

How to Play Minor Chords Across the Fretboard

Hello friends, in today's session we are continuing to learn essential chord shapes across the fretboard. In this lesson I'll break down how to perform six useful voicings of the basic minor harmony (1,m3,5) in the key of Am. Learning chords in a variety of positions will help you diversify your rhythm playing, and understand the relationship between chords and scales. Let's get started!

Section #1: What are Minor Chords

Minor chords are harmonies built from the 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes of a given natural minor scale. The tab below shows how to perform our A natural minor scale in a position known as the "open A position" because it overlaps with the common A minor chord shape:

Am

Section #2: A Minor Harmony in 6 Voicings

Now that you understand the origins of the minor harmony, let's find those notes (A, C, and E) across the fretboard in useful positions, also known as "voicings." Keep in mind that positions of the minor scale overlap with each of the chord shapes shown below: