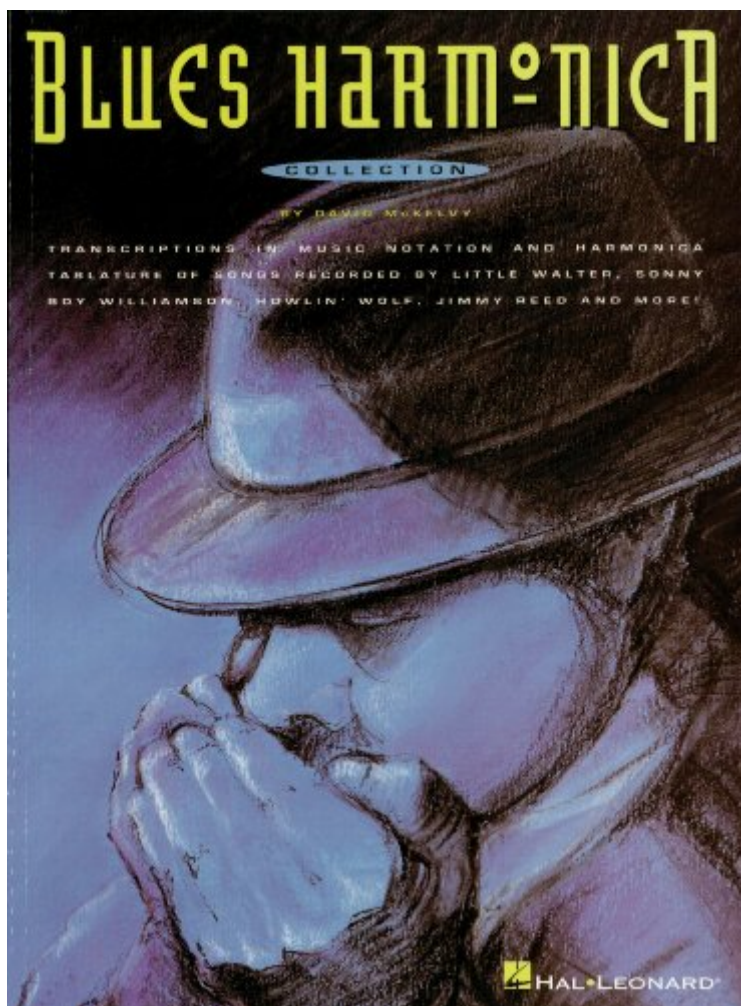


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# Blues Harmonica Collection



## Synopsis

(Harmonica). Over 40 classics from blues greats Little Walter, Sonny Boy Williamson, Howlin' Wolf, James Dalton, Elmore James, John Brim, and Lester Davenport complete with an extensive introduction on how to play the pieces in this book. Pieces include: Boom, Boom (Out Go The Lights) \* Cool Disposition \* Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide \* Ice Cream Man \* I'm A Man \* and many more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Fuzzy Wuzzy's Summary: Highly recommended with warm fuzzies! When I purchased this book back in 2004, I was reaching an intermediate level of expertise with playing the blues, but my note bending was still wobbly and inconsistent. It has taken me a few years (and LOTS of practice) to grow into this great treasure chest of classic Chicago-style blues. When I purchased this book in 2004, I could find no other collection of blues harmonica tablature like this either in print or on the Internet. And now, 8 years later, there is STILL no other single collection of blues harp tablature like this to be found anywhere! This book's publisher, Hal Leonard, publishes many countless music books and sheet music

collections. Some of Hal Leonard's books are better than others. This is a really great collection. But it seems that Hal Leonard hardly ever revise their books with later updates and more content, so many of their books remain in a "1st Edition" frozen state forever. And this excellent collection of blues harp tablature is no exception. I just wished that they would publish an expanded updated edition to this 20-year old book. There are 41 classic blues songs included in this book, annotated with a three-way combination of music notation, chords, and harmonica tablature. Here is the artist and song listing:

Sonny Boy Williamson: All My Love In Vain, Checkin' Up On My Baby, Cool Disposition, Cross My Heart, Don't Lose Your Eye, Don't Start Me Talkin', Down Child, Fattening Frogs For Snakes, Help Me I Don't Know, Keep It To Yourself, Let Me Explain, Let Your Conscience Be Your Guide, Nine Below Zero, Ninety Nine, One Way Out, The Key, Too Close Together, Unseen Eye, You Killing Me, Your Funeral And My Trial

