

LEARN TO PLAY

ROCK & BLUES HARP



By Phil Duncan

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Twelve-Bar Blues

$\frac{4}{4}$

G		G7		C	
4 4 5 5	5 5 5 5	4 4 5 5	5 5 5 5	4 4 5 5	5 5 5 5
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑

G	D7	C	G C	G D7
4 4 5 5	5 5 5 5	4 4 5 5	5 5 5 5	4 4 5 5
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑

Rockin' It Out

$\frac{4}{4}$

G		G7		C	
4 4 5 5	4 4 5 5	4 4 5 5	5 5 5 5	6 6 6 6	6 6 6 6
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↑ ↑ ↓ ↓

G	D7	C	G C	G D7
4 4 5 5	4 4 5 5	6 6 7 7	6 6 6 6	4 4 5 5
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓	↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑

Oct-A-Rock

G

$\frac{4}{4}$ OCTAVES BEND OCTAVES

4 4 5 5 4 4 5 5	4 4 5 4	4 4 5 5 4 4 5 5
1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2	1 1 2 1 4 (4) 4	1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑

G7

C

SINGLE TONES BEND

4 4 5 4 6	6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	6 6 6 6 4 (4) 4
1 1 2 1 3	↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑
↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑	↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑

G

D7

OCTAVES BEND SINGLE TONES

4 4 5 5 4 4 5 5	4 4 5 4	6 6 7 7 6 6 7 7
1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2	1 1 2 1 5 6 (6)	6 6 7 7 6 6 7 7
↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

C

G

C

G

D7

SINGLE TONES MAX. BEND

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6	4 4 5 5 5 5 5 5	4 2 2 1
↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓	↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑	↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

The Unclouded Day

G G7 C C#° G Em A7
 O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies, O they tell me of a home far a-

BEND MORE

4/4

1 2 | 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 | 6 5 4 4 5 | 2 2 2 2 3 4 5 4 |

↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓

D G G7 C C#° G Em
 way; O they tell me of a home where no storm-clouds rise. O they tell me of an unclouded

BEND BEND MORE OCTAVES BEND MORE

4 6 5 4 4 1 2 | 2 2 2 2 3 4 3 3 | 6 5 4 | 4 5 4 3 2 3 |

↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

A7 D7 G Em
 day. O the land of cloud-less day, O the land of an

BEND MORE BEND BEND BEND BEND MORE

3 4 3 4 3 2 3 4 4 | 4 5 4 3 3 | 2 3 3 2 3 4 4 | 4 5 4 3 3 |

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

FIRST ENDING

A7 D7 G G7 C C#° G Em
 un-cloud-ed day. O they tell me of a home where no storm-clouds rise. O they tell me of an

BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND MORE

2 3 3 3 1 2 | 2 2 2 2 3 4 3 3 | 6 5 4 | 4 5 4 3 2 3 |

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

REPEAT: || SECOND ENDING END ||

A7 D7 G Em A7 D7 G
 un- cloud- ed day. O they O they tell me of an un- cloud- ed day.

BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND MORE HOLD

3 4 3 4 3 2 1 2 | 4 5 4 3 2 3 | 3 4 3 4 3 2 2 ||

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

Drivin' Rock

G **G7** **C**

INTRO FOR DRUMS SCOOP RIFF

4/4

7 1 2 2 | 7 1 2 2 | 7 1 2 2 3 4 | 4 4 4 4 | 5 5 4 4 |

↓ ↑ ↓ | ↓ ↑ ↓ | ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ | ↔ ↔ ↔ ↔ | ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ |

G **D7** **C**

SCOOP SHAKE BLUES SCALE BEND BEND

5 5 5 4 4 | 4 4 4 4 | 4 5 5 5 = 4 | 5 = 4 | 6 5 4 (4) 4 (3) |

↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ | ↔ ↔ ↔ ↔ | ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ = ↓ | ↓ = ↓ | ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↘ |

