

B.B. King



Blues Master

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FOREWORD

Today, the sky's the limit for learning to play guitar. You have videos, books, schools and CDs. The opportunities are endless to be the best player you can be.

Learn all you can. Learn to play the basics first, then expand your technique, but don't forget the little things that become so important: dynamics, note choice, phrasing. Sometimes what you *don't* play is just as important as what you *do* play. Listen to other players, and to as many different types of music as you can. You'll find it easier to understand other people's styles, and eventually you will start sounding like yourself. And in the long run, that's the goal of every musician.

Good luck, enjoy the book, and keep practicing!



B.B. King



ROYAL BLUES

His majesty, **B.B. King**, demonstrates why he rules in this historic lesson in bends, scales and slides.

BY ASKOLD BUK

VERY FEW MUSICIANS have had as much impact on their peers as B.B. King. He has influenced generations of guitarists, and his playing continues to be fresh and vibrant. B.B.'s ideas are deceptively simple, yet upon analysis they stand up as sophisticated musical statements. He phrases impeccably, always hits the "right" notes, and is possessed of a vibrato that is like nothing else.

As the interviewer on B.B.'s instructional video series *B.B. King: Bluesmaster* (CPP Media Group), I was able to hang out with him and discuss practically every aspect of his unique style. B.B. proved to be a warm, funny and humble man, totally committed to music, and generous to a fault when it came to sharing his ideas. It was an unforgettable experience.

When you think of B.B. King, the first thing that comes to mind is *vibrato*. He says he developed it as a result of hearing his cousin, the legendary Delta bluesman Bukka White, play. "He used a bottleneck, and I tried to copy the sound, or get as close as possible, with my fingers," B.B. said before playing Figure 1. "I use the vibrato to make a point—to end an idea."

B.B. gets his vibrato started by hooking his thumb over the top of the fretboard. After that, the only point of contact between his left hand and the neck is that of his finger fretting the note he is playing. The vibrato comes from the wrist—B.B. shakes his whole hand rapidly and evenly. "The faster I shake my hand, the better it sounds to me," he said. "I want it to sound like the vibrato in a person's voice."

We next talked about scales, focusing on B.B.'s favorite blues pattern, a variation of the blues scale (Figure 2). Whereas the stock minor pentatonic "box" contains the root, flattened third, fourth, fifth and flattened seventh, B.B.'s pattern contains the root, second/ninth, flattened third, fourth,

FIGURE 1



FIGURE 2 B.B.'S 13TH-POSITION BLUES PATTERN



FIGURE 3

Swing feel



FIGURE 4

Swing feel

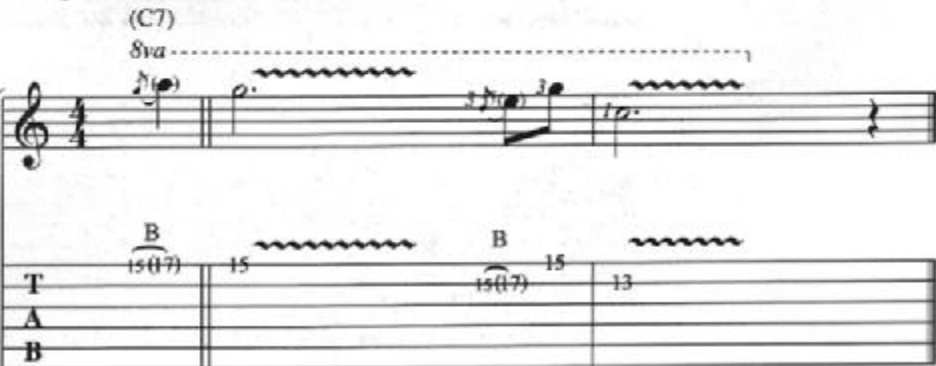


FIGURE 5

Swing feel

(C7)
8va

FIGURE 6

Swing feel

(C7)
8va

FIGURE 7

Swing feel

(F7)
8va

FIGURE 8

Swing feel

(C7)
8va

fifth and sixth. This is the scale of choice for contemporary blues and jazz artists such as Robben Ford and Larry Carlton, and hints at B.B.'s jazz influences.

He manages to create a wealth of music out of this position. Figure 3 shows a lick that B.B. often uses as an intro, or, as he said, "to kick the whole band in together." Figure 4 is an example of his soulful bending style. B.B. uses *reinforced string bending*, backing up the ring finger bend with the index and middle fingers of his left hand for more strength and support. Notice that he goes to an adjacent string with the same finger he bends with, a somewhat idiosyncratic maneuver, as most players would change fingers.

Figure 5 introduces the concept of *precision bending*, of which B.B. is a master. In this example he bends the D to an E $\flat$ (half-step), whereas in the previous example, he bent the D up to an E (whole step). Depending on the harmony of the underlying chord, he will bend a note up a half-step, whole step, step-and-a-half or two steps. In Figure 6, B.B. bends the G up to a B $\flat$ and holds it for over a measure. Keeping this in pitch and time requires tremendous hand strength.

B.B. talked about some of his jazz influences: "I got my phrasing from listening to horn players such as Lester Young, Bobby Hackett and Louis Jordan, but I never really sat down and thought about it—it's just something I hear." B.B.'s jazz leanings are evident in Figure 7, as he swings hard over the IV chord (F7) in a C blues. He hits all the right notes, from the upper extensions of F7 (B $\flat$ [the eleventh] and G [the ninth]), to resolving to the major third (E $\flat$) of C7.

So far in this position, we've seen B.B. bend from the second/ninth (D) to the flattened third (E $\flat$) or natural third (E $\natural$), and from the fifth (G) to the sixth (A) or the flattened seventh (B $\flat$). In Figure 8, he bends the fourth (F) up to the fifth (G). Notice again the unorthodox fingering with which he keeps the bend within the pattern. Most guitarists would bend the F up with their ring finger (à la Albert King and Stevie Ray Vaughan), but B.B. uses his index finger. Pay attention to the left-hand fingering here—again, B.B. jumps strings with the same finger he used to bend the note. Figure 9 is a variation that has been adopted by many modern blues and fusion players. Notice how B.B. outlines the chord tones of F7 (F, A, C, E $\flat$) descending chromatically to the flattened seventh (E $\flat$).

Though this is hardly the only position B.B. uses, for all intents and purposes it is his home base. This pattern (including the bent notes) produces the following tones: C, D, E $\flat$, E $\natural$, F, G, A, B $\flat$. In essence, you have a C mixolydian scale (C, D, E, F, G, A, B $\flat$) with an added minor third (E $\flat$), which is a lot more sophisticated than the minor pentatonic scale most blues guitarists use.

Both Figures 10 and 11 start in this position but shift to others. Figure 10 is a C6 arpeggio (C, E, G, A), fingered in "pure B.B." style, which over a C7 chord produces a C13 sound. This is a classic lick B.B. uses to bridge the I chord (C7) to the IV chord (F7). Figure 11 is a typical cadenza, full of feeling and fire, that is similar to the endings of many of B.B.'s songs. Here we see position shifts, double-stops, chromaticism and minor-pentatonic ideas.

These ideas barely scratch the surface of B.B. King's multi-faceted style. I learned a lot from B.B., but it all hit home when he summarized the concepts. "Always use your ears and your taste," he said. "Learn all the positions, chords and scales—that's important—but play the ones that *sound* best to you." And that's advice any guitarist could use. ●

FIGURE 9

(C7) (F7)

8va

T 13 (15) 13 15 (17) 13 14 14 15 14 13

FIGURE 10

(C7)

8va

T 13 13 15 17 20

FIGURE 11

Swing feel

(C7)

8va

T 13 (15) 13 16 13 14 15 (17) 8 8 11 8 10 8 10

C9

T 7 8 10 8 8 7 8 7

LEGEND OF MUSICAL SYMBOLS

Downstrokes Upstrokes Left hand fingering Right hand fingering Hand vibrato
 p=thumb i=index
 m=middle a=ring

Bend Quick bend Pre-bend Gradual bend Release bend Unison bend

Hammeron Pulloff Palm mute Tremolo Trill Pick Slide

Picked slide Legato slide Short slide up and down Muffled strings

Natural harmonic Artificial harmonic Pinch harmonic Right hand tap Ghost note
 (partially implied)

B.B. KING

BLUES MASTER I





YOU UPSET ME BABY/RHYTHM GUITAR

Here is a sample chord progression for "You Upset Me Baby." The voicings and rhythms are what B.B.'s rhythm guitarist might play on this tune. Keep in mind that you may substitute a ninth chord for a dominant seventh chord (e.g., G9 for G7) at any time.

