

CONTENTS

Introduction	4
BASIC BASS	
Types of Basses	6
Parts of the Bass	8
Amplifiers.....	9
How to Tune Up	10
Changing Strings	11
Note Names on the Fingerboard	12
Music Notation.....	13
Rhythm Notation and Time Signatures	14
Picking and Right Hand Technique	15
Fretting Techniques.....	16
Common Bass Lines	18
Playing with a Drummer	24
Playin' the Blues	30
Slap/Pop Technique	36

BLUES BASS

Basic Theory and Definitions.....	43
Equipment.....	45
The 12-Bar Blues Progression.....	46
Shuffle Blues Bass Lines.....	47
Two Beat Blues Feel.....	59
The Slow Blues.....	61
Minor Blues.....	65
Alternative Styles.....	71
Play Along.....	78

ROCK BASS

Right Hand Technique.....	84
Rock Ballad Feels.....	85
Quarter Note Rock Feels.....	91
Eighth Note Rock Feels.....	99
Sixteenth Note Rock Feels.....	105
Rock Shuffle and Boogie Feels.....	109
Tapping, Harmonics and Double-stops.....	121

Example 25: Muted Notes

Practice Example 25 and then play Example 26 with the band. Try this example as an alternative to Example 24. Instead of playing the second eighth note (the pickup to the downbeat) as a real note, fake or "mute" it. Do this by not actually fretting the note, instead lightly touching the string with your left hand. You can achieve this effect anywhere on the neck. Use it as an accent or "pickup" to propel the music along. In addition to adding to the feel of a tune, it facilitates your position shifts because you are not committed to playing the "actual" note before you make your hand shift.

*Muted note.

Example 26

1. G7

2. G7

4 2

4 2

10

10