

## Moveable Minor Chords

Any chord that has at least one non-fretted or 'open' string is considered an 'open chord'. There are only three open minor chords: 'Am', 'Dm', and 'Em'. Other minor chords require a barre in order to be played. Knowing how to barre a *moveable minor chord shape* will dramatically increase one's chord vocabulary, and the two most-often used moveable minor chord shapes are the 'Am' and 'Em' chord shapes.

### Moveable 'Am' Chord Shape

Three steps to play a *moveable 'Am' chord shape*:

**Step 1:** Play a standard open 'Am' arpeggio.

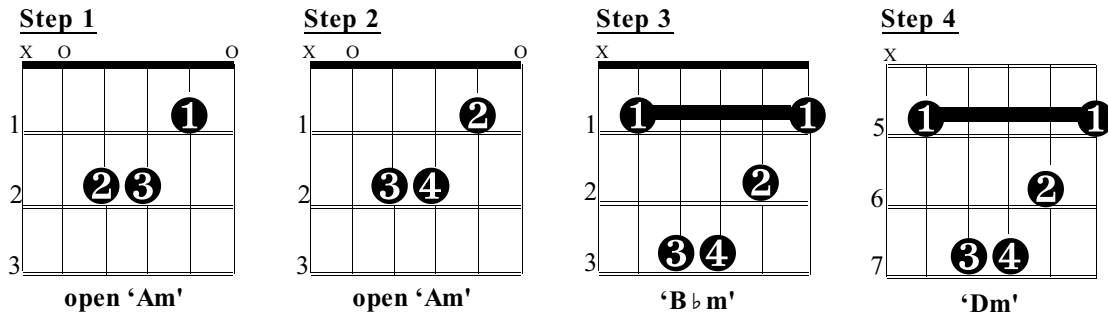
**Step 2:** Fret the same 'Am' arpeggio with the second, third, and fourth fingers (instead of the first, second, and third fingers).

**Step 3:** Slide the entire shape up one fret, then barre the first finger across five strings along the first fret. The chord is now 'Bbm' (aka 'A#m'). The *fifth string bass note* determines the letter name of this moveable chord. At the fifth fret position, the same chord shape is 'Dm'. (see right)

### Example



Step 3: 'Dm' barre chord



### Moveable 'Em' Chord Shape

Three steps to play a *moveable 'Em' chord shape*:

**Step 1:** Play a standard open 'Em' arpeggio.

**Step 2:** Play the same 'Em' arpeggio with the third, and fourth fingers (instead of the second, and third fingers).

**Step 3:** Slide the entire shape up one fret, then barre the first finger across six strings along the first fret. The chord is now 'Fm'. The *sixth string bass note* determines the letter name of this moveable chord, which produces twelve potential minor chords. At the fifth fret, the same chord shape is 'Am'. (see right)

### Example



Step 3: 'Am' barre chord

