

West Coast Blues

As I discussed in the first book, the key of C is one of the most versatile keys. Not only can you play folk, country, ragtime, pop, and blues, it is also one of my favorite keys. Our first song is a famous Blind Blake song called "West Coast Blues". Notice the use of the A chord in measures 3 and 4. This chord is a drag to make, but it is well worth the effort because it pops up all over the place in blues/rag playing. The G lick in measures 7 and 8 is also very common. Good luck, and make it swing.

Blind Blake

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The key signature is C major. Measure 1 starts with a C chord and a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4). Measure 2 has an E chord. Measure 3 has an E7 chord. Measure 4 has an A chord. The notation includes a treble clef, a common time signature, and a 6-string guitar fretboard diagram below with fingerings for each measure.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Measure 5 has a D7 chord. Measure 6 has a G7 chord. Measure 7 has a D7 chord. Measure 8 has a G chord. The notation includes a treble clef, a common time signature, and a 6-string guitar fretboard diagram below with fingerings for each measure.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Measure 9 has a C chord. Measure 10 has an E chord. Measure 11 has an E7 chord. Measure 12 has an A chord. The notation includes a treble clef, a common time signature, and a 6-string guitar fretboard diagram below with fingerings for each measure.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Measure 13 has a D7 chord. Measure 14 has a G7 chord. Measure 15 has a C chord. Measure 16 has an Ab7 chord. The notation includes a treble clef, a common time signature, and a 6-string guitar fretboard diagram below with fingerings for each measure.

Three guitar chord diagrams are shown at the bottom of the page. The first is for the A chord (x02020), the second is for the D7 chord (xx0232), and the third is for the Ab7 chord (x1b1b1). Each diagram shows the fretboard with fingerings indicated by circled numbers.