

ANYONE  
CAN PLAY  
BLUEGRASS  
**BANJO**

2

ANYONE CAN PLAY BLUEGRASS BANJO

Introduction

Playing Basics

- Lesson 1 Alternating Thumb Roll  
"Bile Them Cabbage"
- Lesson 2 Forward Roll  
"Red River Valley"
- Lesson 3 Forward Reverse Roll  
"Cumberland Gap"
- Lesson 4 Slides and Hammer-Ons  
"Cripple Creek"
- Lesson 5 End of Phase Lick  
"Bury Me Beneath the Willow"
- Lesson 6 A Blues Phrase  
"Lonesome Road Blues"
- Lesson 7 Pull-Offs  
"Worried Man Blues"
- Lesson 8 F Chord  
"Little Maggie"
- Lesson 9 Playing Up the Neck  
"Little Maggie"
- Lesson 10 Melodic Style  
"Cripple Creek"

### LESSON 1 Alternating Thumb Roll

D 0 0 0

B 0 0 0

G 0 0 0

D

G 0 0 0

T I T M T I T M

D7 G C

D 0 0 0

B 1 - I 3 - I 5 - R

G 2 - M 4 - M 5 - M

D 0 0 0

G 0 0 0

### "Bile Them Cabbage Down"

G C G

D 0 0 0

B 3 3 3 5 5 5 4 3 4 3

G 4 4 5 5 4 4 3

D

G 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M

D7 G C

D 0 0 0

B 1 1 3 3 5 5 5

G 2 2 4 4 5 5 5

D

G 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M

G D7 G

D 0 0 0

B 3 1 0 0 0

G 4 2 0 0 0

D

G 0 0 0 0 0

T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M



**LESSON 3**  
**Forward Reverse Roll**

D \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 B \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 D \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

T I M T M I T M

**"Cumberland Gap"**

G  
 D \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 B \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 D \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

T I T M T I T M

D \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 x 2 x \_\_\_\_\_  
 B \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 D \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_

T I M T M M T

D \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 B \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 D \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_

T I M T M I T M

D7 G  
 D \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_  
 B \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_  
 D \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_  
 G \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 0 \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_

T I T M T M T

**LESSON 4**  
**Slides and Hammer-Ons**

Guitar notation for a slide exercise. The staff shows strings D, B, G, D, G with fret numbers 0, 0, 2-3, 0, 0. Fingering below is T-S I T M T I T M.

Slide

Guitar notation for a hammer-on exercise. The staff shows strings D, B, G, D, G with fret numbers 0, 0, 0-2, 0, 0. Fingering below is T-H I T M T I T M.

Hammer-On

**"Cripple Creek"**

First system of guitar notation for "Cripple Creek". It includes strings G, D, B, G, D, G with various fret numbers and fingering: M T M I T I M T M T T-S I M T M I T M.

Second system of guitar notation for "Cripple Creek". It includes strings D, B, G, D, G with various fret numbers and fingering: T-H I T M T M T T-S I T M T-S I T M T-S I T M T M T.

Repeat First 4 Measures

Third system of guitar notation for "Cripple Creek". It includes strings G, D, B, G, D, G with various fret numbers and fingering: T-S I M T M I T M T-H I T M T M T.

Repeat Last 4 Measures

LESSON 5  
End of Phrase Lick

Two sets of guitar tablature for an "End of Phrase Lick".

Set 1 (left):  
 D: 0 0 x 0 x  
 B: 0 x 0 x  
 G: 0 0 x 0 x  
 D: 0 0 x 0 x  
 G: 0 0 x 0 x  
 T: T M T I M I T M

Set 2 (right):  
 D: 0 0 0 0  
 B: 0 2 0 0  
 G: 0 2 0 2  
 D: 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0  
 T: T M T I M I T M

"Bury Me Beneath the Willow"

First system of guitar tablature for "Bury Me Beneath the Willow".

