

# A minor scales and chords

I'm going to cover the basic triads, sevenths, suspended, and a handful of other 4 or 5-note chords from the A Natural minor, A Harmonic minor and A Melodic minor scales. If I included every possible chord from all 3 scales, it would be overwhelming.

If you have downloaded my [83 Chords from the C Major Scale PDF file](#), then the A Natural Minor would have the same 83 chords. Add to that all the possible chords from the A Harmonic & Melodic minors and you would have way too many choices.

I will add a fourth minor scale - a practical combination of the most basic chords from the 3 minor scales. But feel free to use any chord from any of the 3 scales.

## **A Aeolian / Natural minor: A-B-C-D-E-F-G**

Below are my "best" choices for possible chords

Am	Am7	Asus	A7sus	
C	C6	C add9	Cmaj7	
Dm	Dm6	Dm add9	Dm7	Dm9
Em	Em7	Esus	E7sus	
F	F6	F add9	Fmaj7	
G	G6	G add9	G7	G7sus

## **A Harmonic minor: A-B-C-D-E-F-G#**

Am	Am add9	Am-maj7	Asus	
Bdim7				
C+				
Dm	Dm6	Dm add9	Dm7	Dm9
E	E7	Esus	E7sus	
E+	E7#5			
F	F6	Fmaj7		
Fm	Fm6	Fm-maj7		
G#dim7				

## **A Melodic minor: A-B-C-D-E-F#-G#**

Am	Am6	Am add9	Am-maj7	Asus
Bm	Bm6	Bm7	Bsus	B7sus
C+				
D	D6	D7	D9	D13
E	E7	E9	Esus	E7sus
E+	E7#5			
G#7alt				

## A Practical minor: best chords from all 3 scales

Am	Am7	A7sus	Am-maj7	
Bm	Bm7	Bsus	B7sus	
C	Cmaj7	C+		
Dm	Dm7	D7	*D7#9	
Em	Em7	E	E7	*E7#9
Esus	E7sus			
E+	E7#5			
F	Fmaj7	Fm		
G	G7	G9	G13	
G#7alt				

## Chords used in 3 AAA Songs in the key of A minor

### The Gallows Pole: 2/4 time, 8 bars (Folk Song Encyclopedia)

#### Chords:

Am - Am - Am - Am

A7 - D7 - F7 - Am

### Jack-A-Roe: 4/4 time, 18 bars (Traditional)

#### Chords:

Am - C - C - E - E

Am - C - F - C - C

Am - E - Am - Am

Am - E - Am - Am

### House of the Rising Sun: 3/4 time, 16 bars (Folk Song Encyclopedia)

#### Chords:

Am - D7 - E7 - Am - Am - G7 - E - E7

A7 - Am7 - Am6 - F7 - Am - E7 - Am - E7

### House of the Rising Sun: 6/8 time (Animals version)

#### Chords:

Am - C - D - F - Am - C - E - E

Am - C - D - F - Am - E7 - Am - E7

## Notes:

1. Bdim7 = Ddim7 = Fdim7 = G#dim7 = they all resolve to A minor.
2. G#7alt: Hopefully you are familiar with 7alt chords. Even though they are built on the 7th scale degree of the melodic minor scale, they seem to function best as dominant 7 chords.
3. Take a look at the Am chord progressions in my [AAA Songs PDF file](#). Specifically, for Gallows P'ole, Jack-A-Roe, and the 2 versions of House of the Rising Sun.
4. I added the D7#9 and E7#9 as combinations of their m7 and 7 versions.