Chord progression: G7 C9 G7 (C7)

1

T 3 3 3 3

A 4 4 4 4

B 3 3 3 3

Chord progression: C9 G7

5

T 3 3 3 3

A 3 3 3 3

B 3 3 3 3

Chord progression: D9 C9 G7

9

T 5 5 3 3

A 4 4 3 3

B 5 5 3 3

YOU UPSET ME BABY/INTRO

B.B. kicks off "You Upset Me Baby" with some T-Bone Walker-type ideas. In bars 2-9, he uses the G minor pentatonic scale exclusively. In bars 9-10 and 13-14, B.B. bends the $\flat 3$ of the G7 chord ($B\flat$), to the $\natural 3$ (B).

Swing feel

D7 D $\sharp$ 7 E7 F7 F $\sharp$ 7 G7

The first system of music is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows a melodic line starting with a whole rest in bar 1, followed by eighth and quarter notes in bars 2-4, and then a series of eighth notes with triplet markings in bars 5-8. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with a whole rest in bar 1, followed by eighth notes and triplets in bars 2-8. Chord symbols D7, D $\sharp$ 7, E7, F7, F $\sharp$ 7, and G7 are written above the staff. The system is numbered 1 in the bottom left corner.

C9

G7

The second system of music continues the melodic and bass lines. The treble clef staff shows eighth notes and quarter notes. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and quarter notes. Chord symbols C9 and G7 are written above the staff. The system is numbered 4 in the bottom left corner.

C9

G7

The third system of music continues the melodic and bass lines. The treble clef staff shows eighth notes and quarter notes. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with eighth notes and quarter notes. Chord symbols C9 and G7 are written above the staff. The system is numbered 7 in the bottom left corner.

10

D9

C9

T (7)

A

B

B

10 (13)

10 8

10 (11)

8 10 9

10 (11)

10 8 8

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system, labeled '13', features a treble clef and a G7 chord symbol. The melody begins with a quarter note G, followed by a dotted half note A, and then a series of eighth notes: B, A, G, F, E, D, C, B, A, G. The second system continues the melody with a quarter note G, followed by a dotted half note A, and then a series of eighth notes: B, A, G, F, E, D, C, B, A, G. The bass line consists of a single note G, followed by a dotted half note A, and then a series of eighth notes: B, A, G, F, E, D, C, B, A, G. The score is written in a simple, clear style, suitable for a children's songbook.

YOU UPSET ME BABY/FIRST SOLO

The first solo features some great eighth-position playing. Pay specific attention to the left-hand fingering in bars 10 and 12. Notice that B.B. bends the C to the C# or D on the first string with his *first* finger. This is an important element of his style, later incorporated by modern blues/fusion guitarists such as Larry Carlton and Robben Ford.

Bars 15–17 feature a wide bend of a step and a half. B.B. holds the bend while grooving hard. This is a classic B.B. King lick; it might require some practice on your part to keep it in pitch.

First system of musical notation (bars 1–3). The treble clef staff shows the melody. The bass clef staff shows the fretboard positions for the T (Treble), A (A), and B (Bass) strings. Chords G7, C9, and G7 are indicated above the staff. A double bar line is present after bar 1. A note on the first string is marked with a double flat (Bb) and a first finger (1).

Second system of musical notation (bars 4–6). The treble clef staff shows the melody. The bass clef staff shows the fretboard positions for the T (Treble), A (A), and B (Bass) strings. Chords C9 and B are indicated above the staff. A double bar line is present after bar 4. A note on the first string is marked with a double flat (Bb) and a first finger (1). A "hold bend" instruction is written above the staff.

Third system of musical notation (bars 7–9). The treble clef staff shows the melody. The bass clef staff shows the fretboard positions for the T (Treble), A (A), and B (Bass) strings. Chords G7, D9, and B are indicated above the staff. A double bar line is present after bar 7. A note on the first string is marked with a double flat (Bb) and a first finger (1).

10

C9

G7

hold bend

B

T 8 11 8 8 (10)

A 8 9

B 11 (13) 10 (11) 8 8 10 10 (12) 8 (9) (10)

13

G7

C9

G7

B

T 9 8 8 8 9

A 10 (13) 10 8 (10)

B 11 10

16

C9

hold bend

B

T (13) (13) (13) (13) (13) (13) (13) 10 8 (9) 8 11 8

A 8 (10) 8

B 8 (10) 8

19

G7

D9

T 8 11 11 10 8 3 3 5 3 3 4 3 3 (5) 5 5 3 5

A 10 6 3 5 3 3 4 3

B

C9 G7

22

T 10 8 11 10 8 8 10 8 8 11 (12) B

A

B

YOU UPSET ME BABY/SECOND SOLO

In bars 13–16 of the second solo, B.B. plays a double-stop (two notes at once) idea that pays tribute to his jazz roots. He pedals the root (G) on top while moving the third (B) up to the fifth (D) chromatically. It is an idea that can be heard in much of George Benson's playing, and which shows the depth of B.B. King's musical knowledge.

The ending cadenza is a great workout. It covers most of the neck and includes much of B.B.'s vocabulary: scalar runs, bends, chromaticism, double-stops and octaves.

G7 C9 G7

1

T 15 10 (11) 8 15 10 (11) 10 8 9 11 (12) 8 8 10 10 B

A

B

C9

4

T 11 10 9 8 11 11 11 8 8 11 8 8 8 9 B

A

B

G7 D9

7

T 10 9 8 6 (7) 8 6 5 3 3 5 3 3 5 3 5

A

B

C9 G7

10

T 9 8 11 (12) 8 10 11 (12) 8 9 8 11 (12) 11 9 8

A

B

G7 C9 G7

8va-----

15

T 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15

A 12 12 12 12 13 14 15 12 12 12 13 13 14

B

C9

8va-----

15

T 15 15 11 8 11 10 8 9 8 10 10 (11) 9 8 (10)

A

B

19

G7

D9

T 8 11 8 10 (11) 10 10 (13) 8

A

B

B R

Λ

22

C9

G7

T 11 8 10 9 9 8 8 8 8 8 10 (11)

A

B

B

25

G7

C9

G7

hold bend ---

T 8 (10) (10) 8 8 10 (11) 8 8 8 (10) 8 11 8 11

A

B

B

Λ

B

28

C9

hold bend ---

T (12) 10 (12) (12) 10 8 11 8 10 9 8 9 8 9

A

B

Λ

B

G7 D9

31 32

B

B

Cadenza Freely

C9 G7

33 34

B A

B

35 36

B

G9 8va

37 38

B

EXAMPLE 1

B.B. bases a lot of his ideas around chord shapes. Rather than playing in one position, he moves up the neck to propel the solo. For example, in the key of G, B.B. goes up to the tenth position to play over the V chord (D7). He then moves down to the eighth position to play over the IV (C7).

In this example, notice how B.B. outlines the C9 chord in bars 2 and 5, and the D9 chord in bar 4.

Freely
guitar 1 (B.B.)

G7 C9 G7

guitar 2 (Askold)

fingerstyle let ring throughout ---->

D7 C9

The musical score is written for two guitars in 4/4 time. The first system shows guitar 1 (B.B.) playing a solo line with a G7 chord in bar 1, a C9 chord in bar 2, and a G7 chord in bar 3. The fret numbers for guitar 1 are 1, 3, 8, 11, 6, 5, 4. The second system shows guitar 2 (Askold) playing a fingerstyle accompaniment with a D7 chord in bar 4 and a C9 chord in bar 5. The fret numbers for guitar 2 are 3, 4, 3, 3, 2, 3, 3, 4, 3, 3, 12, 14, 12, 10, 13, 10, 12, 10, 8, 11, 10, 8. The score includes a 'let ring throughout' instruction for guitar 2.

G7 C9 G7

3 4 3 5 3 5 7 3

3 4 3 3 3 3 3 4 3

3 3 2 3 3 4 3

3 3



EXAMPLE 2

Asked: That was a beautiful lick you played over the D chord, going back to the C chord.

B.B.: Don't ask me to do it again! (*laughter*)

After that exchange, B.B. proceeds to play a more complex version of the previous example. Notice the jazz-like line in bar 3, which features a piano-like arpeggio over the G7 chord. Again, B.B. moves up the neck to play over the C and D chord shapes, but this time his ideas are much more intricate.

Freely

guitar 1 (B.B.)

guitar 2 (Askold)

fingerstyle

[illegible]

G7

[illegible]

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented on two staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of a quarter note G4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note B-flat4, an eighth note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note F4. The bottom staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one flat. It contains three measures of accompaniment: the first measure has a quarter note G2 and a half note F2; the second measure has a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B-flat2; the third measure has a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note B-flat2. The lyrics 'The Rose Tree' are written below the bottom staff, aligned with the notes.

