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# Tongue Blocking Study 2

BluesHarmonica.com Support Material
Written by David Barrett

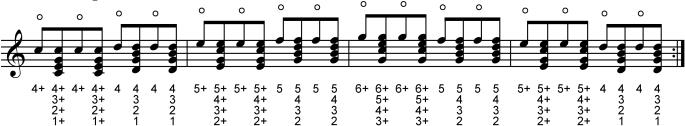
## Section 1 - Technique

#### Ex. 1.1 - Tongue Slap



<u>Properties</u>: Precede a note slightly ahead of the beat with a chord (tongue off the harmonica), smoothly leading to a single note on the downbeat (tongue on the harmonica). Chord and single note should not sound separated, but one leading to the other dynamically. "Hall" is a good representation of this technique. "Ha" represents the tongue off of the harmonica, preceding the single note with a chord, with the "II" representing the tongue on the harmonica to produce the single note. Each slap will commonly have its own breath (not one continuous breath in most cases). The slap is notated with an open circle (o) above the note head of the note to be slapped. In your more advanced studies the slap notation will disappear—at that higher level it is assumed that you know that the slap is the default way blues harmonica players present a note.

#### Ex. 1.2 – Tongue Lift

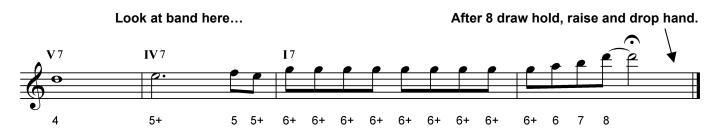


<u>Properties</u>: Lift your tongue off of the face of the harmonica without any separation (no articulation). Slaps (downbeats in this case) and lifts (always on the upbeat) should each have their own breath.

## **Section 2 – "Temperature" Song Example**

### **Section 3 – Performance (Playing with a Band)**

#### Ex. 3.1 – Ending the Song



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## **Section 4 – Improvising (Applying the Chorus Forms)**

Look at the beginning of each chorus for analysis of what Chorus Forms (repetitive phrasing) is used in this song.



Ex. 4.1 – Lick #1 (Measures 1 & 2 of the 5th Chorus)



Ex. 4.2 – Lick #2 (V-IV-I Lick -Measures 9 through 12 of the 2nd Chorus)



Ex. 4.3 – Lick #3 (IV Chord Lick - Measures 5 & 6 of the 3rd Chorus)



#### 12 Bar Blues Form Reference

