



## Introducing the E Minor Chord

By Christopher Schlegel

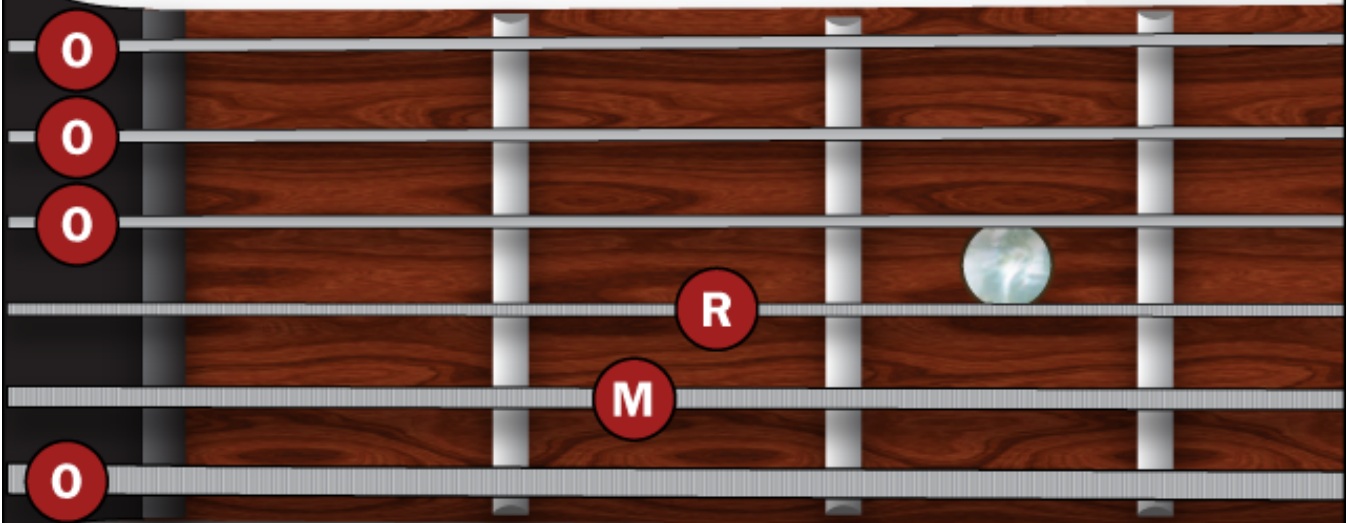
In this lesson we are going to play an E minor chord. The same ideas about proper fingering apply to this chord shape also.

Remember that from the last knuckle of your finger to the fingertip your fingers should be arched so they are pointing straight down into the string & fretboard. Remember that your fingertip should be right behind the fret you are playing. Not on top of the fret. Remember to keep your fingers clear of strings around the one it is holding down. You don't want to mute strings that should be ringing clearly. Make sure your hand and fingers are "hovering" or "arched" slightly over any string that is supposed to make sound.

This one is an exception to the placement of you index finger first. Place your middle finger on the second fret of the A string. Reach under the A string with your ring finger and play the second fret of the D string. Be careful to keep all fingertips straight down into the strings and only holding the appropriate string it is assigned.

Strum the chord one string at a time very slowly to make sure that each note is sounding as clearly as possible. Then you can go ahead and strum the chord, lightly grazing the pick over each string quickly right after one another. Practice strumming a lot. It will come in handy. Once you can strum down, then try to strum back and forth.

**E Minor Chord Shape**  
**“Open Position”**



**Finger Legend:**  
**I** = Index  
**M** = Middle  
**R** = Ring  
**P** = Pinky  
**O** = Open String



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The image displays musical notation for the E Minor Chord in 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a standard musical staff and a guitar tablature staff. The musical staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. A red '1' is positioned above the first measure. The melody consists of four measures: the first measure has a quarter note on G2, the second has a quarter note on A2, the third has a quarter note on B2, and the fourth has a half note on C3. A red '2' is positioned above the second measure of the final chord. The guitar tablature staff is labeled 'TAB' on the left. It shows the fret numbers for each string: 0 (low E), 2 (A), 2 (D), 0 (G), 0 (B), and 0 (high E). A red '2' is positioned above the second measure of the final chord, indicating the second fret on the D string.