Finding Harmonies in a Minor Key

Once you know the notes in a minor key, you will likely want to find the harmonies as well. We can find chords in a minor key using this formula:

i ii° III iv v VI VII i

The uppercase roman numerals represent major chords. The lowercase roman numerals represent minor chords.

The 'symbol represents a diminished chord.

Let's look at an example. Suppose we want to find all of the chords in the key of C minor.

There are just two steps to accomplish this.

1. After finding the pitches in a key using the Minor Scale Formula, align the Minor Key Chord Formula beneath those pitches:

2. Fill in the names of the chords based on the formula:

That's it! Now you can find the harmonies in any key you like following the same steps! Try finding chords in new keys on your own to practice your knowledge!