D: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 2  
 B: 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2  
 G: 2-3 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 2  
 D: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 T-S I M T I M T M T M T I M T I M T I T M T-H I T M

Second system of guitar tablature.

D: 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 0  
 B: 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 D: 0 0-2 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 T I T M T-H I T M T T T T T-S I M T I M T M

Third system of guitar tablature.

D: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 B: 2 x 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 2 4 x 2 x 0 x 0 x  
 D: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 T T M T T M T T M T T T-S I M T I M T M

Fourth system of guitar tablature.

D: 0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2  
 B: 0 0 2 0 1 1 1 1  
 G: 0 0 2 0 0-2 0 0 0  
 D: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 T M T I M T I M T I T M T-H I T M T I T M T-H I T M

Fifth system of guitar tablature.

D: 0 x 0 x 0 0 0 0 0  
 B: 0 x 0 x 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 x 0 x 0 x 0 x 0 0 0  
 D: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 G: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 T T T T T I M T M I T M T M T I M I T M

Sixth system of guitar tablature.

D: 0 x 0 x  
 B: 0 x 0 x  
 G: 0 x 0 x  
 D: 0 x 0 x  
 G: 0 x 0 x  
 T T T T

LESSON 6  
A Blues Phrase

15

Two guitar chord diagrams. The first diagram shows a D chord with a barre on the 2nd fret and a 2 on the 4th string. The second diagram shows a D chord with a barre on the 3rd fret and 3s on the 3rd and 4th strings.

16

"Lonesome Road Blues"

Pickups

Guitar tablature for the first system of "Lonesome Road Blues". It shows a D chord with a barre on the 2nd fret and a 2 on the 4th string. The tablature includes fret numbers and a string order sequence: T T T M I-H M T I M T I M T I M T I M T M T I M I T M.

Guitar tablature for the second system of "Lonesome Road Blues". It shows a C chord with a barre on the 2nd fret. The tablature includes fret numbers and a string order sequence: T I T M T I T M T-H I T M T I T M T-H I T M T I T M.

Guitar tablature for the third system of "Lonesome Road Blues". It shows a G chord with a barre on the 2nd fret and a C chord with a barre on the 2nd fret. The tablature includes fret numbers and a string order sequence: T M T I M I T M T I T M T I T M T-H I T M T I T M.

Guitar tablature for the fourth system of "Lonesome Road Blues". It shows a G chord with a barre on the 2nd fret. The tablature includes fret numbers and a string order sequence: T-H I T M T I T T I M T I M T M T T T T.

Guitar tablature for the fifth system of "Lonesome Road Blues". It shows a D chord with a barre on the 2nd fret and a G chord with a barre on the 2nd fret. The tablature includes fret numbers and a string order sequence: T M M I-H M T I M T M I T M T M T I-S M I T M.

Guitar tablature for the sixth system of "Lonesome Road Blues". It shows a D chord with a barre on the 2nd fret and a G chord with a barre on the 2nd fret. The tablature includes fret numbers and a string order sequence: T.

17

LESSON 7  
Pull-Offs

D 0 0 0  
B 0 0  
G 2-3 3-2  
D  
G 0

T-S I M T M I T-P M  
Pull-off

"Worried Man Blues"

G 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
G 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0  
D 0 0 0 2  
G 0 0 0 0  
T M T M T I T M T T I M T I T-S I M T M I T-P M

D 0 x 0 0  
B 0 0 0 0  
G 0 x 3 0 0 0 0 0  
D 0 2 0 2  
G 0 0 0 0  
T T T I T M T-H I T M T I T M T T I M T I M

D 2 2 2 2  
B 1 1  
G 0-2 0 2 0 2 0 2  
D 0 2 0 2  
G 0 0 0 0  
T-H I T M T I T M T T I-S M I T M T M T M T I T M

19

20

D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 x  
B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 x  
G 0 x 0 0 x 2-3 3-2 0 x 4 x 0 x  
D 0 0 0 0 0 x  
G 0 0 0 0  
T T I M T I T-S I M T M I T-P M T T T T

