

Get **20% off** annual membership before your trial ends – **Only 4 days left**

Back to all courses

Barre Chords

Challenges

✓ Recently viewed ⓘ



 Theatre mode

 Backing tracks

Practice summary

+ Add

You haven't logged any practice time for this lesson yet. There's no time like the present to [start](#)

Course navigation

UNIT 1

Barre Chords

0% ^

Master barre chords

Lessons:

- What is a Barre Chord?
- The E Shape Chord
- The Em Shape Chord
- The Am Shape Chord
- The A Shape Chord

Barre Chords

UNIT 1 • LESSON 3 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

The Em Shape Chord

With the E shape learnt (at least in principle – mastering it will take time) we can look at the next shape, which is the E minor shape chord. Of course, you should still be practicing that E shape alongside this, but this will help add some variety to that practice.

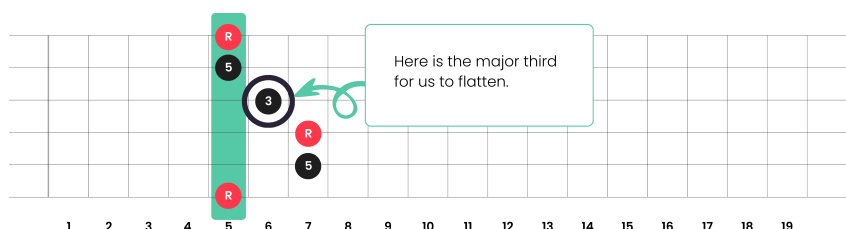
One simple change

$E_{\text{major}} = E, \underline{G\#} \& B$

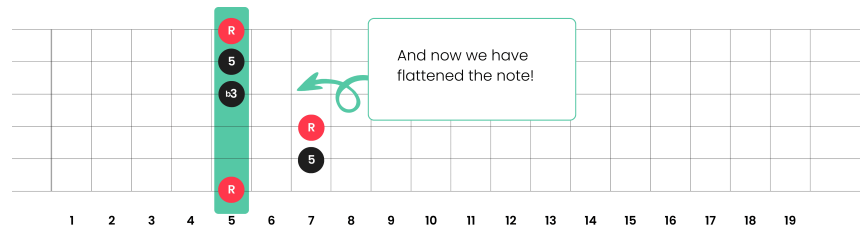
$E_{\text{minor}} = E, \underline{G} \& B$

By simply taking the 3rd degree (G#) and flattening to the G you create the E minor chord. The chord spelling of the minor triad is 1, b3 and 5.

The difference between an E major chord and an E minor chord is the flattened 3rd degree. So, for a bit of basic theory, here is the difference:



It is therefore easy to shift our major barre chord to the minor, as long as we can locate the 3rd degree. Let's do it for A major, which looks like this:



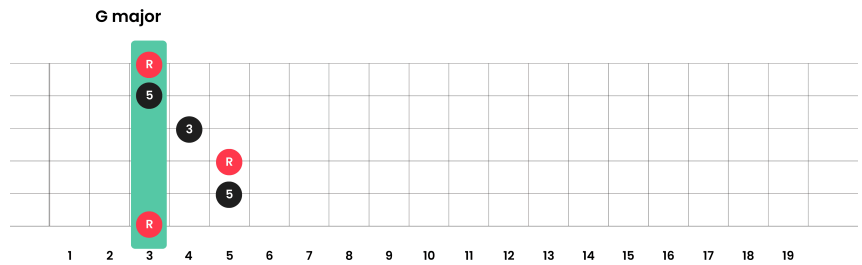
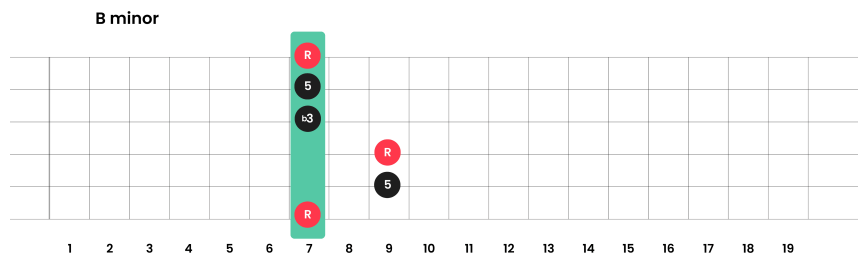
This is harder!

The fact of the matter here is that the chord is now slightly harder to play, as this new b3rd note falls underneath your barre finger. The G string is notoriously hard to get ringing out clearly in this chord, so you may need to adjust the your hand position. Franco talks about a few extra little tips in the video, these are subtle, but can really help, so check that out. **The good news is that the same theory from the previous lesson applies!** As long as you know the notes on the E string, you can find any minor chord now (even if you can't get it to ring out perfectly yet!).

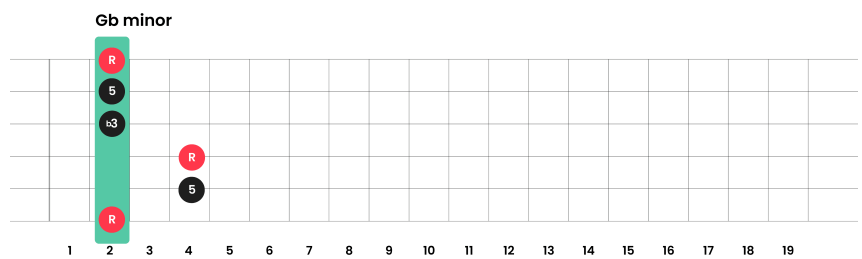
The track

To get this all into practice, we're going to be using a simple jam track to help you move this chord around the neck. The chord chart is:





your guitaracademy



We don't need to do any strumming, just play the chord at the start of each bar. Keep it simple and allow yourself to focus on the chords only.



**All
done?**

Click here to mark this lesson as complete.

Not quite done? Check the toolbox for more practice options.

Next lesson

guitar club

Made with ❤️ by Your Guitar Academy © 2025



COURSES

- Guitar Skills
- Player Studies
- Theory Lab
- Challenges
- Masterclasses

TOOLS

- Scale Builder
- Practice History

PRICING

- Subscriptions
- Prepaid

BLOG

- Latest Posts
- All Posts

ACCOUNT

- Settings
- Manage subscription
- Order history
- Logout

COMPANY

- Terms & Conditions
- Privacy Policy
- Cookie Preferences

GET IN TOUCH

contact@guitarclub.io

Currency: £GBP \$USD