Blue Ridge Mountain Blues

Capo 4

Arranged by Doc Watson
Transcribed by Steve Carr

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Blue Ridge Mountain Blues

Chorus

18

\( \text{G7} \)

24

\( \text{C} \)

29

\( \text{G7} \)

\( \text{C} \)
How Doc Played this Song
Doc usually performed this song using the following pattern: an instumental 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*