D9

C9

G7

C9

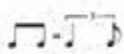
G7

D7

EXAMPLE 3

B.B. finds that elements of country music, as well as jazz and gospel, creep into the overall blues feel. He says that if you play a tune with a lot of changes, you don't have to worry about playing a specific note because the lines are in the chords. Over a simple progression such as a I-IV-V blues, however, your choice of notes (and their placement) has to be more careful.

B.B. plays this example in a jazz vein:

Swing feel 

guitar 1 (B.B.)

Chords: G6, E7, A7, D7, G6, E7

guitar 2 (Askold)

Chords: A7, D7, G6, E7, A7, D7



The musical score is written for two guitars. Guitar 1 (B.B.) plays a melodic line in 4/4 time, starting on the first measure with a G6 chord and ending on the sixth measure with an E7 chord. Guitar 2 (Askold) provides harmonic support with chords and bass lines. The progression consists of 12 measures, with chords changing every two measures: G6, E7, A7, D7, G6, E7, A7, D7, G6, E7, A7, D7. The score includes standard notation for both guitars, as well as detailed tablature for each. The tablature for guitar 1 shows specific fret numbers and techniques like triplets and bends. The tablature for guitar 2 shows the fret positions for the chords and bass line. The score is divided into two systems, with the first system covering measures 1-6 and the second system covering measures 7-12.

EXAMPLE 4

He then plays the same example in a blues style. "You really got to be placing them [the notes] in the right place," B.B. says. "People quite often say, 'Well, anybody can play the blues.' Yes, you can—anybody can do most anything, but would you *like* it?"

Freely

guitar 1 (B.B.)

G7 E7#9 A7 D9 G7



6 8 8 8 (10) 8 8 6 8 6 8 8 6 8 5 4 8 7 8

T A B

guitar 2 (Askold)

let ring throughout ----->



3 4 3 3 7 6 7 8 5 6 5 5 5 4 3 4

T A B

EXAMPLE 5

To illustrate the I-VI-II-V progression (G7-E7-A7-D7), B.B. plays this beautiful example. "There's a lot you can play over this progression," he says, "and you *can* make it bluesy!"

guitar 1 (B.B.)

G7 E7 A7 D7 G7 D9

1

T 10 (12) 10 10 10 10 10 (13) 10 8 8 10 8 10 (12) 8 10 8 B R

A

B

guitar 2 (Askold)

T 3 3 5 5 5 5 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4

A 4 4 7 7 6 6 5 5 4 4 3 3 3 3

B 3 3 7 7 5 5 5 5 3 3 3 3 3 4

C9 Cm6 G7 E7 A7 Eb9 D9

4

hold bend

T 8 8 8 10 (12) (12) 10 8 8 10 8 10 (12) 10 10 8 8 10 10 (12) B

A 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9

B

T 3 3 5 5 5 5 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 4

A 4 4 7 7 6 6 5 5 4 4 3 3 3 3

B 3 3 7 7 5 5 5 5 3 3 3 3 3 4

Musical score for guitar, showing a melody line and a bass line. The melody line is in treble clef and the bass line is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "Allegretto". The score includes various chords (G7, E7#9, Am7, D9) and musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and accents.

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system shows the vocal melody in treble clef and the guitar accompaniment in bass clef. The melody features a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The guitar part includes a bass line with a capo on the 3rd fret, indicated by a '3' at the beginning. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment, with the guitar part showing a final measure with a 4/4 time signature change.

Am7 D9 G7 C9 Cm6

13 10 10 13 10 8 10 10 10 10 13 10 13 10 8 10 8 10 8 6 5 3 5

The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". The top staff is a treble clef melody with a key signature change to one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It features several triplet markings. Below the melody are three staves for vocal harmony, labeled T (Tenor), A (Alto), and B (Bass). These staves contain numbered fingerings for each part, corresponding to the notes in the melody. The B part includes a final measure with a double bar line and a fermata, indicating the end of the piece.

G7 E7 Am7 D9 G7 C7

13

T 3 B > R 10 (12) 10 8 8 10 9 8 10 (12) 10 10 9 8 6 5 5 3 4

A

B

T 3 5 5 5 5 4 5

A 4 3 7 6 5 6 5 4 3 3 1 2 3 3 2

B 3 8 7 6 5 6 5 4 3 3 1 2 3 3 2

G7

16

T 3

A

B

T 3 4

A 3

B 3

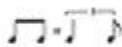


ROCK ME BABY/RHYTHM GUITAR

"Rock Me Baby" is a standard 12-bar blues which features an interesting rhythm pattern. Over the I chord (B $\flat$), a B $\flat$ 6 chord is played, moving to the A $\flat$ 6 chord and back.

Analyzing the notes in relation to B $\flat$, the B $\flat$ 6 chord produces the root (B $\flat$), third (D) and thirteenth (G), and the A $\flat$ 6 gives us the flattened seventh (A $\flat$), ninth (C), and fifth (F). Combining these notes results in a B $\flat$ 13 sound.

The same pattern is played over the IV chord (E $\flat$) and V chord (F), producing E $\flat$ 13 and F13 sounds, respectively.

Swing feel 

B $\flat$ 13



T	6	4	6	6	4	6	6	4	6
A	8	6	8	8	6	8	8	6	8
B	8	6	8	8	6	8	8	6	8

E $\flat$ 13

B $\flat$ 13



T	11	9	11	11	9	11	6	4	6
A	13	11	13	13	11	13	8	6	8
B	12	10	12	12	10	12	7	5	7

F13

E $\flat$ 13

B $\flat$ 13

F7



T	13	11	13	11	9	11	6	4	6
A	15	13	15	13	11	13	8	6	8
B	14	12	14	12	10	12	7	5	7

ROCK ME BABY/INTRO

The solo work on "Rock Me Baby" is textbook B.B. King. Notice his choice of notes throughout the tune.

In bar 10 of the intro, and bar 6 of the second solo, B.B. outlines the E $\flat$ 7 chord, bending the sixth of E $\flat$ 7 (C) to the flatted seventh (D $\flat$). In bars 14–15 of the second solo, he plays the high B $\flat$ note with his pinky, answering each time with a variation of a theme started in bar 13. B.B. ends the tune with a typical fiery cadenza.

Swing feel $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$ $\text{B}\flat 7$

The musical score is written for guitar in standard notation. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble staff and a bass staff. The key signature is one flat (Bb). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and fingerings. Chord symbols are placed above the staves: B $\flat$ 7, B, E $\flat$ 7, and F7. The bass line includes many numbers indicating fret positions. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

ROCK ME BABY/FIRST SOLO

First system of musical notation for "Rock Me Baby/First Solo". The system includes a treble clef staff and a bass staff with three lines labeled T, A, and B. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a 3 and a 1. The first measure of the bass staff is marked with a 6 and a 6. The second measure of the treble staff is marked with a Bb7. The second measure of the bass staff is marked with a B and a 14. The third measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The third measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The fourth measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The fourth measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 10.

Second system of musical notation for "Rock Me Baby/First Solo". The system includes a treble clef staff and a bass staff with three lines labeled T, A, and B. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a 4. The first measure of the bass staff is marked with a 10. The second measure of the treble staff is marked with a Eb7. The second measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The third measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The third measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The fourth measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The fourth measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 10.

Third system of musical notation for "Rock Me Baby/First Solo". The system includes a treble clef staff and a bass staff with three lines labeled T, A, and B. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a 7. The first measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The second measure of the treble staff is marked with a Bb7. The second measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The third measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The third measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The fourth measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The fourth measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 10.

Fourth system of musical notation for "Rock Me Baby/First Solo". The system includes a treble clef staff and a bass staff with three lines labeled T, A, and B. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The time signature is 4/4. The first measure of the treble staff is marked with a 10. The first measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The second measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The second measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The third measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The third measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 11. The fourth measure of the treble staff is marked with a B. The fourth measure of the bass staff is marked with a 9 and a 10.

ROCK ME BABY/SECOND SOLO

First system of musical notation for the guitar solo. The treble clef staff shows a melodic line starting with a triplet of eighth notes (F7), followed by a Bb7 chord, and then a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass clef staff shows the corresponding fretting, including a triplet of eighth notes (B) and a Bb7 chord. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4.

Second system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes (8va), followed by a Bb7 chord, and then a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass clef staff shows the corresponding fretting, including a triplet of eighth notes (B) and a Bb7 chord. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4.