G **C** **G** **D7**

BEND MAX. BEND

2 1 2 2 3 4 (4) 4 | 1 2 (2) 2 ||

↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↑ ↘ ↓ ||

Get Down

G **G7** **C**

MAX. BEND MAX. BEND MORE BEND MAX. BEND MAX. BEND MORE BEND BEND

4/4 1 (2) || 2 2 (2) 1 (3) | 2 | 1 (2) | 2 2 (2) 1 (3) | 2 | 2 (3) | 4 4 (3) 2 4 |

↓ ↘ | ↓ ↓ ↘ ↓ ↘ | ↓ | ↓ ↘ | ↓ ↓ ↘ ↓ ↘ | ↓ | ↓ ↘ | ↑ ↘ ↑ ↘ ↓ ↓ |

G **D7** **C** **G** **C**

MAX. BEND MAX. BEND MORE BEND SHAKE BEND BLOW BEND

4 | 1 (2) | 2 2 (2) 1 (3) | 2 | 3 4 (4) | 4 = 5 4 (4) | 4 5 6 (9) | 9 9 9 8 7 |

↑ ↓ ↘ | ↓ ↓ ↘ ↓ ↘ | ↓ | ↓ ↑ ↘ | ↓ = ↓ ↓ ↘ | ↑ ↑ ↑ ↘ | ↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↓ |

REPEAT || END ||

G **D7** **G**

MAX. BEND MAX. BEND

BEND HOLD

6 6 5 4 (4) 4 1 (2) || (2) 2 ||

↑ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↘ ↑ ↓ ↘ | ↘ | ↘ ↓ |

House of the Rising Sun

3
4

Dm A7 Dm Dm F G B \flat Dm F
 There is _ a house in New Or-leans they call the ris- ing

INTRO

A7 Dm F G B \flat Dm A7 Dm
 sun _____ It's been the ruin of man-y young boy, Oh Lord I was _____ one. _____

HOLD

Dm/A Dm F G B \flat Dm F A7
 There is _ a house in New Or- leans they call the ris- ing sun _____ It's

Dm F G B \flat Dm A7 Dm
 been the ruin of man-y young boy, Oh Lord, I was _____ one. _____

Poor Wayfaring Stranger

Am Am/G# Am/G Am/F# F6 E7 Am

I am a poor way-far-ing stran-ger, I'm strug-gling through this land of woe.

SILENCE SLIDE OCTAVE HOLD SLIDE HOLD SLIDE HOLD SLIDE HOLD

4/4 }
 6 6 8 | 8 8 | 5 5 7 8 8 | 7 6 | 6 6 6 8 | 8 | 8 6 7 8 | 8

E7 Am Am/G# Am/G Am/F# F6 E7

For there's no sick-ness, toil or dan-ger, yes, in that land to where I

SLIDE HOLD SLIDE HOLD SLIDE BEND

8 6 6 8 | 8 8 | 5 5 7 8 8 | 7 6 | 6 6 6 8 | 8 | 9 9 7 6 6

Am Dm Am F G7 C F

go. I'm go-ing there, to see my mo-ther. I'm go-ing there,

OCTAVES SLIDE HOLD HOLD SLIDE HOLD

6 7 7 8 7 7 | 6 2 2 3 | 6 6 | 6 6 6 3 | 5 6 | 6 5 5 6 | 6 6

G7 C E7 Am Am/G# Am/G Am/F#

no more to roam. I'm just a go-ing o-ver yon-der, I'm just a

SLIDE HOLD BEND MORE HOLD MORE SLIDE

6 5 4 | 5 | 2 7 8 | 8 5 6 6 | 5 6 5 | 5 4 4 5 | 4 3 | 3 6 6 8

Dm7 B7#9 E9 Am

go-ing o-ver home.

