The Neapolitan chord Construction

A Neapolitan chord is simply a major triad that is built on a special note. This note is the lowered second degree (the supertonic) of a major or minor scale.

1. Let’s build the Neapolitan of C Minor.

First, figure out the second scale degree.

In C Minor, this is D.

Next, we will lower it to D-flat.

Now build a major triad. This results in D-flat – F – A-flat.

A D-flat major chord is the Neapolitan of C Minor.

2. Next, let’s build the Neapolitan of E Minor.

Again, we need to figure out the second scale degree. In E Minor, this is F-sharp.

Lower it to F natural.

Now, build a major triad. This results in F – A – C.

Thus, an F major chord is the Neapolitan of E Minor.

3. Next, let’s build the Neapolitan of A-flat Major.

In this key, the second scale degree is B-flat.

Lower it to B-double-flat.

Now, build a major triad. This results in B-double-flat – D-flat – F-flat.
4. For our final example, let’s build the Neapolitan of A Major.

In this key, the second scale degree is B. Lower it to B-flat.

Now, build a major triad. This results in B-flat – D – F.

Thus, a B-flat major chord is the Neapolitan of A-flat Major.