

BASS TIPS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY [BASSBOOKS.COM](http://bassbooks.com)
& [JAIMEDAVIDVAZQUEZ.COM](http://jaimedavidvazquez.com).

THE BLUES COMPOSITE SCALE

If you are a jazz or a blues bass player you must know the blues composite scale. The possibilities of the scale are amazing, it doesn't matter if you're grooving or soloing. The scale sounds great and it will give you a lot of colors and flavor to your bass licks, fills, grooves, etc. Get your bass and check it out!

- Formula: (1-2-b3-3-4-b5-5-6-b7)

C Blues Composite Scale: C-D-Eb-E-F-Gb-G-A-Bb-C

- The scale is a mix of the Mixolydian Mode (1-2-3-4-5-6-b7) and the Blues Scale (1-b3-4-b5-5-b7)

C Mixolydian Mode: C-D-E-F-G-A-Bb-C

C Blues Scale: C-Eb-F-Gb-G-Bb-C

- This composite scale combines major/minor pentatonic sounds.

- It adds chromaticism to your bass lines and bass solos.

Fig. 1 - This is an example of a groove using the blues composite scale over a C7 chord.

C Blues Composite Scale (C-D-Eb-E-F-Gb-G-A-Bb-C)

The musical notation for Figure 1 consists of a bass staff and a fretboard diagram. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 135$ with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The bass staff shows a groove over a C7 chord, starting with a quarter note C2, followed by eighth notes Eb2, E2, F2, Gb2, G2, A2, Bb2, and C3. The fretboard diagram below shows the fingerings for these notes: 5, 3, 2, 5, 4, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 1, 3, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Fig. 2 - This is an excerpt of a bass solo using the blues composite scale over a G7 chord.

G Blues Composite Scale (G-A-Bb-B-C-Db-D-E-F-G)

The musical notation for Figure 2 consists of a bass staff and a fretboard diagram. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 180$ with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The bass staff shows an excerpt of a bass solo over a G7 chord, starting with quarter notes G2, A2, Bb2, B2, C3, Db3, D3, E3, F3, and G3. The fretboard diagram below shows the fingerings for these notes: 9, 10, 11, 12, 12, 10, 9, 10, 12, 14, 12, 14, 12.