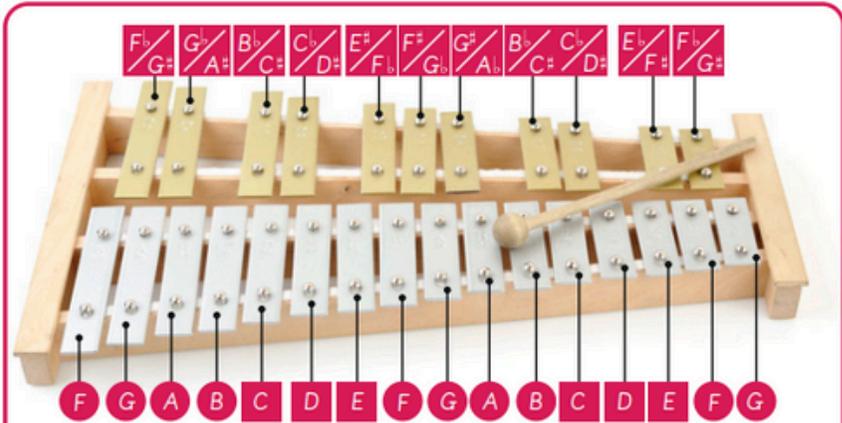




Blues music is often sad and emotional, which is why we say we have 'the blues' when we feel sad. Its main features are the 12-bar blues and the blues scale, and it includes a lot of improvisation.

Instruments



Flat \flat - Is a note that is played 'flat' rather than at a natural pitch.

Sharp \sharp - Is a note that is played 'sharp' rather than at a natural pitch.

Vocabulary

12-bar blues A series of chords played in a specific order.

1	CCCC	2	CCCC	3	CCCC	4	CCCC
5	FFFF	6	FFFF	7	CCCC	8	CCCC
9	GGGG	10	FFFF	11	CCCC	12	CCCC

Chord Two or more notes that are played at the same time and work in harmony.

Scale Any set of musical notes which are in order of their pitch.

Ascending scale A scale in which the pitch of the notes goes up.

Descending scale A scale in which the pitch of the notes goes down.

Blues scale A set of notes used to play a melody over a 12-bar blues.

Improvisation Making up music as it is played or performed.

Bent notes A musical note that varies in pitch usually going up slightly at the end.

Bar A section of music with a specific number of beats (in blues there are usually 4 beats in a bar).

Quaver A note which last for half a beat.

Pitch	How high or low a sound is	Duration	How long each note is played for (long or short)
Dynamics	The volume of the music (loud or quiet)	Timbre	The quality of the sound (e.g. smooth, twinkly, scratchy)
Tempo	The speed of the music (fast or slow)	Structure	How the music is organised into different sections
Texture	How many layers of sound the music has (thick or thin)		