

Practice No. 1

In this exercise, we're doing the same thing we did in Major Triads | Practice No. 1, but we're using Minor Triads instead. Taking an Am, Dm, and Em Triad, we'll start by playing them in root, 3rd, 5th order (root position) and then we'll move into 1st Inversion (3rd, 5th, root) and finally 2nd position (5th, root, 3rd.) We'll go through the cycle below and repeat it. Compare this exercise to Major Triads | Practice No. 1, and notice the similarities!

After a two measure count-in, the tab will look like this:

T	0	5	7	5	10	12
A	2	7	9	5	10	12
B						
	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

T	1	6	8
A	2	7	9
B			
	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	

REPEAT

Arpeggio:
A chord played one note at a time instead of all at once.

Let's look closer at the first two measures. This set of triads are in order of Root, Third, Fifth. In the video lesson, I discuss a few options for which fingers can be used for these shapes, so all the numbers on this PDF will be used to reinforce the tablature and will not represent fingers. Below, the diagrams show that no matter which fingers you use, you'll be playing the same shape for these first two measures.

A Minor Triad

R = A
3rd = C
5th = E

D Minor Triad

R = D
3rd = F
5th = A

E Minor Triad

R = E
3rd = G
5th = B

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

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The next set of triads also share identical shapes. These triads are in second inversion, in order of 3rd, 5th, and Root. If you have larger fingers (or a guitar with a skinny neck!) you might have an easier time playing the last triad (E Minor) in open position (see the diagram) instead of up at the 12th fret.

A Minor Triad

R = A
3rd = C
5th = E

D Minor Triad

R = D
3rd = F
5th = A

E Major Triad

R = E
3rd = G#
5th = B

optional E Major 0 0 0

The final set of triads for this exercise are in 2nd inversion (in order of 5th, Root, 3rd.) These shapes are basically the classic Am chord. For those who might have difficulty playing these shapes higher up on the fingerboard, check out an alternate fingering on the next page.

A Minor Triad

R = A
3rd = C
5th = E

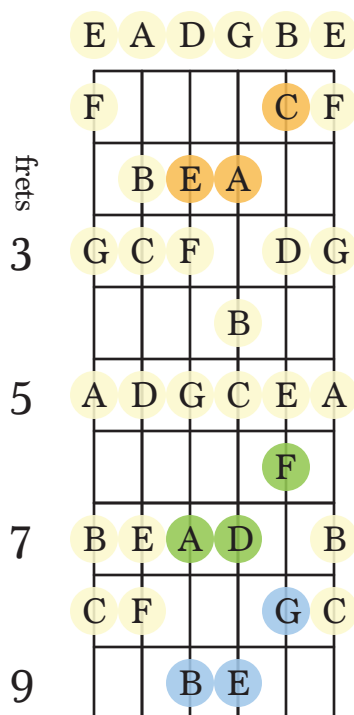
D Minor Triad

R = D
3rd = F
5th = A

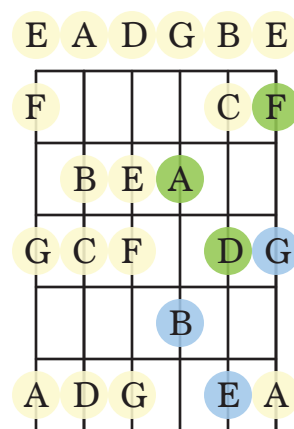
E Minor Triad

R = E
3rd = G
5th = B

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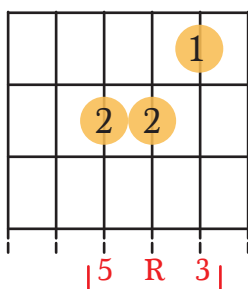


On the left, you can see the A Minor, D Minor, and E Minor Triads from the bottom of the previous page. The A Minor is in orange, the D Minor is in green, and E Minor is in blue. On the right, I've taken the D Minor and E Minor triads and moved them to new locations. The order is still 5th, root, 3rd, but the triads are on new strings and make a slightly different shape.

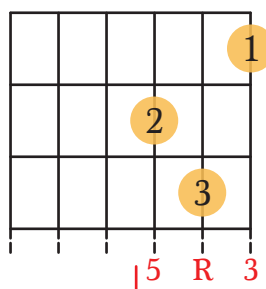


Below, I've written out the optional version of these final shapes in tablature showing the new triad shapes. Again, these are optional and mainly for those who may have difficulty with the previous shapes.

A Minor Triad
R = A
3rd = C
5th = E



D Minor Triad
R = D
3rd = F
5th = A



E Minor Triad
R = E
3rd = G
5th = B