Third system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes (Bb7), followed by a Bb7 chord, and then a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass clef staff shows the corresponding fretting, including a triplet of eighth notes (B) and a Bb7 chord. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4.

Fourth system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes (Bb7), followed by a Bb7 chord, and then a sequence of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass clef staff shows the corresponding fretting, including a triplet of eighth notes (B) and a Bb7 chord. The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4.

13

B $\flat$ 7 8va

B

18 13 (14) 11 12

18 13 (14) 11 13 11 12

18 13 (14) 13 11 12

16

E $\flat$ 7

B

14 14 11 (13) 11 14 11 14 11

14 11 12

B R 11 13 (16) 13 (14) 11

19

B $\flat$ 7 F7

B

9 11 6 6 6 7 8 6 4 5

6 9 (10) 6 6 (8) 6 6 8 12 11

22

E $\flat$ 7

Cadenza Freely

B $\flat$ 7 8va

B

11 13 (15) 11 (13)

13 (16) 13 11 14 11 6 8 8 6 5 6

Musical score for guitar and voice. The top staff is a single melodic line in G major (one flat) with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody is marked with a '3' (triple) and a '3' (triple). The bottom staff shows the fretboard positions for the guitar, with fingerings indicated by numbers 1-5. The fretboard is divided into sections labeled A and B. The fret numbers are: 13 (15), 9, 6, 8, 6, 6, 6, 6, 8, 7, 6, 5, 5. The fretboard is marked with a '3' (triple) and a '3' (triple). The fretboard is marked with a '3' (triple) and a '3' (triple).



EXAMPLE 6

Charlie Christian was a big influence on B.B. King's style. B.B. observes that Christian's diminished scale ideas sometimes show up in his playing. To demonstrate, B.B. plays a "bounce" blues in G. Notice the G diminished arpeggio in bars 13–14 (G, B $\flat$, D $\flat$, E).

Swing feel

guitar 1 (B.B.)

G7

T				8	10	11	8	10	8	8	10	11
A									(9)			
B												

guitar 2 (Askold)

fingerstyle

T	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
A	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
B	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

C $\sharp$ 7 C7 C $\sharp$ 7

T				6	3	5	6	3	6	3	5	4	3	2	3
A															
B															

T	4	4	4	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
A	3	3	3	2	2	2	5	5	5	5	5	5
B	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4

G7

E7#9

D9

First system of music notation. The top staff shows a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet. The bottom staff shows a bass line with a triplet and various fingerings. Chord symbols G7, E7#9, and D9 are indicated above the staff.

Second system of music notation. The top staff shows a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff shows a bass line with various fingerings. Chord symbols G7, E7#9, and D9 are indicated above the staff.

G7

D9

Third system of music notation. The top staff shows a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff shows a bass line with various fingerings. Chord symbols G7 and D9 are indicated above the staff.

Fourth system of music notation. The top staff shows a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff shows a bass line with various fingerings. Chord symbols G7 and D9 are indicated above the staff.

G7 C7 G7

12

T
A
B

T
A
B

C7 C#7

16

T
A
B

T
A
B

G7 E7#9 A7

T 5 3 7 8 9 10 6 3 3 5 3 3 5 5 5 3 3 5 2

A

B

T 4 4 8 8 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

A 3

B 3

D9 G7 E7 A7 D7 G13

T 8 10(12) 10 8 10 10(12) 10 8 9 6 5 3 5 3 3 4 5

A 9

B 5

T 5

A 4

B 5

EXAMPLE 7

Horn players, particularly Louis Jordan, also influenced B.B., who would try to mimic the phrasing of the horn on the guitar. Here B.B. plays a slow blues and comments, "I'm still hearing the horn."

Swing feel

guitar 1 (B.B.)

Chords: G7, D♭7 C9, G7

guitar 2 (Askold)

Chords: G7, F/A, B♭7, G/B, C9

42

BLUES MASTER COMPLETE

7

G7

5:4

D7

T (12)

A

B

3

5

2

3

5

3

4

5

5

3

2

8

8

10

(12)

8

10

(12)

8

The image displays a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree." It begins with a piano introduction in G major, 3/4 time, consisting of a series of chords and a triplet. This is followed by a three-part vocal setting for Tenor (T), Alto (A), and Bass (B). The vocal parts are written in a simplified, diatonic style, with the Tenor part generally an octave higher than the Bass part. The lyrics "The Rose Tree" are written below the vocal staves.

Instrumental Introduction:

