

Chord structure (3)

Minor chords are Major triads with the 3rd lowered by a semitone (1 fret).

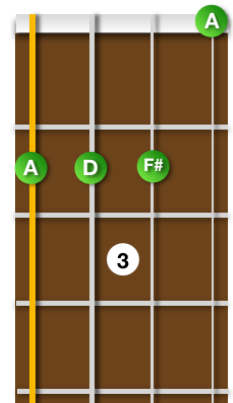
Example: the chord of D minor (Dm).

The chord of **D Major** is...

F **G** **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F#** **G** **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G** **A** **B** **C**

1 3 5

The key of **D** has two sharps (#) one of which is **F** which is why you play **F#** rather than **F**. So the chord of **D Major** is made up from the notes **D**, **F#** and **A**.



Minor chords have a lowered 3rd, so in this example, **F#** becomes **F**. Therefore the chord of **D minor** is **D**, **F** and **A**.

Another way of playing **D minor** is barre across strings 1, 2 and 3 with your index finger on the 5th fret to give **D**, **A** and **F**, and your 3rd or 4th finger onto string 4 at the 7th fret to give another **D**. All the notes are then **D**, **F** and **A**.

