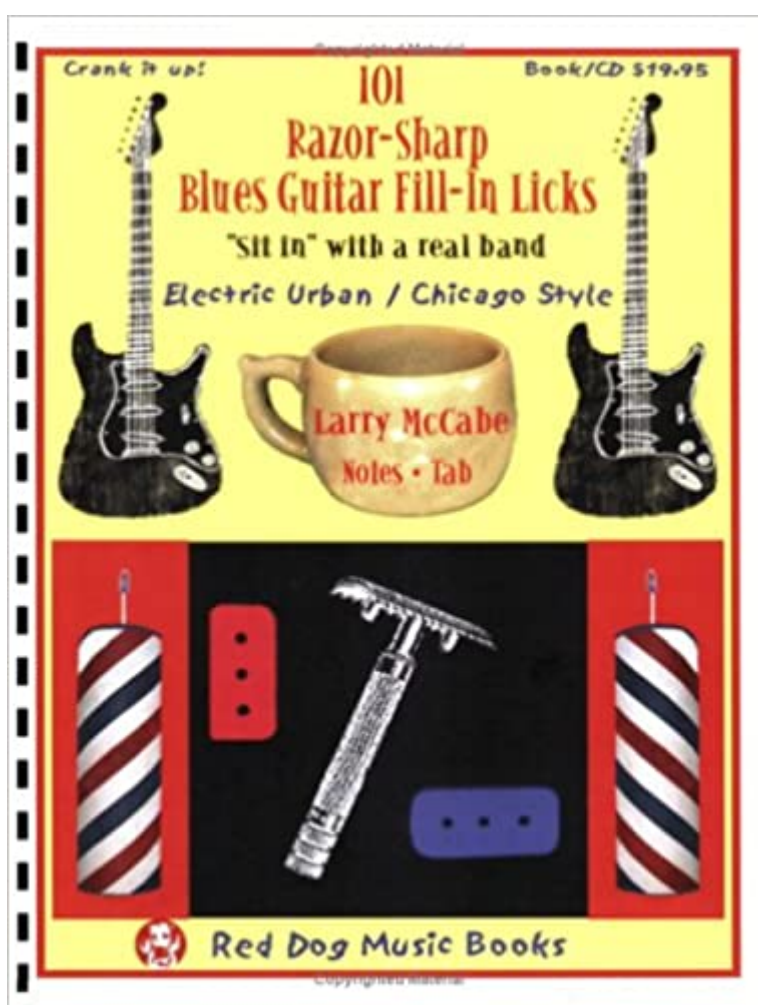


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# 101 Razor-Sharp Blues Guitar Fill-In Licks (Book And CD) (Red Dog Music Books Razor-Sharp Blues Guitar Series)



## Synopsis

Open-flat spiral blues instruction book and CD by Larry McCabe Red Dog Music Books is proud to offer this superb collection of 101 authentic urban blues guitar fill-in licks. Legendary guitarists such as Jimi Hendrix, B.B. King, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Eric Clapton, Mike Bloomfield, Hubert Sumlin, T-Bone Walker, Johnnie Winter, Albert King, Freddie King, and Chuck Berry are known to all blues fans for their remarkable soloing abilities. But the complete blues guitarist must do more than shine in the solo spotlight. And that is why every great soloist is also a great fill-in player. Tasteful fill-in licks support and inspire the singer while adding fire and drive to the performance. For example, Blind Lemon Jefferson played string-snapping fill-ins that provided the perfect complement for his rough-hewn blues songs. Both Louis Armstrong and Lester Young seemed to talk to the singer with their finely-crafted, jazzy fill-ins. And Henry Sunflower Vestine's stinging, buzzsaw fill-ins never failed to drive his Canned Heat bandmates into a psychedelic frenzy. This book is accompanied by a user-friendly split-track CD allows you to sit in with a professional blues band while you learn to play blues fills behind a great singer, Charles Atkins. The Heat-Seeking Missile Blues Band is heard on the left channel; the fill-in licks are isolated on the right channel. This is not just another book of abstract how do I use these licks in real life? licks, but a collection of solid musical ideas that can be applied to thousands of real songs. Another fine contribution from Red Dog Music Books, designed for the early intermediate-or better guitarist. Some of the licks are accessible to highly motivated near-beginners, and the book is an excellent resource for teachers. Contents Introduction How to Use This Book Guide to Symbols Sportin' Life Blues Midnight Special House of the Rising Sun I Can't Get Along With You Peaches and Cream Eight-Hour Shift St. Louis Blues Joe Turner BluesGood Gal GoneA Guide to Blues Styles and Artists Prerequisite Ability Early intermediate User Profiles Serious hobbyist and semiprofessional musicians. Any gigging blues lead guitarist who wants to learn new fill-in licks. Blues guitar teacher looking for innovative and productive lessons material. Goals and Purposes Learn how to play fill-ins behind a singer in a blues band. Learn how to play better lead blues guitar.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Larry has great guitar tone. -Vintage Guitar Magazine --Vintage Guitar Magazine, Dec. 2008