D7 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
B 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1  
G 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2  
D 0 0 0 0  
G 0 0 0 0  
T I M T M I T M T I M T M I T M T-S I M T M I T-P M

D 0 x 0 x  
B 0 0  
G 0 x 0 x  
D 0 0  
G 0 x 0 x  
T T T T



LESSON 8  
F Chord

D 3 - P  
B 1 - I  
G 2 - M  
D  
G

D 3 3 3  
B 1 1  
G 2 2  
D  
G 0

T I M T M I T M

"Little Maggie"

G 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 F 3 3 3  
B 2-3 2-3 0 0 0 1 3 3 1 2  
G 0 0 0 2 2  
D 3-5 0 0 0 0  
G 0 0 0 0 0

T-S I T I M T I M I-H M I-H M T I M I T I M T M I T M

D 3 3 3 G 0 0 0 0 D 0 0 0  
B 1 3 3 1 2 0 0 0 2-3 2-3 3-2  
G 0 0 2 0 0 3-5 0 0 0  
D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

T I M T M I T M T M T-S I M T I M I-H M T-H M T I-P M T

G 0 0 0 x 0 x  
B 0 x 2-3 0 0 x 0 x  
D 0 2  
G 0 0 x 0 x

T T I-S M I T M T T T T

Repeat

LESSON 9  
Playing Up the Neck

	G		G		D		F					
D	9	-	P	12	-	I	12	-	P	10	-	I
B	8	-	M	12	-	I	10	-	I	10	-	I
G	7	-	I	12	-	I	11	-	M	10	-	I
D	-----											
G	-----											

"Little Maggie"  
Up the Neck Version

<p>G</p> <p>D 9 9 9</p> <p>B 8 8 8</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>I M T M T I M T</p>	<p>G</p> <p>D 12 12 12 12 x</p> <p>B 12 12 12 12</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>I M T M T I M</p>	<p>F</p> <p>D 10 10 10</p> <p>B 10 10 10</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>T I M T M I T M</p>
<p>D 10 10</p> <p>B 10 10 x</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>T I M T M I T M</p>	<p>G</p> <p>D 9 9 9</p> <p>B 8 8 8</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>I M T M T I M T</p>	<p>D 12 12 12</p> <p>B 10 10 10</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>I M T M T I M T</p>
<p>G</p> <p>D 9 9</p> <p>B x 8 x</p> <p>G 9</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 0</p> <p>T T I M T I M T</p>	<p>G</p> <p>D 9 x 9 x</p> <p>B 8 x 8 x</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G 0 x 0 x</p> <p>T T</p>	<p>D</p> <p>B</p> <p>G</p> <p>D</p> <p>G</p> <p>T</p>

Repeat

LESSON 10  
Melodic Style

D 0 4  
B 0 5  
G 0 5  
D 7  
G 0

I T I T M I M T

"Cripple Creek"  
(Melodic Style)

G C G G

D 9 0 0 0 5 5 0 x 10 9 0 0 0

B 10 0 0 5 5 0 x 0 x 10 0 0 0

G 0 0 5 5 0 x 0 0 0 0

D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

G 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

T I M T M I T M T I M T M I T I M T M I T M

D G G

D 0 0 0 x 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 x

B 5 0 0 x 2 0 0 2 0 0 x

G 7 0 x 0 0 0 0 x

D 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 x

G 0 x 0 0 0 0 0 x

T I T M T T I M T M I T M T I T M T T

Repeat First 4 Measures

D G

D 5 4 0 0 x

B 7 5 5 0 0 x

G 0 0 0 7 0 x

D 0 0 0 0 0 x

G 0 0 0 0 0 x

T I M T I M T I M T I T I T

Repeat Last 4 Measures