

## C Major / A minor Natural scales

(Note: Red circle is the root note of the major scale, blue circle is the root note of the minor scale.)

The diagram illustrates the following fretboard configurations:

- C Major Chord:** Notes C (red), E (green), G (green) at the nut; C (red), E (green) at the 3rd fret.
- C Major Scale:** Notes C (red), E (green), G (green), A (blue), B (blue), F (green) at the nut; C (red), E (green), G (green), A (blue), B (blue), F (green) at the 12th fret.
- A minor Chord:** Notes A (blue), C (green), E (green) at the nut; A (blue), C (green), E (green) at the 12th fret.
- A minor Scale:** Notes A (blue), C (green), E (green), G (green), B (blue), F (green) at the nut; A (blue), C (green), E (green), G (green), B (blue), F (green) at the 12th fret.
- C Major / A minor Scales:** Notes E (green), A (blue), D (green), G (green), B (blue), F (green) at the nut; E (green), A (blue), D (green), G (green), B (blue), F (green) at the 12th fret.

The C Major / A Minor scale is fundamental to both the guitar and to Western music in general.

- To guitar because the open C Major Chord Form is the most versatile and natural for the player's hand
- To Western music in general because C Major / A minor is the only scale set that has no added Sharps or Flats
- A Minor is the RELATIVE MINOR scale/chord of C Major. The Relative scales use the same notes but start and end on different notes (tonics)

PRACTICE:

Entire C Major / A Minor scale in open position, up and down

Entire C Major / A Minor scale at the 12th fret -- use all four fingers of left hand, alternate picking (down-up) with right hand.

C Major / A Minor chords -- arpeggiate (one note at a time from low to high, alternate picking)

C Major scale and A Minor scale from Tonic to Tonic