Scale Spelling

Scale spellings for all scales (major and minor etc.) relate to the degrees of a major scale

Major Scales

The diagram above shows the C Major Scale (the white notes on the piano keyboard running from C to C)

C Major Scale

Scale Spelling: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Letter Name: C D E F G A B C

Printed below is the scale spelling for a C minor scale. If you compare the spellings you should be able to work out the difference between the two formulae?

Minor Scales

The minor scale can be regarded as being a major scale with three notes (the 3rd, the 6th and the 7th) flattened (lowered by a half step)

C Minor Scale

Scale Spelling: 1 2 b3 4 5 b6 b7 8
Letter Name: C D Eb F G Ab Bb C