The introduction is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of a series of chords and a triplet. The chords are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C#4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C#3 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F#2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C#2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F#1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C#1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter), F#0 (quarter), E0 (quarter), D0 (quarter), C#0 (quarter), B-1 (quarter), A-1 (quarter), G-1 (quarter), F#-1 (quarter), E-1 (quarter), D-1 (quarter), C#-1 (quarter), B-2 (quarter), A-2 (quarter), G-2 (quarter), F#-2 (quarter), E-2 (quarter), D-2 (quarter), C#-2 (quarter), B-3 (quarter), A-3 (quarter), G-3 (quarter), F#-3 (quarter), E-3 (quarter), D-3 (quarter), C#-3 (quarter), B-4 (quarter), A-4 (quarter), G-4 (quarter), F#-4 (quarter), E-4 (quarter), D-4 (quarter), C#-4 (quarter), B-5 (quarter), A-5 (quarter), G-5 (quarter), F#-5 (quarter), E-5 (quarter), D-5 (quarter), C#-5 (quarter), B-6 (quarter), A-6 (quarter), G-6 (quarter), F#-6 (quarter), E-6 (quarter), D-6 (quarter), C#-6 (quarter), B-7 (quarter), A-7 (quarter), G-7 (quarter), F#-7 (quarter), E-7 (quarter), D-7 (quarter), C#-7 (quarter), B-8 (quarter), A-8 (quarter), G-8 (quarter), F#-8 (quarter), E-8 (quarter), D-8 (quarter), C#-8 (quarter), B-9 (quarter), A-9 (quarter), G-9 (quarter), F#-9 (quarter), E-9 (quarter), D-9 (quarter), C#-9 (quarter), B-10 (quarter), A-10 (quarter), G-10 (quarter), F#-10 (quarter), E-10 (quarter), D-10 (quarter), C#-10 (quarter), B-11 (quarter), A-11 (quarter), G-11 (quarter), F#-11 (quarter), E-11 (quarter), D-11 (quarter), C#-11 (quarter), B-12 (quarter), A-12 (quarter), G-12 (quarter), F#-12 (quarter), E-12 (quarter), D-12 (quarter), C#-12 (quarter), B-13 (quarter), A-13 (quarter), G-13 (quarter), F#-13 (quarter), E-13 (quarter), D-13 (quarter), C#-13 (quarter), B-14 (quarter), A-14 (quarter), G-14 (quarter), F#-14 (quarter), E-14 (quarter), D-14 (quarter), C#-14 (quarter), B-15 (quarter), A-15 (quarter), G-15 (quarter), F#-15 (quarter), E-15 (quarter), D-15 (quarter), C#-15 (quarter), B-16 (quarter), A-16 (quarter), G-16 (quarter), F#-16 (quarter), E-16 (quarter), D-16 (quarter), C#-16 (quarter), B-17 (quarter), A-17 (quarter), G-17 (quarter), F#-17 (quarter), E-17 (quarter), D-17 (quarter), C#-17 (quarter), B-18 (quarter), A-18 (quarter), G-18 (quarter), F#-18 (quarter), E-18 (quarter), D-18 (quarter), C#-18 (quarter), B-19 (quarter), A-19 (quarter), G-19 (quarter), F#-19 (quarter), E-19 (quarter), D-19 (quarter), C#-19 (quarter), B-20 (quarter), A-20 (quarter), G-20 (quarter), F#-20 (quarter), E-20 (quarter), D-20 (quarter), C#-20 (quarter), B-21 (quarter), A-21 (quarter), G-21 (quarter), F#-21 (quarter), E-21 (quarter), D-21 (quarter), C#-21 (quarter), B-22 (quarter), A-22 (quarter), G-22 (quarter), F#-22 (quarter), E-22 (quarter), D-22 (quarter), C#-22 (quarter), B-23 (quarter), A-23 (quarter), G-23 (quarter), F#-23 (quarter), E-23 (quarter), D-23 (quarter), C#-23 (quarter), B-24 (quarter), A-24 (quarter), G-24 (quarter), F#-24 (quarter), E-24 (quarter), D-24 (quarter), C#-24 (quarter), B-25 (quarter), A-25 (quarter), G-25 (quarter), F#-25 (quarter), E-25 (quarter), D-25 (quarter), C#-25 (quarter), B-26 (quarter), A-26 (quarter), G-26 (quarter), F#-26 (quarter), E-26 (quarter), D-26 (quarter), C#-26 (quarter), B-27 (quarter), A-27 (quarter), G-27 (quarter), F#-27 (quarter), E-27 (quarter), D-27 (quarter), C#-27 (quarter), B-28 (quarter), A-28 (quarter), G-28 (quarter), F#-28 (quarter), E-28 (quarter), D-28 (quarter), C#-28 (quarter), B-29 (quarter), A-29 (quarter), G-29 (quarter), F#-29 (quarter), E-29 (quarter), D-29 (quarter), C#-29 (quarter), B-30 (quarter), A-30 (quarter), G-30 (quarter), F#-30 (quarter), E-30 (quarter), D-30 (quarter), C#-30 (quarter), B-31 (quarter), A-31 (quarter), G-31 (quarter), F#-31 (quarter), E-31 (quarter), D-31 (quarter), C#-31 (quarter), B-32 (quarter), A-32 (quarter), G-32 (quarter), F#-32 (quarter), E-32 (quarter), D-32 (quarter), C#-32 (quarter), B-33 (quarter), A-33 (quarter), G-33 (quarter), F#-33 (quarter), E-33 (quarter), D-33 (quarter), C#-33 (quarter), B-34 (quarter), A-34 (quarter), G-34 (quarter), F#-34 (quarter), E-34 (quarter), D-34 (quarter), C#-34 (quarter), B-35 (quarter), A-35 (quarter), G-35 (quarter), F#-35 (quarter), E-35 (quarter), D-35 (quarter), C#-35 (quarter), B-36 (quarter), A-36 (quarter), G-36 (quarter), F#-36 (quarter), E-36 (quarter), D-36 (quarter), C#-36 (quarter), B-37 (quarter), A-37 (quarter), G-37 (quarter), F#-37 (quarter), E-37 (quarter), D-37 (quarter), C#-37 (quarter), B-38 (quarter), A-38 (quarter), G-38 (quarter), F#-38 (quarter), E-38 (quarter), D-38 (quarter), C#-38 (quarter), B-39 (quarter), A-39 (quarter), G-39 (quarter), F#-39 (quarter), E-39 (quarter), D-39 (quarter), C#-39 (quarter), B-40 (quarter), A-40 (quarter), G-40 (quarter), F#-40 (quarter), E-40 (quarter), D-40 (quarter), C#-40 (quarter), B-41 (quarter), A-41 (quarter), G-41 (quarter), F#-41 (quarter), E-41 (quarter), D-41 (quarter), C#-41 (quarter), B-42 (quarter), A-42 (quarter), G-42 (quarter), F#-42 (quarter), E-42 (quarter), D-42 (quarter), C#-42 (quarter), B-43 (quarter), A-43 (quarter), G-43 (quarter), F#-43 (quarter), E-43 (quarter), D-43 (quarter), C#-43 (quarter), B-44 (quarter), A-44 (quarter), G-44 (quarter), F#-44 (quarter), E-44 (quarter), D-44 (quarter), C#-44 (quarter), B-45 (quarter), A-45 (quarter), G-45 (quarter), F#-45 (quarter), E-45 (quarter), D-45 (quarter), C#-45 (quarter), B-46 (quarter), A-46 (quarter), G-46 (quarter), F#-46 (quarter), E-46 (quarter), D-46 (quarter), C#-46 (quarter), B-47 (quarter), A-47 (quarter), G-47 (quarter), F#-47 (quarter), E-47 (quarter), D-47 (quarter), C#-47 (quarter), B-48 (quarter), A-48 (quarter), G-48 (quarter), F#-48 (quarter), E-48 (quarter), D-48 (quarter), C#-48 (quarter), B-49 (quarter), A-49 (quarter), G-49 (quarter), F#-49 (quarter), E-49 (quarter), D-49 (quarter), C#-49 (quarter), B-50 (quarter), A-50 (quarter), G-50 (quarter), F#-50 (quarter), E-50 (quarter), D-50 (quarter), C#-50 (quarter), B-51 (quarter), A-51 (quarter), G-51 (quarter), F#-51 (quarter), E-51 (quarter), D-51 (quarter), C#-51 (quarter), B-52 (quarter), A-52 (quarter), G-52 (quarter), F#-52 (quarter), E-52 (quarter), D-52 (quarter), C#-52 (quarter), B-53 (quarter), A-53 (quarter), G-53 (quarter), F#-53 (quarter), E-53 (quarter), D-53 (quarter), C#-53 (quarter), B-54 (quarter), A-54 (quarter), G-54 (quarter), F#-54 (quarter), E-54 (quarter), D-54 (quarter), C#-54 (quarter), B-55 (quarter), A-55 (quarter), G-55 (quarter), F#-55 (quarter), E-55 (quarter), D-55 (quarter), C#-55 (quarter), B-56 (quarter), A-56 (quarter), G-56 (quarter), F#-56 (quarter), E-56 (quarter), D-56 (quarter), C#-56 (quarter), B-57 (quarter), A-57 (quarter), G-57 (quarter), F#-57 (quarter), E-57 (quarter), D-57 (quarter), C#-57 (quarter), B-58 (quarter), A-58 (quarter), G-58 (quarter), F#-58 (quarter), E-58 (quarter), D-58 (quarter), C#-58 (quarter), B-59 (quarter), A-59 (quarter), G-59 (quarter), F#-59 (quarter), E-59 (quarter), D-59 (quarter), C#-59 (quarter), B-60 (quarter), A-60 (quarter), G-60 (quarter), F#-60 (quarter), E-60 (quarter), D-60 (quarter), C#-60 (quarter), B-61 (quarter), A-61 (quarter), G-61 (quarter), F#-61 (quarter), E-61 (quarter), D-61 (quarter), C#-61 (quarter), B-62 (quarter), A-62 (quarter), G-62 (quarter), F#-62 (quarter), E-62 (quarter), D-62 (quarter), C#-62 (quarter), B-63 (quarter), A-63 (quarter), G-63 (quarter), F#-63 (quarter), E-63 (quarter), D-63 (quarter), C#-63 (quarter), B-64 (quarter), A-64 (quarter), G-64 (quarter), F#-64 (quarter), E-64 (quarter), D-64 (quarter), C#-64 (quarter), B-65 (quarter), A-65 (quarter), G-65 (quarter), F#-65 (quarter), E-65 (quarter), D-65 (quarter), C#-65 (quarter), B-66 (quarter), A-66 (quarter), G-66 (quarter), F#-66 (quarter), E-66 (quarter), D-66 (quarter), C#-66 (quarter), B-67 (quarter), A-67 (quarter), G-67 (quarter), F#-67 (quarter), E-67 (quarter), D-67 (quarter), C#-67 (quarter), B-68 (quarter), A-68 (quarter), G-68 (quarter), F#-68 (quarter), E-68 (quarter), D-68 (quarter), C#-68 (quarter), B-69 (quarter), A-69 (quarter), G-69 (quarter), F#-69 (quarter), E-69 (quarter), D-69 (quarter), C#-69 (quarter), B-70 (quarter), A-70 (quarter), G-70 (quarter), F#-70 (quarter), E-70 (quarter), D-70 (quarter), C#-70 (quarter), B-71 (quarter), A-71 (quarter), G-71 (quarter), F#-71 (quarter), E-71 (quarter), D-71 (quarter), C#-71 (quarter), B-72 (quarter), A-72 (quarter), G-72 (quarter), F#-72 (quarter), E-72 (quarter), D-72 (quarter), C#-72 (quarter), B-73 (quarter), A-73 (quarter), G-73 (quarter), F#-73 (quarter), E-73 (quarter), D-73 (quarter), C#-73 (quarter), B-74 (quarter), A-74 (quarter), G-74 (quarter), F#-74 (quarter), E-74 (quarter), D-74 (quarter), C#-74 (quarter), B-75 (

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' includes a guitar part with the following chords and fingerings:

- Guitar Chords:** C9, G7, Cm7, G7.
- Fingerings:** The guitar part includes various fingerings such as 10, 10 (13), 10, 8, 11, 9, 10, 8, 10, (12), 8, 6, 5, 4, 3, 3, 4, 5, 5.

[illegible]

EXAMPLE 8

B.B. plays this example in the style of saxman Johnny Hodges, who would often sit on the perfect note. By bending a note and sustaining it, B.B. gets the same effect.

