

Minor Scales: Natural, Harmonic and Melodic Forms

About Minor Scales:

- We call scales **RELATIVE** if they **share the same key signature**; Minor Scales are built on the 6th scale degree of a Major Scale
- To quickly find a MAJOR key's RELATIVE MINOR, count down 3 half-steps from the tonic note of the major scale (remember to start with the tonic then count down—don't count the tonic note as "one")
- Examples: C Major and A Minor are RELATIVES; C is the **RELATIVE MAJOR** of A Minor, and A Minor is **the RELATIVE MINOR** of C Major
- Minor Scales built on the same TONIC note of a Major Scale are called **PARALLEL**
- **PARALLEL** Major and Minor scales do NOT share the same key signature
- Examples: C Major and C Minor are PARALLEL; C Major is the **PARALLEL MAJOR** to C Minor, and C Minor is **the PARALLEL MINOR** to C Major

Minor Scales: Three Forms:

- Unlike major scales that are built with only one form, or pattern, of whole steps and half steps, minor scales appear in three different forms, and it is worthwhile to learn all three fluently
- NATURAL MINOR: no alterations (exact same notes as the relative major)
- HARMONIC MINOR: Raises scale degree 7 ascending and descending
- MELODIC MINOR: Raises scale degrees 6 and 7 ascending, lowers them descending (notice this means that the natural minor and descending melodic minor scale are the same)

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C Minor Scale NATURAL Form



C Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



C Minor Scale MELODIC Form



D Minor Scale NATURAL Form



D Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



D Minor Scale MELODIC Form



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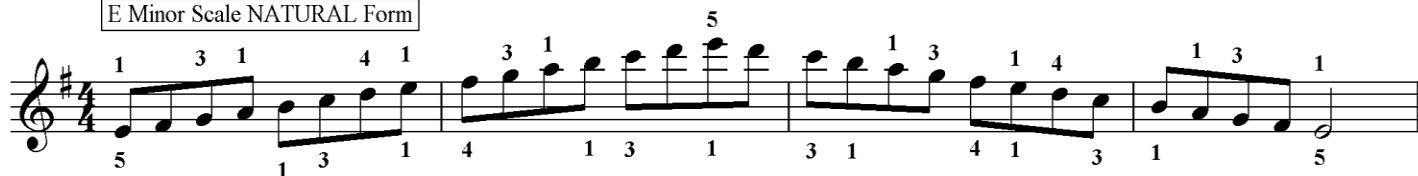
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E Minor Scale NATURAL Form



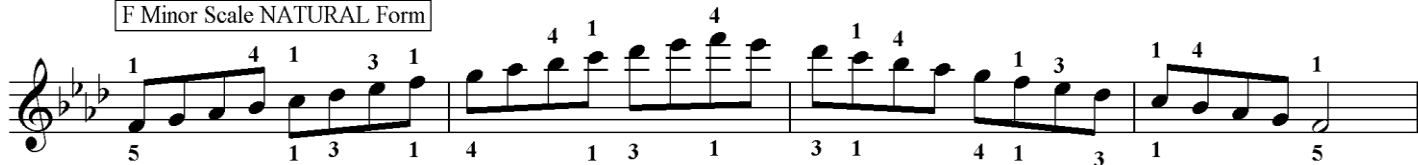
E Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



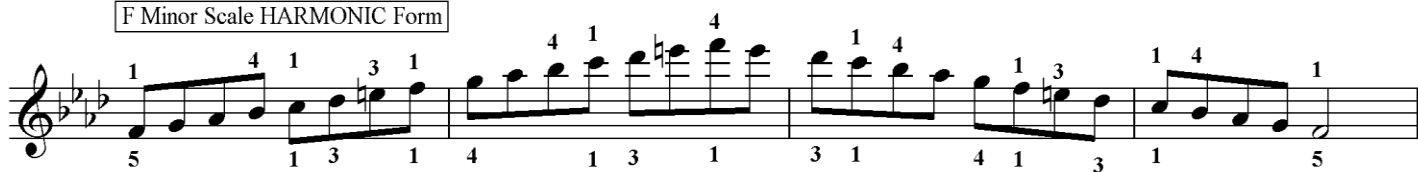
E Minor Scale MELODIC Form



F Minor Scale NATURAL Form



F Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



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G Minor Scale NATURAL Form



G Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



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A Minor Scale NATURAL Form



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B Minor Scale NATURAL Form



B Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



B Minor Scale MELODIC Form



C# Minor Scale NATURAL Form



C# Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



C# Minor Scale MELODIC Form*



*Note: R.H. fingering **ascending** different from natural and harmonic forms

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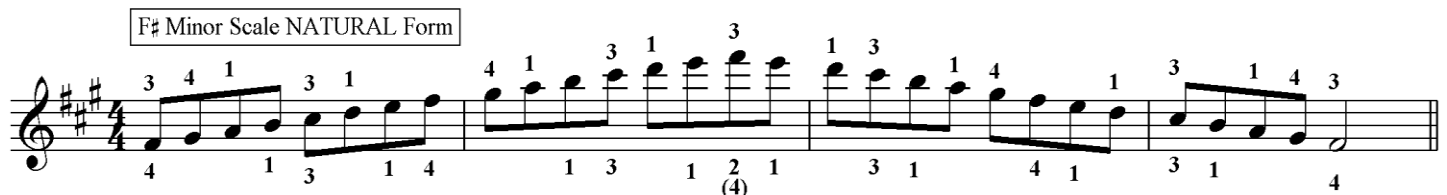
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* Note **R.H. ascending** fingering different from natural and harmonic forms

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G# Minor Scale NATURAL Form



G# Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



G# Minor Scale MELODIC Form



Bb Minor Scale NATURAL Form



Bb Minor Scale HARMONIC Form



Bb Minor Scale MELODIC Form



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