Section 4.1.3

Minor Triads

Minor triads  A minor triad uses a minor third on the bottom and a major third on top of the stack of thirds. Scale steps 1, 3, and 5 in a minor scale form a minor triad. The bottom note in the stack of thirds is still the root, the middle note the third, and the top note the fifth.

![Minor scale steps: 1 3 4 5](image)

All minor triads  A minor triad is a major triad with the third lowered a half step. Like major triads, learning minor triads in groups makes them easier to memorize. Compare these groups with the groups for major triads in section 1.2:

1. Minor triads on F, C, and G have a flat on the third. Minor triads on F sharp, C sharp, and G sharp have a natural on the third.
2. Minor triads on E, A, or D are all natural.
3. Minor triads on B or B flat have the same accidental for both the root and the third.
4. E flat=black keys: E flat is the only minor triad with all black keys.