Swing feel

guitar 1 (B.B.) N.C.

G7 F/A B $\flat$ 7 G/B N.C.

1

T 5 (7) 5 3 3 5 4

A 5 4

B

guitar 2 (Askold)

T

A 4 5 6 7

B 3 3 5 5

G7 G $\flat$ 7 F7 E7 N.C.

Am7

4

T

A 3 5 4 2 5

B 5

T

A 4 3 2 1

B 3 2 1 0

N.C. (D7)

(G7)

(E7)

Am7

(D7)

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a three-line guitar tablature staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line in 7/8 time, starting with a quarter rest, followed by eighth notes B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, and a quarter rest. The guitar tablature has three measures: the first measure contains the sequence 3 4 5 6 7 5 2 3 4; the second measure contains 5 5 3 3 4 3; and the third measure is empty.

The second system of musical notation consists of a treble clef staff and a three-line guitar tablature staff. The treble staff contains a melodic line in 7/8 time, starting with a quarter rest, followed by eighth notes G4, F#4, E4, D4, and a quarter rest. The guitar tablature has three measures: the first measure contains the sequence 5 3 7 6 5; the second measure contains 3 7 6 5; and the third measure contains 5 5.

EXAMPLE 9

On this eight-bar blues, B.B. feels like he's "talking to a person." He believes that on a slow blues, the phrasing should be more laid-back and personal.

B.B. is always aware of the chord progression and consistently chooses his notes to fit the changes perfectly, as in bars 17–18 where he bends the second (E_b) to the flatted third (F_b) of the $D_b m7$ chord.

guitar 1 (B.B.)

A_b A_b7

1
hold bend --4

T 4 6 B (8) (8) 9 11 9 11 B R 11 9 11

guitar 2 (Askold)

T 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 7 7 7 2

A 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

B 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

$D_b \text{ maj7}$ $D_b m7$

3

T 9 9 11 (13) B 9 (11) 11 9 10 9 11/13

A 9 9 11 (13) 11 9 10 9 11/13

B 9 9 11 (13) 11 9 10 9 11/13

let ring -----4

T 6 6 6 6 5 5 4 5

A 5 5 5 5 4 4 6 4

B 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 4

Ab F Bb Eb

T 11 13 (15) 13 11 13 B R 11 (13) 9 10 9 11 10 9 11 (13) B

A

B

let ring -----|

T 2 7 6 8

A 3 8 7 6 8

B 4 2 1 5 6

Ab7 Bbm7 Eb7

hold bend ...

T 9 B 9 (11) 9 B B 11 (12)

A

B

T 2 4 4

A 1 6 6

B 3 5 5

4 6 6 3

The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It includes a piano accompaniment and three vocal parts: Tenor (T), Alto (A), and Bass (B). The piano part is written on a single staff with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 9/8 time signature. The vocal parts are written on three staves below the piano part. The score shows a full musical phrase with various notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The piano part includes a treble clef, key signature of two flats, and a 9/8 time signature. The vocal parts are in a lower register. The score shows a full musical phrase with various notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

[illegible]

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system shows the vocal melody in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The melody consists of two measures. The first measure contains a quarter rest, a dotted quarter note (F4), an eighth note (G4), and a quarter note (A4). The second measure contains a quarter rest, a dotted quarter note (B-flat4), an eighth note (A4), and a quarter note (G4). Below the vocal line, the guitar accompaniment is shown for the first system, consisting of two measures. The first measure has a bass line with a quarter note (F2), a dotted quarter note (F2), and a half note (G2). The treble line has a quarter note (F4), a dotted quarter note (F4), and a half note (G4). The second measure has a bass line with a quarter note (F2), a dotted quarter note (F2), and a half note (G2). The treble line has a quarter note (F4), a dotted quarter note (F4), and a half note (G4). The second system shows the vocal melody in treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The melody consists of two measures. The first measure contains a quarter rest, a dotted quarter note (F4), an eighth note (G4), and a quarter note (A4). The second measure contains a quarter rest, a dotted quarter note (B-flat4), an eighth note (A4), and a quarter note (G4). Below the vocal line, the guitar accompaniment is shown for the second system, consisting of two measures. The first measure has a bass line with a quarter note (F2), a dotted quarter note (F2), and a half note (G2). The treble line has a quarter note (F4), a dotted quarter note (F4), and a half note (G4). The second measure has a bass line with a quarter note (F2), a dotted quarter note (F2), and a half note (G2). The treble line has a quarter note (F4), a dotted quarter note (F4), and a half note (G4).

Ab F7 Bbm7 Eb7

11 13 16 16 B> R B> R

11 (13) 11 9 10 9 11 10 11 (13) 11 9 11

4 2 1 2 1 3 8 6 5 3

Ab7 Db Ab7

9 9 11 9 B 7 4 6 5 6 4 10 9

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

17

$D\flat$ $D\flat m7$

T 11 9 9 11 (12) 11 9 9 11 (13)

A

B

T 6 6 6 6 5 5 5 5

A 6 6 6 6 4 4 4 4

B 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

B 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

19

$A\flat$ $A\flat 7$

T 11 9 (11) 9 10 11 (13) 11 (13) 11

A

B

T 5 5 5 5 7 7 7 5 5 6

A 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 7

B 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 5

B7

11 10 9 10 11 11 10 9 10 10 9 8

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system contains the melody and a guitar accompaniment. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The guitar accompaniment is written on a single staff with a bass clef. The second system continues the melody and guitar accompaniment. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The guitar accompaniment is written on a single staff with a bass clef. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and dynamic markings.

Ab7

25

hold bend

T: 11 (13) (13) 9 11 9 11 (13) 11 9 11

A: 11 (13) (13) 9 11 9 11 (13) 11 9 11

B: 11 (13) (13) 9 11 9 11 (13) 11 9 11

T: 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7

A: 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

B: 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

Db

Dbm7

27

5:6

T: 9 9 9 11 11 (13) 11 (13) 11 9 10 9 10 9 11 11/13

A: 9 9 9 11 11 (13) 11 (13) 11 9 10 9 10 9 11 11/13

B: 9 9 9 11 11 (13) 11 (13) 11 9 10 9 10 9 11 11/13

T: 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

A: 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6

B: 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

$A\flat$ F $B\flat m$ $E\flat$

$B > R$ $B > R$ B

11 13 (14) 13 11 13 11 (13) 11 9 10 9 11 10 11 (13)

2 3 1 2 1 6 6 6 5

4 2 1 2 1 6 6 6 5

$A\flat$ $D\flat$ $D\flat m$ $A\flat$ $(A\flat 9)$

let ring -----

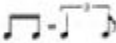
9 4 8 6 5 4 3 5 4 3 4 3 4

5 6 4 4 5 6 4 4

NOBODY LOVES ME BUT MY MOTHER/INTRO

"Nobody Loves Me But My Mother" is a great example of a slow, soulful blues tune. B.B. plays it with an organ trio, and his performance is exceptional. Don't let the rhythms or the amount of notes intimidate you; the tempo is quite slow and if you listen to the tape, you'll feel the phrasing.

Notice how B.B. outlines the A7 chord in bars 1 and 7 and the D9 chord in bars 2 and 10 of the intro. This is a B.B. trademark—he never hits a "wrong" note. Bars 34–35 of the solo feature a sophisticated harmonic idea, as B.B. plays a descending Bm9 arpeggio (C#, A, F#, D, B) over the E9 chord. These notes give us the thirteenth, eleventh, ninth, flatted seventh and fifth of E, respectively.

Swing feel  A7 D9



mf *p* *mf* *p*

T 5 7 5 5 8 5 7 5 6

A

B

A7



p *mp*

T (14) 10 12 (14) 10 13 13

A

B

D9



p *mp*

T 10 13 13 10 10 10 10 12 (13) 10 16 (12) 10 13 10 10

A

B

First system of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with an **A7** chord. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a complex sequence of fret numbers: 12 (14), 5, 8, 5, 7, 5, 7, 5, 6, 7, 5, 7, 5, 3, 4. Above the bass staff, there are chord markings: **B** (with an accent), **B**, and **B**. The system concludes with a double bar line, followed by a **ff** dynamic marking and a final **B** chord with a wavy line.

Second system of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with an **E9** chord and a wavy line. The bottom staff contains fret numbers: 10, 12, 12 (13), 10, 11, 10, 12 (13), 10, 12 (12), 10, 12 (14). Above the bass staff, there are chord markings: **B**, **B**, **B**, and **B**. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Third system of musical notation. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with an **A7** chord and a wavy line. The bottom staff contains fret numbers: 12 (13), 10, 10, 10, 11, 10, 12, 14, 10, 11. Above the bass staff, there are chord markings: **B**, **B**, and **B**. The system concludes with a double bar line.