Larry McCabe's credentials include an education degree from the University of Arizona, more than thirty years of music teaching experience, over eighty published music books, columns for Living Blues Magazine and Fingerstyle Guitar Magazine, and authorship of the Roy Clark Fiddle Magic Method and the Roy Clark Bluegrass Banjo Bible. He plays electric and acoustic blues guitar, clawhammer and three-finger banjo, fiddle, and other string instruments. During his career, he has taught blues guitar lessons, banjo lessons, fiddle lessons, song writing, music theory, music history, and other subjects. Larry has played in numerous bands including blues, classic country, rockabilly, traditional Irish, and Cajun, and he served on the prestigious W.C. Handy Blues Awards nominating committee for many years. With his wife, Becky, Larry is the owner and publisher of the popular roots music instruction book company Red Dog Music Books. In the 1990s, he taught History of Jazz Music and History of Popular Music in America courses to adult education students at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. As an amateur WWII historian, Larry collected and edited 160 interviews for his book Pearl Harbor and the American Spirit (2004). Author-Recommended Supplemental Listening for Blues Music and Postwar Blues Guitarists Luther Allison, Chuck Berry, Mike Bloomfield, Lonnie Brooks, Eddie Boyd, Clarence Gatemouth Brown, Ruth Brown, Roy Buchanan, Paul Butterfield Blues Band, Canned heat, Charles Brown, Milton Campbell, Clifton Chenier, Eric Clapton, Albert Collins, James Cotton, Pee Wee Crayton, Bo Diddley (Ella McDaniel), Floyd Dixon, Willie Dixon, Fats Domino, Jesse Fuller, Lowell Fulson, Anson Funderburgh, Buddy Guy, Jimi Hendrix (psychedelic blues), Bull Moose Jackson, Little Walter Jacobs, Elmore James, Etta James, John Hammond, Joe Louis Hill, Earl Hooker, John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf (Chester Burnett), J.B. Hutton, Lonnie Johnson, Louis Jordan, Albert King, B.B. King, Freddy King, Eddie Kirkland, Sam Lay, Lazy Lester, J.B. Lenoir, Little Charlie and the Nightcats, Li'l Ed and the Blues Imperials, Louisiana Red, Robert Jr. Lockwood, Lonnie Mack, magic Same

Maghett, Magic Slim and the Teardrops, Taj Majal, John Mayall, Percy Mayfield, Charlie Musselwhite, Louis Myers, Robert Nighthawk, Little Junior Parker, Carl Perkins (rockabilly), Little Esther Phillips, Jimmy Reed, Duke Robillard, Otis Rush, Son Seals, Johnny Shines, Slim Harpo, Carrie Smith, George Harmonica Smith, Mabel Smith (Big Mabel), Hubert Sumlin, Theodore Hound Dog Taylor, Koko Taylor, Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Irma Thomas (New Orleans R&B), Big Mama Thornton (Willie Mae), Luther Tucker, Big Joe Turner, Eddie Cleanhead Vinson, Aaron T-Bone Walker, Muddy Waters (McKinley Morganfield), Johnny Guitar Watson, Valerie Wellington, Junior Wells, Sonny Boy Williamson (I and II), Johnny Winter, Johnny Young, etc. etc.

