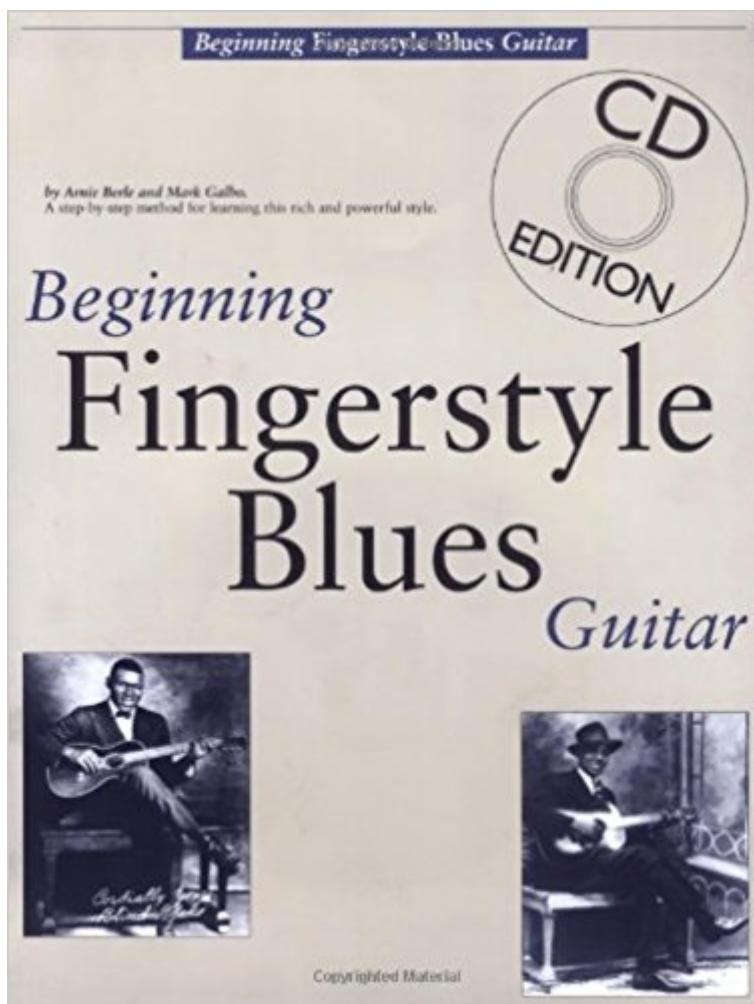


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# Beginning Fingerstyle Blues Guitar (Guitar Books)



## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). A step-by-step method for learning this rich and powerful style. Takes you from the fundamentals of fingerpicking to five authentic blues tunes. Includes graded exercises, illustrated tips, plus standard notation and tablature.

## Book Information

Series: Guitar Books

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## Customer Reviews

For me, this book has opened a whole new world of possibilities on the guitar. I'm a life long amateur guitarist who - prior to working through this book - had as close to no/zero/zilch fingerpicking skills whatsoever. I couldn't even reliably keep up an alternating bassline in time with a metronome. But, like a lot of guitarists, I LOVE the old country blues - like a lot of folks, I started with Robert Johnson because he's the name that's always floating out there, but I soon realized that was only the tip of the iceberg! Before too long, I was listening to a whole range of countrified pickers and loving every minute of it. From there, it was only a matter of time before the itch to start emulating some of my heroes struck - that's where this book comes in. If you have the patience to work through it and perfect the exercises (which for me the standard I've set is to be able to play them cleanly from memory alongside a metronome), this book WILL get you playing passable fingerstyle country blues! Of course, this takes discipline and commitment on the part of the learner - none of the first 80% or so of the exercises is anything you would even think about playing in public (they sound, as you might expect, quite "instructional" in nature), but the authors have

included a handful of arrangements of real blues at the end of the book. If you've done your due diligence and worked through the exercises to the point of proficiency, you will surprise yourself and see that you CAN play this style of music! If you have the burning desire to learn fingerstyle blues guitar, stop searching right now - buy this book and get to work! It will pay off.

I can't speak for how everyone learns. Some do better learning pure theory first (not me), while others learn better from listening and playing (or speaking, when I try to learn a foreign language). Beginning Fingerstyle Blues starts with a light enough history and definition of blues to whet your appetite, and then proceeds to give you a bite-sized bit of theory and background on some technique or style and then a short melody to play. I honestly haven't even completed it yet, but can say I had a modest background in music theory and technique (let's call me a novice guitar player) and I had no trouble working my way through the first half of the book. I'll update my review if my opinion changes as I progress further. Cheers.

This is a real gem of a guitar instruction book - filled with interesting historical detail as well as technical exercises that would be useful for guitarists playing in almost any genre. The complete pieces at the end of the book give a taste of a few different kinds of fingerstyle blues, though they are not as elaborate as the performance pieces that one finds listening to John Hurt etc. Really fun.

Great book. Came as advertised, in beautiful shape. The book itself is great for anyone interested in learning about this style of blues, my personal favorite. From beginners to those familiar with the style, there is plenty here for you. Starts at the very beginning of getting your fingers used to this fingerplaying style and goes into detail of why things are the way they are, such as theory, which I like a lot. By the end of the book, much more complicated songs await. But the book gradually leads you to being able to play these tunes. Also, the CD is there to help you along. You can hear what it should sound like, but also play along. You cannot go wrong with this book.

This is a good primer for teaching the fingerstyle blues. The author covers a lot of ground. There are not many examples of each skill he is trying to teach. You have to stop and digest each segment, master it and then move on. The book/cd is for the late beginner and the intermediate guitarist. At the end the author plays five songs in various blues styles. The only negative about this is the songs are played only at full speed.

I got this book based on recommendations of other purchasers here at . What a great choice! This is a methodical, easy to understand and progressive book. What this means is that you start easy and build your way up, but you get so much as you go. If you are not able to read music, there is tab and good - easy to understand explanations of note values and time signatures and how to apply them to your playing. Each lesson and exercise builds on the one before and inspires confidence. This is well worth your money and time. At the end, you will be prepared to take on some of the Stefan Grossman material and build from there. The only negative that I have to offer is that my accompanying CD was defective - and the company that publishes this book would not make good on replacing it. What this means is that I will think twice before I buy anything from this publisher. However, this book - without the CD - is a treasure and one I will keep and refer back to over the years. Highly recommended.

I read bad reviews about this book, but I don't think it's a bad book for what it's intending to do. I've been playing guitar for a long time but I never really delved into actual fingerpicking, and this book delivered. If you have experience or not this book will teach the fundamentals of fingerpicking and a good base for blues if you don't already have experience playing Blues. Great book, glad I bought it.

I may be in the running for the world's lowest quotient of native guitar playing talent. I took lessons for a couple of years and practiced regularly and was always frustrated. I pretty much gave up for the last 5 years. Then about 6 months ago I bought Beginning Fingerstyle Blues Guitar and am now enjoying the guitar the way I originally thought I would. I still have a screwy connection between my mind and fingers but at least I can finger pick enough blues to have a good time, if not let anybody else listen. The book is nicely paced, well written and the CD, if a bit unevenly produced is a helpful addition. And most of all it has restored my enjoyment of the guitar.

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