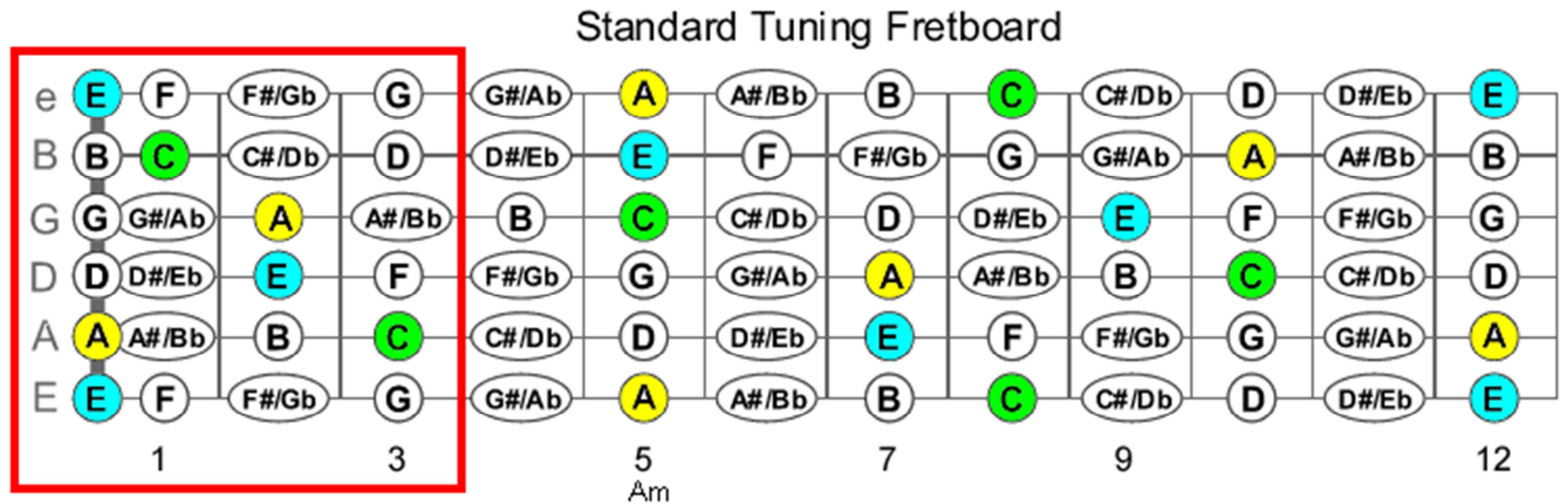


Chapter 1 - Find Chords Anywhere!

Now we're ready to tackle minor chords. You may be wondering why I reserved minor chords for later. Well, they're MUCH easier to understand how to play, because you've already grasped their major counterparts. This time we'll be doing things a little different.

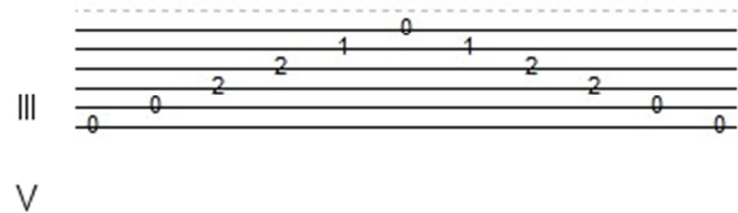
The A minor chord

The A minor chord (Am, A minor) consists of the notes A, E, and C. I'm not going to put you through all the steps like we did with the Major chords. If you HAVE NOT grasped the Major chord counterparts, DO NOT proceed.