Little Walter: Ah'w Baby, Back Track, Blues With A Feeling, Boom Boom (Out Go The Lights), Can't Hold Out Much Longer, I Hate To See You Go (Gone And Left Me), Juke, Just Your Fool, Mean Old World, Off The Wall, You're So Fine

Jimmy Reed: Baby, What You Want Me To Do, Bright Lights, Big City, Honest I Do, Howlin' Wolf: Sitting On Top Of The World, Smokestack Lightning

Elmore James with John Brim: Rattlesnake, James Dalton with John Brim: Ice Cream Man, Lester Davenport: I'm A Man, Jimmie Rogers: Walking By Myself

This harmonica tablature and songbook is for intermediate to advanced players only. In particular, beginning blues harp novices often have a hard time bending notes while performing the draw bends and blow bends that are often used when playing blues harp. The "Book Description" states that this book includes "an extensive introduction on how to play the pieces in this book". Ummm, seriously, the 2-page section on pages 4 and 5 entitled "How To Read the Harmonica Tablature Terms and Symbols" does NOT constitute extensive instructions on how to play the music that is annotated here. These are all intermediate to advanced level songs that will even challenge the advanced players. You can learn far more by reading an entire harmonica instruction book and watching videos, or you can learn better and faster by taking lessons from someone who is good at playing blues harp. There is no instructional guidance in this book. Even though these harmonica tab transcriptions are excellent, like any collection of guitar tablature, to play these songs with an authentic feel, you really need to be familiar with the songs too. Since the bulk of the 41 songs are from Little Walter and Sonny Boy Williamson, if you are not as familiar with their music, the following are two excellent compilations of these two blues harp masters: ["His Best" \(Chess 50th Anniversary Collection\)](#), ["His Best" \(Little Walter\)](#), [The Chess 50th Anniversary Collection](#). Many of the songs can be downloaded from iTunes or listened to online. If you are still a beginner who needs recommendations for good harmonica instruction books, here are two good ones: ["Rock n' Blues"](#)

Harmonica: A World of Harp Knowledge, Songs, Stories, Lessons, Riffs, Techniques and Audio Index for a New Generation of Harp Players and Harmonica For Dummies. If you are an advanced harmonica player who also, like me, plays guitar, you will be pleased to note that the chords are also included in the music notation of all these songs. And then you can play both your guitar and blues harp at the same time using this: Lee Oskar Harmonica Holder, which I can now play with a few of the songs in this wonderful collection.

Blues Harmonica Collection isn't a blues harp lick book and isn't just a song book. And it isn't a harp tab book for playing the melody of songs. It's also not an instruction book. I have all these. "Blues Harmonica Collection" is different. It's a song book with the harp parts tabbed out in the appropriate places. If you've seen song books with the music tabbed out for guitar then this will look familiar. The difference is there's no guitar tab. The melody lines are written in regular music lines. So, what you may see is a couple bars of music (not tab) with the notation "guitar solo" as the intro, then two bars of melody line written in music notation (not tab) with the words underneath, then two bars of music with the harp tab underneath. Also, along with all of that, the chords are noted at the top like you'd expect to see in any music book. So, you can learn the song from intro to outro with the guitar chords, the harp licks and solos, and words. If you can play guitar and sing and play at least intermediate harp you'll love this book. If you have a friend or two to play with you'll love this book. If you want to learn just the harp parts for some great blues tunes, you'll love this book. I'll also be using it to help explain blues and blues structure to my (private) music students. If you're a beginner you probably wouldn't want to start with this book to learn on but you certainly would benefit from it by listening to the song by the original artist and following along in the book. You'll probably be able to get a mental picture of the song that will help when you're ready to attempt the songs. I would absolutely recommend this book to all levels. I'd even recommend the book to someone who only plays guitar and sings because the entire songs are there with the chords. I haven't had time to sit and play through the songs or learn the harp parts but based on sitting and looking through each page I'd have to say I would definitely buy it again and I'd pay twice the price to get it. I'd like to have had a CD with just the harp parts on it but that would have been a huge project. Just pick up CDs with songs. jaysblues Blues Harmonica Collection

I love this book. Thank you for having it, and your wonderful customer service. I received it shortly after I ordered it. Some things in the book are new to me, but I'm learning. In my opinion a person should be at least a beginning intermediate.

I'm a beginning harmonica player, so I can't really judge how good this book is, but it is what I expected and has the notes and chords for other instruments to play along with, so I am satisfied with it.

A good collection. Not for beginners.

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