Name the Notes in Any Major or Minor Chord

This is what you need to memorize before you can derive the rest:

- **C E G = C major**
- **D F A = D minor**
- **E G B = E minor**
- **F A C = F major**
- **G B D = G major**
- **A C E = A minor**
- B D F = B diminished => **B D F♯ = B minor**

Step 1: Fill in the chords from what you've memorized above.

Root	**Major Chord 1 3 5**	**Minor Chord 1 ♭3 5**
C	C E G	
C♯ or D♭		
D		D F A
D♯ or E♭		
E		E G B
F	F A C	
F♯ or G♭		
G	G B D	
G♯ or A♭		
A		A C E
A♯ or B♭		
B		B D F♯

Step 2: Raise the middle note of a minor chord with a sharp (♯) to convert it to major.

Root	Major Chord 1 3 5	Minor Chord 1 ♭3 5
C	C E G	
C♯ or D♭		
D	D F♯ A	D F A
D♯ or E♭		
E	E G♯ B	E G B
F	F A C	
F♯ or G♭		
G	G B D	
G♯ or A♭		
A	A C♯ E	A C E
A♯ or B♭		
B	B D♯ F♯	B D F♯

Step 3: Lower the middle note of a major chord with a flat (♭) to convert it to minor.

Root	Major Chord 1 3 5	Minor Chord 1 ♭3 5
C	C E G	C E♭ G
C♯ or D♭		
D	D F♯ A	D F A
D♯ or E♭		
E	E G♯ B	E G B
F	F A C	F A♭ C
F♯ or G♭		
G	G B D	G B♭ D
G♯ or A♭		
A	A C♯ E	A C E
A♯ or B♭		
B	B D♯ F♯	B D F♯

Step 4: Raise or lower all the notes of a chord to move to a sharp or flat root note. Avoid double sharps and double flats when possible. Avoid E♯, B♯, F♭, C♭ when possible. This leaves one clear choice for most triads. For example, D♭ F A♭ is more desirable than C♯ E♯ G♯ because E♯ is rarely seen; it's more concisely written as F.

Root	**Major Chord** **1 3 5**	**Minor Chord** **1 ♭3 5**
C	C E G	C E♭ G
C♯ or D♭	D♭ F A♭	C♯ E G♯
D	D F♯ A	D F A
D♯ or E♭	E♭ G B♭	D♯ F♯ A♯ or E♭ G♭ B♭
E	E G♯ B	E G B
F	F A C	F A♭ C
F♯ or G♭	F♯ A♯ C♯ or G♭ B♭ D♭	F♯ A C♯
G	G B D	G B♭ D
G♯ or A♭	A♭ C E♭	G♯ B D♯
A	A C♯ E	A C E
A♯ or B♭	B♭ D F	B♭ D♭ F
B	B D♯ F♯	B D F♯