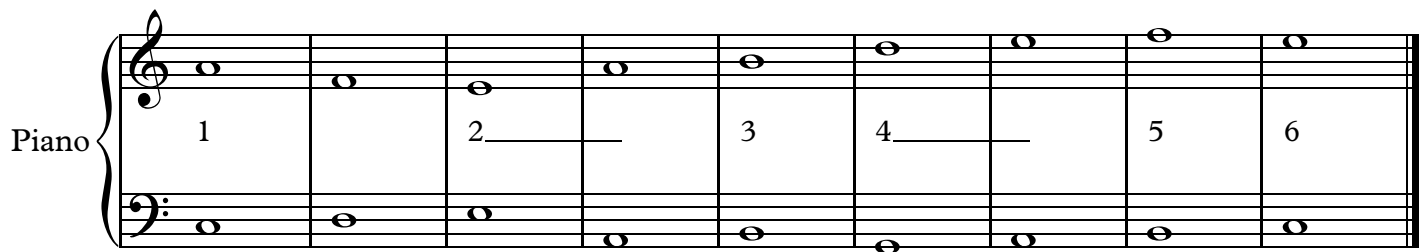


First Species Counterpoint - Cheat Sheet

Rules for 1st species:

- **Rule 1:** Harmonic Intervals must be consonant (no perfect 4th)
- **Rule 2:** No //5 or //8, direct 5 or direct 8
- **Rule 3:** Begin and end on s.d.1 (unless writing top voice, in which case s.d. 5 is ok)
- **Rule 4:** In minor, use natural minor (lowered 6th and 7th) except for in the penultimate measure.
- **Rule 5:** No more than 3 of the same interval in a row
- **Guideline 1:** Step as much as possible/change directions after a skip
- **Guideline 2:** Contrary Motion is very desirable
- **Guideline 3:** Try to use imperfect consonances rather than perfect consonances
- **Guideline 4:** 2 perfect intervals in a row = ☹



Errors:

- 1) Doesn't start on scale degree 1 (or, sometimes 5)
- 2) Even those these octaves are going in contrary motion, it's still bad.
- 3) Parallel octaves from the measure before **and** following a 4th leap with a step in the same direction
- 4) Parallel fifths
- 5) Tritone between the bass and treble. Also, the penultimate measure should have both scale degree 2 and 7.
- 6) Does not end on scale degree 1.