

BLUES 1

Chords - Shuffle Crosssharp

for the diatonic
harmonica / Bluesharp

tabulature + audio + video



FOR SLIGHTLY EXPERIENCED PLAYERS

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Prolog

Dear harmonica player,

you can be sure that the Blues Harmonica, or shortly Bluesharp is a very versatile instrument! It is traditionally used in German Folk, Irish Folk, Jazz and Blues. To this day the harmonica appears even in more recent musical genres like Pop and Hip-Hop music.

If you decide to learn the harmonica you will start an exiting journey. The best thing is that you can "make something up" very quickly, especially with the right instructions. So particularly musical beginners will be encouraged to stick with this instrument.

Reynhard Boegl's ebook for slightly experienced players "Blues 1 - Chords, Shuffle, Crossharp" gives you exacly these information to start right away. Step by step, without any frills and detours the most important terms and playing techniques will be explained. So the player got essential information for further developing their musical skills on the Blues harmonica.

Especially helpful are the mp3, videos and pictures that are available for all excercises. This brilliant mix of media gives you the best chance to learn easily and effectively.

Have much fun with playing the Blues on the harmonica.

Dr. Bertram Becher

Productionmanager and player at SEYDEL Harmonicas



Structure of the Blues - chords

Structure of a classical 12-bar Blues:

①	1	2	3	4
②	I	I	I	I
③	C	C	C	C
	5	6	7	8
	IV	IV	I	I
	F	F	C	C
	9	10	11	12
	V	IV	I	I
	G	F	C	C

1. number of the bars - from 1 to 12
2. variables for this chords in other keys
3. chords of a Blues in the key of C

Detail explanation:

The classic standard Blues form is a twelve bar verse in the song form "AAB": two times there is a four-bar row repeat ("A", and amendments), a further four bar line ("B") complete this verse form.

The chords are the so called "Tonika", "Subdominante" and "Dominante". Easier and much popular are the use of roman numerals: "I" - "IV" - "V". This numbers - 1, 4 and 5 - are the description of the chords without naming the key of the song.

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The first Blues improvisations - "Crosssharp"

Somey "improvisations" - shuffle, key of C, using the discussed 12-bar form.

Crosssharp Blues

The diagrams show three 12-bar blues structures in 4/4 shuffle, key of C. Each bar is represented by a fretboard with 12 frets. Chord changes are indicated by letters above the fretboard. Fingerings are indicated by numbers (1-4) and 'V' for vibrato. Slurs indicate phrasing.

Diagram 1: G
Chord: G (5th fret)
Fingerings: 4 (bar 1), 4 3 (bar 2), 4 3 2 (bar 3), 2 (bar 4), 2 (bar 5), 2 (bar 6), 2 (bar 7), 2 (bar 8), 2 (bar 9), 2 (bar 10), 2 (bar 11), 2 (bar 12).

Diagram 2: C G
Chord: C (open), G (5th fret)
Fingerings: 6 (bar 1), 6 (bar 2), 6 (bar 3), 5 4 5 (bar 4), 5 (bar 5), 5 (bar 6), 4 (bar 7), 4 (bar 8), 4 (bar 9), 4 (bar 10), 4 (bar 11), 4 (bar 12).

Diagram 3: D C G D
Chord: D (2nd fret), C (5th fret), G (5th fret), D (2nd fret)
Fingerings: 4 (bar 1), 4 (bar 2), 4 (bar 3), 4 3 (bar 4), 4 3 (bar 5), 2 (bar 6), 2 (bar 7), 2 (bar 8), 2 (bar 9), 2 (bar 10), 2 (bar 11), 2 (bar 12).

Video 8: Crosssharp Blues

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Glossary

- **eighth note**

a tone with the length of a half beat.

- **chord**

some certain tones (at least three) that sounds at the same time

- **Bending**

"Bending" is a special technique with which you can produce more notes and effects. This is very important for the typical sound of the blues harmonica, also you can expand the tone range of the harmonica immense.

- **Bluesharp**

diatonic harmonica in Richter system, mostly with 10 channels.

- **Blue Note**

"Blue notes" are special notes that are responsible for the typical "Blues character" of a song.

- **Blues scale**

a special scale including the Blue Notes

- **Blues pattern**

a short melody phrase, also named "riffs" or "licks"

- **metronome**

Device or computer app that produces regular, metrical ticks (beats, clicks) - settable in beats per minute (BPM)..