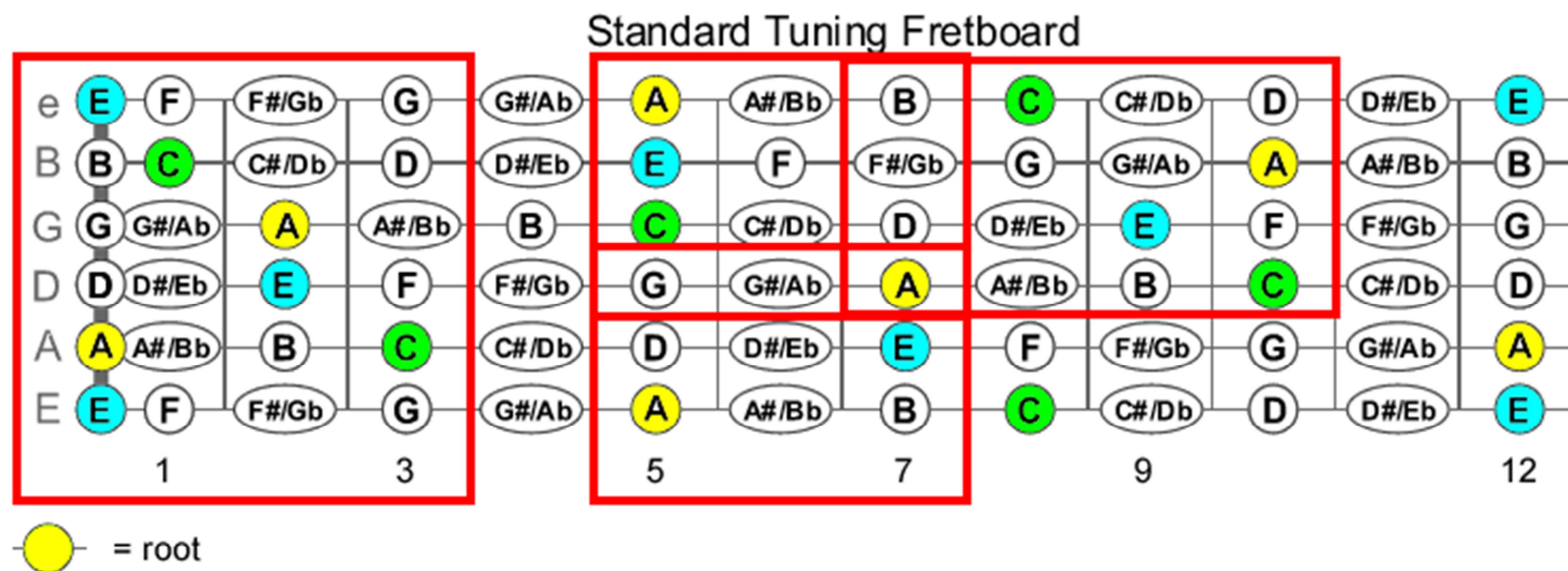


- = root
- = note
- = note

The A minor Chord
contains notes:
A - E - C
root note = A



Above you'll see all of the notes available in the Am chord. I've boxed in the one you'll be most familiar with. However, there are more positions available along the fretboard. Here they are:



There ARE more, but I just want you to get an idea of a few logical positions. You can deduce for yourself which additional positions are possible. Remember that the rule is: ALL you need are the notes required within the chord, with a lowest tone root note included in the chord.

For example, you could also include:

```

E-----8-----
B-----10-----
G-----9-----
D-----7-----
A-----x-----
E-----x-----
  
```

Here the 7th fret note on the D string is the root. It's the lowest root available. Use it!

What About Using A Power Chord?

1. Find the note "A."
2. Search for the next note that appears ONE string HIGHER in pitch and is the FIFTH.

Remember the note order: A – B – C – D – E – F – G (we don't need to worry about sharps {#} or flats {b})

A B C D E
1.....2.....3.....4.....5

This time the fifth is E.

NOTE: When using power chords, there is NO SUCH THING as a minor power chord. If you see an A5, it's just an A5. There is no minor. Extra points for you if you know why! (If not, you will soon!)

Exercises:

The image shows a musical exercise for guitar. It consists of a staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The exercise is divided into four measures, each with a chord label above it: Am, Am, Am, and A5. The first three measures are Am chords, and the fourth measure is an A5 power chord. The Am chords are played with a barre on the first fret. The A5 chord is played with a barre on the fifth fret. The notes for each chord are shown on the staff and in a tablature below. The tablature shows the fret numbers for each string (T, A, B) and the fret number for the thumb (0).

Measure	Chord	T	A	B
1	Am	0	1	0
2	Am	0	1	0
3	Am	0	1	0
4	A5	5	7	5

Which variations did you like? _____

	(A5)	Am	Am
T		12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8
A	7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
B	5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14	9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9

Which variations did you like? _____