When I bought this book, I was looking for some new licks. It is a spiral bound booklet with a CD and contains 9 old time simple bluesy type songs. At first when I looked at the book I thought I was being ripped off with another simple simplified book, but when I worked through some of the licks, I was pleasantly surprised. On the CD, each song is gone through completely and then in sections. Someone sings the words (could be better vocals, but I didn't buy this for the vocals) with accompaniment at a nice pace. In between vocals, the fill in licks are situated. I thought the licks are really good - simple and short, mainly over a lot of dominant 7th chords, and some taken from the Harmonic minor scale which you don't find too often. You can turn down the licks part on the CD if you want to play along with the song. If you are looking for some new licks, this is one book I would recommend.

Did I just have bad luck? I returned my first book because the cd was almost unplayable. Well it turns out the second cd was just as bad. The book itself is a bit hoky, but very useable. So I'm going to keep the book and work through the licks which are the type of Chicago fills that I want to learn. This is a nice place to start after you get your rhythm playing down.

I didn't get my money's worth. There was not one idea that I felt worth learning. If you're looking for some real tasty minor blues fills like B.B. King would play, don't waste your time with this one.

These are excellent people with fine products. Packages are all worth much more than asking price. Becky went way over board to be sure I was happy with purchases.

I've tried a few books by McCabe before with better than average success. This seems to be a self published book by him. I like the spiral binding. For some reason the song titles are bilingual. The

lyrics are not though. Some of the licks are good, some are weak, but most are "ok". Just runs along the blues scale really. The problem with that is if you're going to copy uninspired licks then you'll sound average or worse too. So based on that fact I would advise against buying this publication since it can be bad for your playing. The only plus is that it gives someone ideas of where to place the licks if they were kind of lost doing that. An easy judge of one of these publications is if you can pop the CD in your car or home stereo and just listen to tracks. Does the CD make you excited that you'll soon be playing this? This CD failed that test. For this review I felt I really needed to listen to all of the tracks in case I missed something. Nope, they're all bad. The band is tired and the singer is dreadful. I live in Chicago and there are wonderful blues singers everywhere. You can't even cut the vocals out of the mix. I guess he could be someone's cup of tea but he wasn't mine. The band being reserved is inexcusable for the billing of "Electric Urban / Chicago Style". I'm disappointed in the book and cannot recommend it. Several of the 5 star reviews on here only give reviews to this product so they are suspect as well.

I have been playing and teaching guitar for many years and enjoy a lot of different blues styles, including postwar urban blues. This book teaches authentic blues fill-in licks to entire songs. This is a great way to begin learning how to play fill-in licks. And in addition it's a great way to learn to play and "feel" blues phrases. The examples are played at a reasonable learning speed and the guitar licks are isolated for the benefit of the learner. Each lick is played to a real song played by a real band, complete with singer. The style is urban blues - what Buddy Guy, Junior Wells, Muddy Waters, etc. play. I recommend using this book after you understand and can play blues rhythm progressions. Use this with Larry McCabe's other Razor-Sharp Blues books and you will have a solid grasp of the building blocks that blues guitar playing is made of.

The author, Larry McCabe, is a well-known and respected author of many instruction books and he has a strong background in the blues. I recall that in the 1990s Larry authored a popular blues guitar column for Living Blues Magazine. Against the backdrop of a live band complete with singer Charles Atkins, each fill-in lick is played exactly as you would play it on stage or in a jam session. The licks are tasteful and performed in the authentic Chicago style - the licks are the real thing, played by a guitarist who knows how to play the blues and write blues instruction. I would recommend this book to an early intermediate guitarist whose ambition is to play in the urban blues style. The incredible thing about this set is that the user is actually sitting in with a live blues band that includes a singer. In the rush to play solos, fill-in are sometimes overlooked. This book is unique and unlike any

other book on electric blues guitar. And in fact, Red Dog Music Books entire series of 101 Razor-Sharp Blues Books are enthusiastically recommended to all electric guitar teachers who have students who want to learn to play the blues.

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