

# Concert Bb Blues

(For: Piano, Guitar, Vibes, Flute)

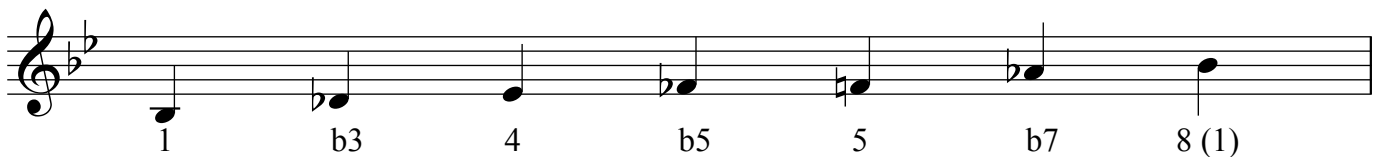
**Scale steps**-Every note of any scale has a number.

The first note of any scale is ALWAYS #1. The others follow in order.



For soloing, the **MOST IMPORTANT** notes of any given scale are 1, 3, 5, and 7.  
The half notes above would build a Bb7 chord.

With a blues song you can also use the notes of a **BLUES SCALE** to solo. You can build a blues scale in ANY key by using steps 1, b3, 4, b5, 5, and b7. Here it is in your key of Bb.



In your key of Bb, the 3rd, 5th, and 7th note (step) is normally natural. In the blues scale, they are lowered 1/2 step. **REMEMBER:** lowering a 1/2 step means flattening a natural note, (ex. D to Db), or making a sharp note natural, (ex. F# to F natural).

The 12-bar blues is a simple song form that follows a set pattern of chords. Below is a simple variation. Once you are comfortable with the blues scale, you can use other notes. The important notes of the scale (1, 3, 5, b7) sound best, but the other scale tones work when used as "passing tones". That means notes that lead into a chord tone.

**Reading chord symbols**-In a Bb7 chord, Bb is the key, with the important notes being Bb, D, F, & Ab. The 7 means the 7th step of that scale, (A in this case), is lowered 1/2 step, (from A natural to A flat).

A musical staff in Bb major showing a 12-bar blues progression. The chords are: 1 Bb7, 2 Eb7, 3 Bb7, 4 Bb7, 5 Eb7, 6 Eb7, 7 Bb7, 8 Bb7, 9 F7, 10 Eb7, 11 Bb7, 12 Bb7.