NOBODY LOVES ME BUT MY MOTHER/SOLO

E7 **A7** **D9**

8va

T: 12 (14) 12 10 10 12 17 10 13 10 10 13 11

A: 11 11 11

B: 11 11

A7 **B**

8va

T: 17 20 17 20 17 17 20 17 20 (22) 17 19

A: 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

B: 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

D9 **B**

8va

T: 17 19 17 19 (20) 19 17 20 17 21 19 (20) 19 17 20 17 19 17 19

A: 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

B: 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

A7 **B** **B** **AB**

8va

T: 19 18 19 (20) 17 10 (12) 10 10 13 13 10 10 12 (14) 10 11 12 (15)

A: 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

B: 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17

A musical score for guitar solo. The top staff is a standard five-line staff with a treble clef and key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It contains a melodic line with various notes, rests, and ornaments like grace notes and slurs. Above the staff are chord markings "E9" and "D9". Below the staff are three tablature staves labeled T, A, and B from top to bottom. They contain fret numbers and rhythmic notation such as "12", "B> 12 (15)", "12 10", "10", "11", "10", "13", "10", "10", and "(12)".

The musical score consists of a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in 4/4 time. The first measure is marked with a chord symbol 'A7' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C) followed by a quarter note (D). The second measure is marked with a chord symbol 'E9' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (G, B, D) followed by a quarter note (E). The third measure is marked with a chord symbol 'B' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C) followed by a quarter note (D). The fourth measure is marked with a chord symbol 'R' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (G, B, D) followed by a quarter note (E). The fifth measure is marked with a chord symbol 'B' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C) followed by a quarter note (D). The sixth measure is marked with a chord symbol 'B' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (G, B, D) followed by a quarter note (E). The seventh measure is marked with a chord symbol 'B' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (F#, A, C) followed by a quarter note (D). The eighth measure is marked with a chord symbol 'B' and contains a triplet of eighth notes (G, B, D) followed by a quarter note (E). The fretboard diagram below the staff shows fingerings for strings 1 through 5. The first string has a barre at the 10th fret. The second string has a barre at the 10th fret. The third string has a barre at the 10th fret. The fourth string has a barre at the 10th fret. The fifth string has a barre at the 10th fret. The fretboard diagram is divided into two systems, each with five strings. The first system shows fingerings for strings 1 through 5. The second system shows fingerings for strings 1 through 5. The fretboard diagram is divided into two systems, each with five strings. The first system shows fingerings for strings 1 through 5. The second system shows fingerings for strings 1 through 5.

The musical score for "The Wind" by George Gershwin is presented in a standard musical notation format. The guitar part is written on a single staff, while the bass line is written on a five-staff system. The guitar part includes a variety of musical notations, including chords, single notes, and complex rhythmic patterns. The bass line provides a steady harmonic foundation. The score is in 4/4 time and includes a key signature of one sharp (F#). The guitar part features a melodic line with various techniques like bends, slurs, and triplets. The bass line includes chords and single notes. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The guitar part includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 4/4. The bass line includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 4/4. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The guitar part includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 4/4. The bass line includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 4/4.

18 **D9**

T 10 (12) 10 13 (15) 13 10 13 (14) 13 10 11 10 13 (14) 11

A

B

19

T 10 (12) 10 10 11 10 12 (13) 10 (12) 10 13 (15)

A

B

20 **A7**

T 13 (14) 10 10 13 (14) 5 8 7 5 7 6 7 6 7 6 7

A

B

21

T 5 6 7 5 7 7 5 7 5 5 7 5 4

A

B

E9 D9

B 5 8 (9) 5 7 5 5 7 7 7 11 10 12 (14) 12 10 10 12 (15) 11 (13) B B> R >B B

A7 E9 8va ----

10 10 10 10 11 10 12 (14) 12 10 10 10 10 11 B R

A7 8va E9

17 10 (12) 10 13 10 11 17 17 10 (12) 10 13 10 10 12 (14) 17 B B B

A7 8va hold bend ----

17 10 (12) 10 12 13 10 10 10 12 (13) 10 10 (12) (12) 10 12 (14) 12 12 (14) 10 10 B B B R B

D9

30

T 10 (12) 10 10 10 10

A 11

B 10 12 (14) 10 10 12 (14) 12 (14) 10

B R B R B R B R

A7

32

T 12 (14) 5 7 5 6 7 5 4 9 9 9 9 9

A 5 7 5 6 7 5 4

B 5 7 5 6 7 5 4

B A A A

E9

34

T 9 8 7 7 5 6 7 7 5 7 5 7 7 5 7 7 5 7

A 8 7 7 5 6 7 7 5 7 5 7 7 5 7

B 7 5 7 5 7 7 5 7

B (9)

D9 **A7** **D** **A+7**

35

8va

T 4 5 11 10 11 12 (14) 10 10 8 8 8 7 7 6 6

A 12 (14) 10 10 8 8 8 7 7 6 6

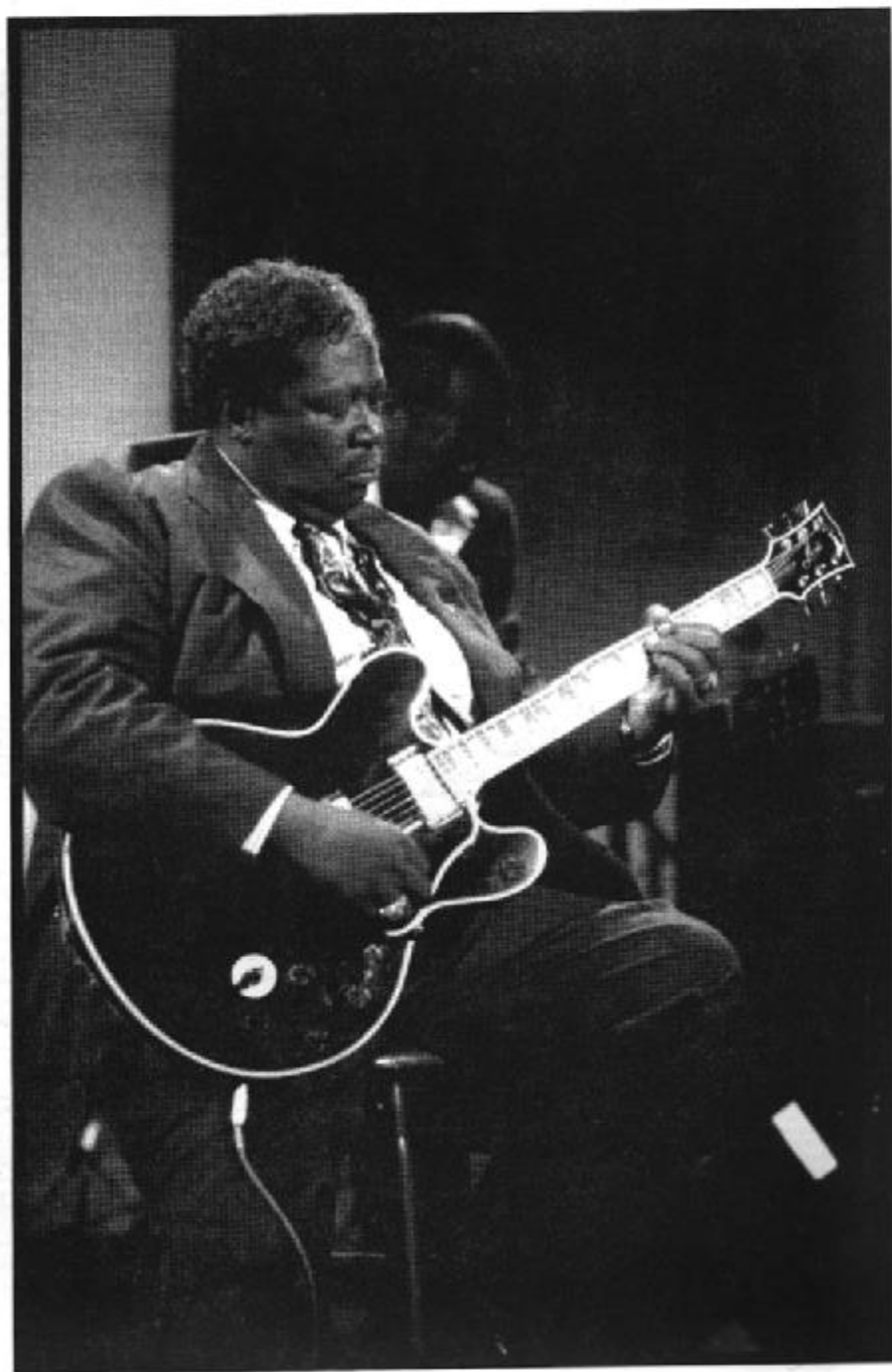
B 12 (14) 10 10 8 8 8 7 7 6 6

B A D A+7

Freely

A7

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is for guitar, written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a triplet of eighth notes, followed by a slur over a quarter note and an eighth note, then another triplet of eighth notes. The bottom staff is for bass, written in bass clef. It includes fret numbers: 5, 5, 7 (9), 5, 5, 7, 5, 5, 6, 7, 7, 5, 4. Chord labels 'B' and 'A' are placed above the staff. The piece is marked 'Freely'.



