

## **“Starter” Bluegrass Guitar Tunes**

*Bluegrass Guitar Lessons by Cindy Gray*

*Bluegrass Guitar players have two main skills to master – Rhythm techniques and Soloing techniques. The best way to learn both techniques is to learn Bluegrass tunes and songs. “Tunes” are played without any singing, and “Songs” are (obviously) sung, with instrumental solos taken between verses. Rhythm playing involves learning things like strumming patterns, bass runs and fill licks. Playing solos (called “breaks”) involves playing fast with a flatpick, using techniques like slides, hammers, pull-offs, riffs, triplets, melodies, harmonies, crosspicking and much more. Each of the following tunes are great “starter” tunes, as each tune includes both rhythm and solo techniques. As you master the tunes, you master the techniques! It’s best to start off with tunes/songs that are familiar to you (i.e. you can hear in your head). If you don’t know how a tune/song is supposed to sound, it’s hard to know when you’re playing it right!*

*Below is a list of a few of the HUNDREDS of tunes I teach. Every title has tablature and recordings, and I send you a link to a Dropbox that all your materials will be stored in.*

	Title	Super Easy (SE) or Easy (E)	Instrumental - I or Singing Song Solo (S)
	8 <sup>th</sup> of January	E	I
	Angeline the Baker	SE	I
	Arkansas Traveler	E	I
	Ashes of Love	SE	I
	Banks of the Ohio	SE	S
	Bile Them Cabbage	SE	S
	Blue Moon of Kentucky	SE	S
	Blue Ridge Cabin Home	E	S
	Cold Frosty Morning	E	I
	Cripple Creek	SE	I
	Dark Hollow	E	S
	Deep Elum Blues	SE	S
	Down Yonder	E	I
	Golden Slippers	E	I
	I’ll Fly Away	SE	S
	In the Gravel Yard	E	S
	Lonesome Road Blues	SE	S
	My Home’s Across the Blue Ridge Mountains	E	S
	Nine Pound Hammer	E	S
	Old Joe Clark	SE	I
	Red Haired Boy	E	I
	Red Wing	E	I
	Soldier’s Joy	E	I
	Tennessee Waltz	E	I
	This Land is Your Land	E	S
	Tom Dula	SE	S