

TYPICAL 12-BAR BLUES WALKING BASS in A

A D

	²		⁰		
	2 4	4 2	2 4	4 2	2 4 5 4 2
0 4		4	0 4	4	

A E turnaround -----

	²	^{1 4 1}			
	2 4	4 2	2 0		
0 4		4	4 2	0	
				3 2 1	0 1 2 4

TYPICAL 12-BAR BLUES WALKING BASS in E

E A

	²		⁰		⁰
	2 4	4 2	2 4	4 2	2 4
0 4		4	0 4	4	4

E B turnaround -----

	²	^{1 4 1}		⁰	
	2 4	4 2	2 0	4 3	2 0
0 4		4	4 2	0	4 2

In the WALKING BASS style you typically play one bass note per beat. The bassline 'walks' up and down arpeggios of the operative chord or simple extensions of that chord, e.g. 6th / 7th. Above are two typical walking basslines for the good old 12-bar blues in two popular guitar-friendly keys.

