

CHORDS IN MAJOR KEYS

Chords in the Key of C							
Key of C:	C	Dm	Em	F	G	Am	Bdim
Chords in Keys Containing Sharps							
Key of G:	G	Am	Bm	C	D	Em	F#dim
Key of D:	D	Em	F#m	G	A	Bm	C#dim
Key of A:	A	Bm	C#m	D	E	F#m	G#dim
Key of E:	E	F#m	G#m	A	B	C#m	D#dim
Key of B:	B	C#m	D#m	E	F#	G#m	A#dim
Key of F#:	F#	G#m	A#m	B	C#	D#m	E#dim
Chords in Keys Containing Flats							
Key of F:	F	Gm	Am	Bb	C	Dm	Edim
Key of Bb:	Bb	Cm	Dm	Eb	F	Gm	Adim
Key of Eb:	Eb	Fm	Gm	Ab	Bb	Cm	Ddim
Key of Ab:	Ab	Bbm	Cm	Db	Eb	Fm	Gdim
Key of Db:	Db	Ebm	Fm	Gb	Ab	Bbm	Cdim
Key of Gb:	Gb	Abm	Bbm	Cb	Db	Ebm	Fdim

There are 12 Keys, which correspond to the 12 half steps divisions of an octave. Notice that there are actually 13 keys listed in the chart above. That is because the Keys of F# and Gb actually contain the same exact chords, they are just spelled differently. These two keys are interchangeable.

RELATIVE MINOR KEYS

Minor Keys are considered MODES of related Major Keys. A Minor Key will use the exact same notes and chords as its relative Major Key, but the Root of the scale (The starting pitch, or home note) will now be the 6th instead of the 1st. For instance, in the Key of C Major, the Relative Minor Key will be A Minor. Both C Major and A Minor use the same chords, it is only the Root that has changed. For all Minor Keys, simply start on the 6th degree of the Relative Major Key, and use the same chords.

The above explanation refers to the Natural Minor Scale. There are variations of the Minor Scale, such as Harmonic Minor, Traditional Melodic Minor, Jazz, Melodic Minor, and Composite Minor, which will all have slightly different chord progressions. We will be covering the chord variations of these scales in greater depth in the Songwriting courses available at Songwriting Planet.