

# 7

# Introduction to Minor Chords

## A, D and E Minor Chords

### Key Concepts

- A, D and E Minor Chords
- Smooth Switching between Chords
- Combining Major and Minor Chords

## Minor Chords

Minor Chords (usually written as Cm or Cmin) are triads, similar to major chords, with one exception. Instead of a major triad in which all three notes derive from the major scale, the 3rd tone (note) is brought down a half step (flattened), making it a minor 3rd instead of a major 3rd. This flattened 3rd tone is what gives the note the “gloomy” sound commonly associated with minor chords.

### A Major Scale

Lower 1/2 step, or 1 fret to C

### Am

Musical notation and guitar TAB for Am chord:

Treble clef, 4/4 time signature, notes: A, E, A, C, E.

Guitar TAB: 0, 2, 2, 0

# D Major Scale

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
 D E F# G A B C# D  
 0 2 4 0 2 0 2 3  
 ← Lower 1/2 step, or 1 fret to F

## Dm

x x o  
 C D A D F  
 1 3 2 0

# E Major Scale

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8  
 E F# G# A B C# D# E  
 2 4 1 2 0 2 4 0  
 ← Lower 1/2 step, or 1 fret to G

## Em

o o o o  
 E B E G B E  
 0 0 0 2 2 0

# Lesson 7 Practice

1. Am Dm Am Em

TAB

2. G Em Am D

TAB

3. C Am C G

TAB

4. Dm Em G Am

TAB