EXAMPLE 10

B.B. demonstrates the use of sixths in the blues idiom in this short example. Bars 1 and 2 feature a traditional turnaround which would be played over the last two bars of a 12-bar blues (over the I and V chords).

guitar 1 (B.B.)

N.C. (G)

(D9)

G7

guitar 2 (Askold)

C7

G7

F/A B $\flat$ 7 G/B Am7

EXAMPLE 11

B.B. "stretches out" on a jump blues in F#. For someone who is primarily known as a blues player, the amount of jazz chops B.B. exhibits is amazing. Check out the chromaticism in bars 8-9 and 13-15, and the great triplet idea over B7 in bars 17-18. Try taking bits and pieces of this solo and applying them to your own soloing style.

Swing feel

Guitar 1 (B.B.)

F#7

Guitar 2 (Askold)

fingerstyle

A13

F#7

C9

B7

C#7

F#7 D#7#9 Am7 G#m7 D9

T
A
B

T
A
B

C#9 G7 F#7 A13 Dmaj7 G7b5

T
A
B

T
A
B

13 *rhythm guitar continues simile*

F#7 B7 F#7

T
A
B

16

C#m7 F#7 B7

T
A
B

19

F#7 D#7 G#7

T
A
B

22

C#7 F#7 D#7 G#m7 C#7

8va-----

T
A
B

25

F#7 B7 F#7

T: 2 1 4 2 1 4 2 1 4 2 1 4

A: 4 2 4 4 (4) 4 1 1 4 2 1 1

B: 4 2 0 1 4 1 4

28

B7

T: 2 2 4 2 4 4 (6) 7 (9) 7 10 7 7 2 3 2

A: 2 3 2 4 2 4 4 7 8 7 2 4 3 2

B: 2 3 2 4 2 4 4 7 8 7 2 4 3 2

31

F#7 D#7 G#7

T: 4 3 2 2 2 3 4 4 4 2 4 4 8

A: 4 4 4 2 3 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

B: 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

34

C#7 F#7 D#7 G#m7 G maj7 F# maj7

ritard *let ring -----*

T: 7 9 (11) 7 9 9 (11) 7 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

A: 7 9 (11) 7 9 9 (11) 7 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

B: 7 9 (11) 7 9 9 (11) 7 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

THE THRILL IS GONE/RHYTHM GUITAR

Here is a sample progression for B.B.'s all-time hit, "The Thrill Is Gone." This is a traditional 12-bar minor blues, with the V chord (G7) being approached by the $\flat$ VI chord ($A\flat 7$) in bar 9.

Cm

The first system of the 12-bar blues progression, consisting of four measures. The treble clef staff shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and rests. The bass clef staff shows the fret positions for the Cm chord: 8 on the 1st string, 8 on the 2nd string, 8 on the 3rd string, and 10 on the 4th string.

Fm Cm

The second system of the 12-bar blues progression, consisting of four measures. The treble clef staff shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and rests. The bass clef staff shows the fret positions for the Fm chord (8 on 1st, 9 on 2nd, 10 on 3rd, 10 on 4th) and the Cm chord (8 on 1st, 8 on 2nd, 8 on 3rd, 10 on 4th).

$A\flat 7$ G7 Cm

The third system of the 12-bar blues progression, consisting of four measures. The treble clef staff shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and rests. The bass clef staff shows the fret positions for the $A\flat 7$ chord (9 on 1st, 11 on 2nd, 10 on 3rd, 11 on 4th), the G7 chord (8 on 1st, 10 on 2nd, 9 on 3rd, 10 on 4th), and the Cm chord (8 on 1st, 8 on 2nd, 8 on 3rd, 10 on 4th).

THE THRILL IS GONE/INTRO

B.B. primarily uses the C minor pentatonic scale to solo over "The Thrill Is Gone." He adds the flatted fifth ($G\flat$) in bar 11 of the first solo and bars 21, 26 and 30 of the second solo. He also uses the natural sixth ($A\flat$) in bars 43-44, 47-49 and 53-54 of the second solo, thus hinting at the C dorian mode. Once again, B.B. displays his depth and natural musicianship.

First system of musical notation (bars 1-3). The treble clef staff shows a melodic line starting on a middle C, moving up stepwise with some grace notes. The bass clef staff shows a bass line with octaves and a bar line. Chords Cm and B are indicated. The dynamic *mf* is marked. The 8va line is shown above the treble staff.

Second system of musical notation (bars 4-6). The treble clef staff continues the melodic line. The bass clef staff shows octaves and a bar line. Chords Fm and B are indicated. The dynamic *mf* is marked. The 8va line is shown above the treble staff.

Third system of musical notation (bars 7-9). The treble clef staff continues the melodic line. The bass clef staff shows octaves and a bar line. Chords Cm and $A\flat 7$ are indicated. The dynamic *mf* is marked. The 8va line is shown above the treble staff.

Fourth system of musical notation (bars 10-12). The treble clef staff continues the melodic line. The bass clef staff shows octaves and a bar line. Chords G7 and Cm are indicated. The dynamic *mf* is marked. The 8va line is shown above the treble staff.

THE THRILL IS GONE/FIRST SOLO

Musical score for "The Rose Tree". The score is written for a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment. The vocal line is in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The guitar part is in standard tuning (E A B). The score includes a key signature change to F major (two sharps) and a time signature change to 3/4. The guitar part includes a capo and a bridge section.

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in two systems. The first system features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written on a single staff, starting with a C major chord (Cm) and an A-flat major chord (A $\flat$ 7). The melody is characterized by eighth and sixteenth notes, with some notes beamed together. The second system shows the guitar accompaniment for the same piece. It includes a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The guitar part is written on a single staff, with a C major chord (C) and an A-flat major chord (A $\flat$) indicated. The guitar part consists of a series of chords and single notes, with some notes beamed together. The guitar part is written in a style that suggests a specific playing technique, possibly a fingerstyle or a specific guitar model.

10 11 12

G7 Cm B

I'm a little bit of a dreamer

THE THRILL IS GONE/SECOND SOLO

Musical score for "The Wind" by Gustav Mahler. The score is in C minor (Cm) and 4/4 time. It features a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment. The guitar part includes fret numbers and a barre (B) at the 15th fret.

13

T
A
B

16

Fm

T
A
B

19

Cm

Ab7

T
A
B

22

G7

Cm

T
A
B

25

mf *p* *mf*

8va

B

T 8 10 (12)

A 11 10 8 10 8

B 13 11 13 (15) 13 11 13

28

8va

mp

8va

T 11 13 14 13 13 14

A 20 11 11 10 8 10

B

31

mf

T 8 11 8

A 10 8 8 10 10 8 (10)

B

34

mp *mf*

B

T 10 (12) 10 8 8 10 8 10 11

A 10 8 10 8 10 10 8 10

B

37

mp

B

B R

B R

T	10 (12) 10 8	10 8	10 (12) 10 8	10 (12) 10 8
A				10
B				

40

8 11

11 10 8

T	8 11				11 10 8
A	10				
B					

43

mp

mf

p

20

B R

B R

T	20	15 (16) 15 13	14	13	14	13	15 (16) 15
A							
B							

46

B

B

T	15	15 (16) 15	13 15	14	13	13	14	15 (16)
A	14							
B								

49 *Sra*-----

T 15 15 15 (16) 15 13 14 13 15 20

A

B

52 *mf*

T 15 (16) 15 13 14 13 14

A

B

55

T 13 13 14 10 (12) 10 8 10

A

B

58

T 8 10

A 10

B

61

p

B

8 (9) 10

13

11 12 B (15)

64

R

13

13

B (13)

65

8va

B R

13 (15) 13 11

13

20

B

15 (16) 15 13

14

70

m

hold bend

B

15 (16)

B

15 (17)

