

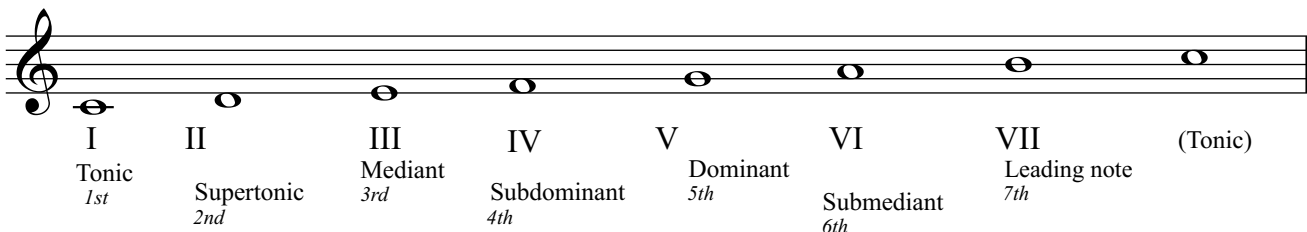
Minor Scales



Every **minor** scale is RELATED to a particular **major** scale.
Minor and major scales are RELATED when they share the **same key signature**.

To understand how the *minor* and *major* scales are related we need to review the *terminology* of *scale degrees*.

Terminology of Scale Degrees



This set of names is applied to every **diatonic major, harmonic minor and melodic minor** scale.



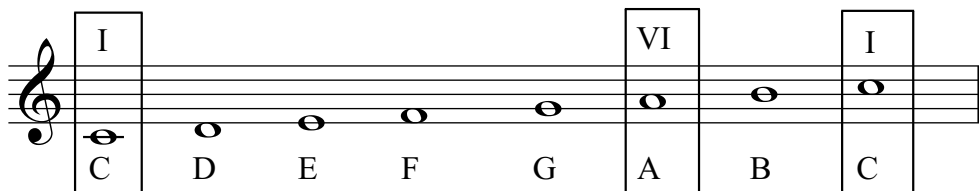
The only scale that differs is the **natural minor** scale since the **7th** degree is *not* a half step below *tonic*; in this case the **7th** pitch is called the *subtonic* rather than the *leading note*.

Review: The **tonic** is the focus for the scale and the name for each scale degree comes from its *relationship* to the tonic. For example, the *leading note* is an important note of the scale. It is a half step *below* the tonic and *leads* directly to it.

Minor scales and Major scales:

The RELATIVE *minor* (m) can be found on the **VI** degree of the *major* (M) scale;
3 half steps and **3 letter names** below the tonic of the *major*

ex. C major scale:

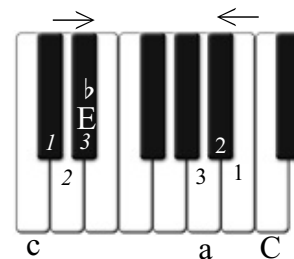


If the *major* (M) is given, go down 3 half steps to find the RELATIVE *minor*
 for ex., on the keyboard see ←

a minor is the RELATIVE *minor* of C major

If the *minor* (m) is given, go up 3 half steps to find the RELATIVE *major*
 for ex., on the keyboard see →

E♭ major is the RELATIVE *major* of c minor



Recap:

Minor scales and major scales are RELATED when they **SHARE** the **same key signature**



Notes **3 half steps** (and **3 letter names**) apart are an interval of a **minor 3rd (m3)**.
 Each **minor scale** and its RELATIVE **major scale** (and vice versa) is a **minor 3rd** apart.