

The GarageBand App for a 12-bar Blues Guitar



1. Open the GarageBand app
2. Press the “+” button on the screen to **Create New Song**
3. Tap “**New Song**”

Instruments screen>Swipe until **Smart Guitar** – Tap screen

~ Guitar selection = top left corner

Choose: Acoustic (other guitars are Classic Clean, Hard Rock, Roots Rock)

Control Bar - Features

The Question Mark (?) – top right of screen – specific functions

Button leading to the full manual – “Learn more about the Smart Guitar” (Tap upper left 3 dots/3 lines)

My Songs - saves the current song (create, save, and share songs)

Instruments button – choosing Touch instruments

Undo

View button – lets you switch between the current Touch Instrument and Tracks View

Controls for playing the song [Go to beginning; Play; Record] Master volume

Volume (dynamics) – tap the View button (little button to the left of the beginning, play, and record buttons)

Not needed for our project:

8th note icon = Jam Session

Loop Browser – available only in Tracks view [not using loops for our Blues]

Mixer button – opens the mixer control [Track volume; Pan; Echo; Reverb]

Song Settings button [the wrench]

Metronome – count in sound - Tempo –

Key settings – Predefined chords are: Em, Am, Dm, G, C, F, Bb, Bdim

Choose and select D and major (more common to guitar blues)– select **Follow Song Key**

Time Signature = 4/4

Edit Chords = Adding D7; can choose *none* to get rid of unwanted chords

Play chords

~ **Chords** Mode - swipe across the strings in one of the chord strips to strum a chord

The Fretboard – Play by either:

- Tapping a chord letter
- Strumming the chord by sliding your finger down all strings
- Tap single strings for picking

Variety - mute the strings (touch and hold the fretboard to the left/right of the chord strips as you play)

~ **Autoplay** – 2 or 3 fingers to tap the chord for variations

Full chord = Tap the top of a chord strip.

Turn the Autoplay knob to one of the 4 numbered positions.

Tap a chord strip. Tapping a different chord strip plays the same pattern with the notes of that chord, but tapping with **two** or **three fingers** plays variations of the pattern.

Tap the chord strip again to stop the pattern playing.

~ **Notes** Mode - Tap the Chords/Notes switch on the right to playing individual notes

Tap the switch icon, then, tap whichever note you want to play

Tap the strings on the fretboard to play notes.

You can also bend strings vertically to bend the pitch of a note up.

To play notes of a particular scale, tap the Scale button, then tap the scale you want to play – **MAJOR BLUES**
Fretboard changes to a major blues scale in the key selected

Recording (next page)

Recording:

1. Practice changing chords for the 12-bar blues pattern and make-up a strum, or, choose a preset from Autoplay.

You need to switch chords at the correct time or else there will be gaps

2. Settings: KEEP the woodblock metronome sound ON

3. Tap the + at the upper right to set up the length for recording the bars

Choice: Set up for **12 bars** . . . OR . . .

Section "A" for **4 bars** (manually select) – "Duplicate" will add **4** bars to Section B, then Section C (set to 4 bars)

4. Record your 12-bar blues pattern ONCE

5. Choose the **View button** (next to guitar) to see the Track recording

Looping the 12 bar blues:

Touch and hold the ruler at the top of the window (below the control bar) and drag down

You can move or trim the selected region (Edit regions]

~ Tap the green rectangular box "Acoustic" twice

~ Select "Loop" from the pop-up menu

6. Optional additional tracks

TRACK 2: Solo improvisation track – blues scale

TRACK 3: Voice

TRACK 4: Add drums, OR, keyboard/organ

For Help:

<http://ipad.appstorm.net/how-to/entertainment/garageband-for-ipad-the-smart-guitar/>

<http://help.apple.com/garageband/ipad/2.0/>

<http://help.apple.com/garageband/ipad/2.0/#chsff8c943>

Use the mixer controls

<http://help.apple.com/garageband/ipad/2.0/#chs175dc411>