

# Three Chord Family



It is only possible to make three major chords from the notes of any major scale. Collectively this set of chords is called the **Three Chord Family**. Family is a good name for this group of chords because they have relatives; minor chords which are related to them. Relative minor chords are like brother or sister chords to their major counterparts. Whatever major chord you can form from a major scale you can also make its relative minor chord. In fact these chords share two notes which are the same (more on that later). Major and minor chords are also called **Foundation Chords** or **Triads**. We will understand more about chords when we study Chord Construction. The diagram below shows the A major scale and how the Three Chord Family and Relative minor chords are found.

