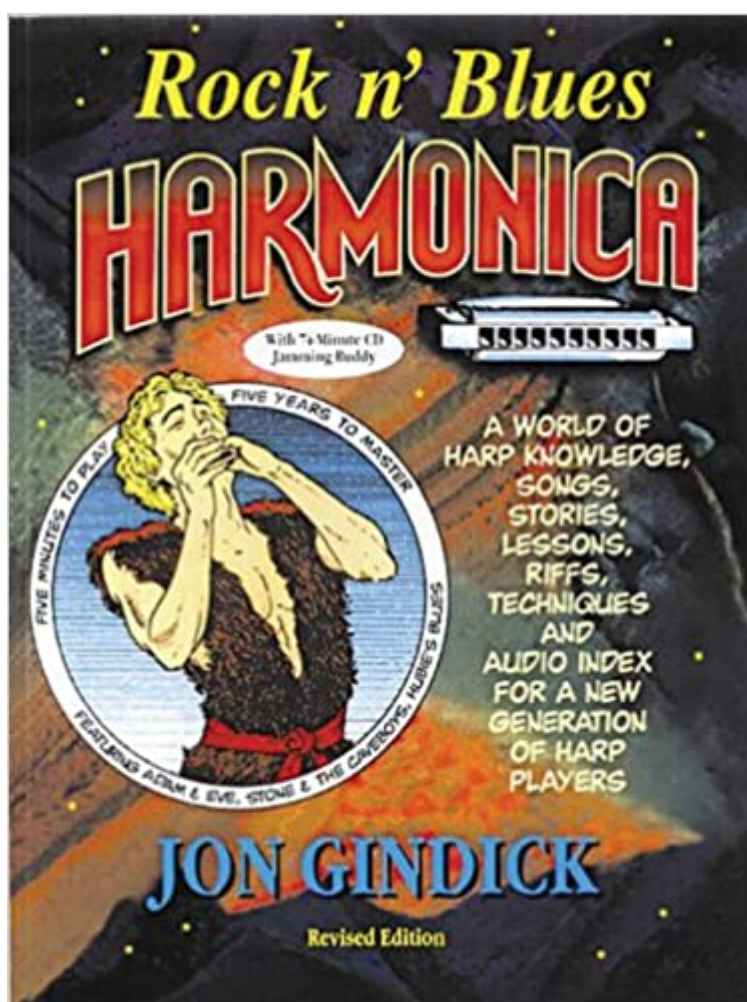


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# Rock N' Blues Harmonica: A World Of Harp Knowledge, Songs, Stories, Lessons, Riffs, Techniques And Audio Index For A New Generation Of Harp Players





## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). NOT AN INSTANT HARMONICA BOOK! Jon Gindick's method is one of the most complete harmonica books ever. Rock n' Blues Harmonica uses fact, fiction, illustration and notation to teach Music Theory 101, chord progressions, puckering, tongueblocking, octaves, tongue-slaps, headshakes, vibrato, bends, overblows, secrets of great tone, and much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jon Gindick is the author of "Country & Blues Harmonica For the Musically Hopeless", "Harmonica Americana", "The Natural Blues & Country Western Harmonica", "Banished Moon", and "Country and Blues Harmonica For the Absolute Beginner" (video). "Jon Gindick is one of the world's foremost teachers of blues harmonica." BB King

Perhaps some value to a total beginner. But even for that, as others have noted, he uses this pseudo caveman narrative which gets in the way of giving the information. Some may like this approach but I prefer a more straightforward method of giving the info. The 'backing tracks' are very poor quality midi generated tracks - much better backing tracks are available free on youtube etc. Gindick has contributed greatly to the harp world in many ways, but not with this particular book, Even if you are brand new to the harp, (a fit in that respect for this book) there have got to be better basic beginners harp books out there.

I like the book just fine and it was money well spent. It's a good introduction to playing blues in second position. All 20 notes are separated into one of three categories: Resolution, Wailing, or Stepping Stone notes. Four notes are Resolution notes and then all of the inhale notes are wailing and the blow notes are stepping stone notes. Pretty simple system requiring almost no music theory. "If you're wailing, you should be inhaling!" Several basic riffs are given with an emphasis on being able to play the same riff many different ways to make it sound distinctly different. An introduction to 12 bar blues chord structure is given and examples of how to play these riffs over those 12 bar progressions are explained. Second position playing of first position songs are explored. Bluesification of common songs makes them sound great. Jon has another whole book tabbing out several popular songs in second position and showing the integration of his blues riffs into those songs. The book then progresses into full up and down scales and on into position playing. I'm at a loss to understand his scales as they don't conform to any I know, major, minor (and flavors), major pentatonic, minor pentatonic, blues, but I'm sure they work just fine when played. I do find it curious the scales are different going up and down. Scales I know are the same both ways except for one of the minor scales. A good book and well worth the money. I wish there were an online forum where the book could be discussed, but the only one I've found has no activity. When I sent a Facebook message to Jon asking about a site, I was told he hopes none exists and his main thrust of teaching was through his \$1000, 5 day jam camps! That seems odd as most teachers I've run into has a presence on Face Book and answer questions there or on a dedicated forum. I need to do a lot of learning before I plunk down well over \$1000 (closer to \$2000 total) for the camp, lodging, travel, and meals.

I've been trying to suffering with harmonica for years, playing harmonica tab with single notes that made it sound like I was blowing through a toy flute. In minutes I was cured. This book and the CD had me taping my toes and and wailing away, breathing with my full body and feeling like I was actually making music. For some reason, when this author lays down the mechanics behind the harp I seem to pick those up too -- I guess he is converting concepts like positions and chord theory into human speak before passing it along. This is the book to get.

Great resource. Some people have complained about the fact that a whimsical rock band from the stone age is featured but I say chill out. What do you want just another dry, bland, boring read? No. I'll take a little humor with my education thanks very much.

I have read and used Dave Barrett's materials and have taken lessons from a teacher in Austin. This book cleared up uncertainties I had, and revealed new insights into music theory that previous instruction had not. Have only read the early parts of the book, but look forward to digging deeper and getting my chops back. Drawings are very helpful.

IMHO This is better than blues harmonica for dummies It gives the complete blues scale with the 6 blow down and the 9 blow up good coverage on the included cd. Has kind of a cheesy story line that the book follows but i think that is kind of cool. I have learned way more from youtube than from this or blues harmonica for dummies. Look up adam gussow or jason ricci follow there instructions and boom you will be playing cool riffs and songs in no time. I wish that I would have ordered adams gussow beginner harmonica course before i got this book then i would have never wasted my money on this book.

Mr Gindick's book is very informative and provides good examples of riffs and how to connect them. The CD is an integral part of this book's learning process. One must listen to the CD tracks to perform the exercises of what the book is trying to teach. By adjusting the balance, the CD can either play only the jamming background or provide only harmonica instruction or both. I found this an excellent way to practice the exercises. What is helpful is how Gindick plays the notes, listen to them, and then you can imitate them. Gindick's instruction on the CD and book was a great help on playing 2 draw. Some of the reviewers disliked the way the book is written in a cave man story format. I was at first put off, as it was kind of silly, but, that is only a minor irritation and soon easily overlooked especially when you understand the reason Mr. Gindick used this format. Otherwise the book and its accompanying CD is an excellent introduction to Blues harmonica playing and improvisation.

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