

# Blue Ridge Mountain Blues

Capo 4

Arranged by Doc Watson  
Transcribed by Steve Carr

Musical notation for measures 1-6. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C, G7. Fingerings: H.O., P.O., H.O.

Measure 1: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 2: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 3: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 4: G7 chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 5: G7 chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 6: G7 chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5.

Musical notation for measures 7-11. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chord: C. Fingerings: P.O., H.O., H.O., H.O., P.O.

Measure 7: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 8: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 9: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 10: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 11: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5.

Musical notation for measures 12-15. Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: G7, C. Fingerings: P.O., H.O.

Measure 12: G7 chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 13: G7 chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 14: G7 chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5. Measure 15: C chord, notes G4, A4, B4, C5.



## How Doc Played this Song

Doc usually performed this song using the following pattern: an instrumental lead break of the verse followed by singing each verse and then the chorus. The tab we've published is a Carter style arrangement of the both the verse and chorus.

When he first started performing, Doc used a harmonica to play the lead breaks and sang the song in the key of G. This is how it was recorded for the albums *Jean Ritchie & Doc Watson At Folk City* and *The Essential Doc Watson*.

In later albums, Doc used the guitar to play the lead breaks and sang it in the key of E. These include *Sittin' Here Pickin' the Blues*, *Watson Country* and *Pickin the Blues*. He played it using C chords with the capo guitar capoed on the fourth fret. The tab here the same as the first lead break that Doc played to kick off the song.

## Lyrics

### *Verse 1*

When I was young and in my prime, I left my home in Caroline.  
And now all I do is sit and pine for all the folks I left behind.

### *Chorus*

I've got them Blue Ridge Mountain blues, and I'll stand right here and say:  
"My grip is packed to travel, soon be scratchin' gravel for that Blue Ridge far away."

### *Verse 2*

I can see two heads of snowy white, and in their window there's a light.  
It seems I can hear them both recite: "Oh where is our wandrin' boy tonight?"

### **Chorus**

### *Verse 3*

I'm a gonna do right by my walk, and I'm gonna do right by my talk.  
I want to hang around that cabin door, with no work or worries anymore.

### **Chorus**