



Basic Twelve Bar Blues

The Twelve Bar blues are a prominent chord progression sequence, that can be found in most modern songs.

The basic chords used in this chord progression are I (first chord), IV (fourth chord) and V (fifth chord).

For example in the key of C, the chords will be: C (I), F (IV) and G (V).

I	ii	iii	IV	V	VI	VII
C	Dm	Em	F	G	Am	B

The term Twelve Bar Blues comes from the chord progression being twelve bars long and then repeating (as shown below)

I	I	I	I
IV	IV	I	I
V	V	I	I

So in the Key of C, the progression would be:

C	C	C	C
F	F	C	C
G	G	C	C

In the key of G, the chords would then be G (first chord I), C (fourth chord IV) and D (fifth chord V). This would then translate to the following chord progression:

G	G	G	G
C	C	G	G
D	D	G	G

Have a go and see how many other keys you can work out.