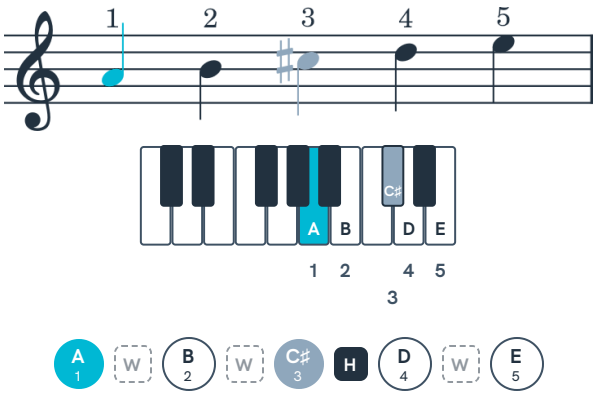
The A Minor 5-Finger Scale

Keep your thumb on **A** and change just one finger: the middle finger slides down a half step, from C♯ to **C**. The position: A · B · C · D · E — all white keys.

ONE FINGER CHANGES THE MOOD

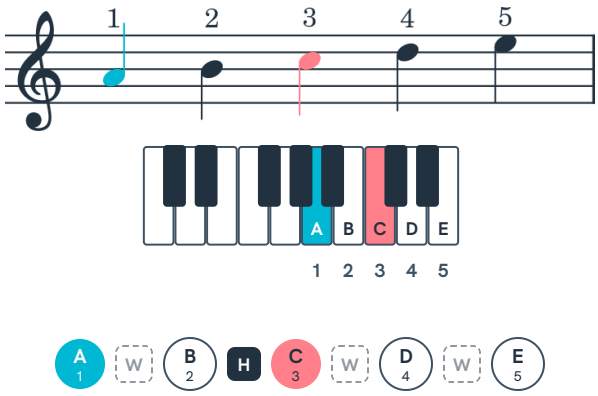
A major

Handout 16



A minor

finger 3 slides down: C♯ → C



Major climbs **whole, whole, half, whole**. Minor climbs **whole, half, whole, whole**: the half step moves down to fingers 2–3, because the 3rd note is **lowered** from C♯ to C. That lowered 3rd is the whole difference between major and minor (Handout 23).

BOTH HANDS, UP AND DOWN



R.H. thumb on A; L.H. **pinky** on A, one octave lower. Same five keys, fingers in mirror order.

WARMUP: RAINY DAY STEPS · AN ORIGINAL TUNE



Two smooth phrases, one slur each. Lean gently on the coral **C** — it carries the minor color.

Try it Play A major, then A minor: same thumb, same pinky — only finger 3 moves (C♯ → **C**). Hear the color darken? Then play the warmup with your **L.H.** one octave lower, fingers 5-4-3-4 | 3-2-1 | 2-3-4-3 | 5. A minor is also the **relative** of C major: the same white keys, a different home (Handout 74). All 24 positions: 5-Finger Positions in Every Key (reference chart).

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