HOLD

8 8 7 8 7 | 6 ||

St. James

Em Am Em B7

OCTAVES BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND OCTAVES

4 5 6 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 5 5 6 | 3 3 | 5 2 4 5 4 | 3 4 |

4 2 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 2 2 3 | 3 3 | 2 4 5 4 | 3 4 |

↑ ↑ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↑ ↑ | ↓ ↓ | ↑ ↑ | ↓ ↓ |

Em Am Em C B7 Em B7

BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND BEND BEND MORE BEND OCTAVES HOLD

4 4 3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 5 5 | 5 2 2 | 2 3 | 2 3 | 5 5 | 5 6 |

4 4 3 3 | 3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 2 3 | 2 3 | 5 5 | 5 6 |

↓ ↑ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↑ ↑ | ↑ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ |

Em Am Em B7

BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND OCTAVES BEND SLIDE

3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 5 5 6 | 3 4 | 8 8 | 7 7 | 7 7 | 7 4 4 3 |

3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 5 5 6 | 3 4 | 8 8 | 7 7 | 7 7 | 7 4 4 3 |

↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↑ ↑ | ↑ ↑ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ |

Em Am Em C B7 Em C

BEND MORE BEND MORE BEND OCTAVES BEND BEND MORE BEND OCTAVES HOLD BEND BEND MORE

3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 5 5 | 2 3 | 2 3 | 5 5 | 5 5 | 5 2 2 | 2 3 |

3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 | 2 2 | 5 5 | 2 3 | 2 3 | 5 5 | 5 5 | 5 2 2 | 2 3 |

↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↑ ↑ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ | ↓ ↓ |

B7 Em Am Em

BEND BEND SLIDE OCTAVES

2 8 8 | 6 3 | 5 2 |

2 8 8 | 6 3 | 5 2 |

↓ ↓ | ↑ ↑ | ↑ ↑ |

Harp → Plays

C → **G**
G → **D**
D → **A**
A → **E**
E → **B**
B → **F#**

Harp → Plays

F → **C**
B \flat → **F**
E \flat → **B \flat**
A \flat → **E \flat**
D \flat → **A \flat**
G \flat → **D \flat**

Second Position or Crosssharp

C harp plays the key of G. This is used in rock, blues, and gospel. If the band is playing in G, you use a harmonica four tones or letters higher.

Harp → Plays

C → **D Minor**
G → **A Minor**
D → **E Minor**
A → **B Minor**
E → **F# Minor**
B → **C# Minor**

Harp → Plays

F → **G Minor**
B \flat → **C Minor**
E \flat → **F Minor**
A \flat → **B \flat Minor**
D \flat → **E \flat Minor**
G \flat → **A \flat Minor**

Third Position

C harp plays the key of D minor. This position is used when the D minor or D chord is used. If the band is in D minor, you use a harmonica one letter back.

Harp → Plays

C	→	A Minor
G	→	E Minor
D	→	B Minor
A	→	F# Minor
E	→	C# Minor
B	→	Ab Minor

Harp → Plays

F	→	D Minor
Bb	→	G Minor
Eb	→	C Minor
Ab	→	F Minor
Db	→	Bb Minor
Gb	→	Eb Minor

Fourth Position

C harp plays the key of A minor. This position is used when the A minor or A chord is used. If the band is in A minor, you use a harmonica three letters higher.

Harp → Plays

C	→	E Minor
G	→	B Minor
D	→	F# Minor
A	→	C# Minor
E	→	Ab Minor
B	→	Eb Minor

Harp → Plays

F	→	A Minor
Bb	→	D Minor
Eb	→	G Minor
Ab	→	C Minor
Db	→	F Minor
Gb	→	Bb Minor

Note: There are other positions, 6 through 12, but they are very limited and not used very often. Position playing is used during improvisational (you-make-it-up) playing.

Fifth Position

C harp plays the key of E minor. This position is used when the E minor or E chord is used. If the band is in E minor, you use a harmonica three letters lower.