Major Diatonic

THE TRADITIONAL BLUES TUNING. The Major-tuned harp, produced by several manufacturers and known by various names, is the most commonly played harmonica. This tuning has been used for generations to play BLUES, ROCK, COUNTRY & FOLK. Players must learn how to bend in the Cross Harp position in order to obtain several notes that are "missing" on a Major harp. Bending creates an expressive, bluesy sound and is achieved by using varying amounts of air pressure, adjustment of the mouth/throat cavity and tongue positioning. CAUTION: Do not try to bend all reeds to the same degree! Some reeds do not bend at all! Study the bending patterns, which differ for each tuning.

ORANGE LABEL 14 Keys: Ab, A, Bb, B, C.

Major Diatonic
Example: Key of C
Labeled in the Straight Harp Key.

DO NOT TRY TO BEND ALL REEDS!

Melody Maker™ (Labeled in the Cross Harp Key)

Lee's favorite new introduction! This tuning is absolutely the best harp available for single-note MELODY PLAYING in the Cross Harp position. Five notes have been altered from standard Major diatonic. This makes it easier to play many COUNTRY, R&B, REGGAE, STANDARD & JAZZ songs that are difficult to play, in Cross Harp, on a standard Major harp. You can still bend notes for that expressive feeling, and yet the Melody Maker™ provides a COMPLETE MAJOR SCALE (in Cross Harp) for playing exact melody without bending! For great results, from pros to beginners and children.

BLUE LABEL 5 Keys: A, C, D, E, G. Not recommended for Chicago Style Blues.

Melody Maker™
Example: Key of G
Designed to play in Cross Harp, beginning on #2 Draw.

Natural Minor (Labeled in the Cross Harp Key)

TALK ABOUT THE BLUES! Lee Oskar was the first to introduce this incredible harmonica. Natural Minors are the "missing link" that enable you to really "play" on those soulful or funky MINOR BLUES tunes. Five notes have been altered from standard Major tuning. This allows you to PLAY MINOR CHORDS EASILY without straining the lips, the lungs or the mind! Great for minor BLUES, ROCK, COUNTRY, R & B, POP, REGGAE & JAZZ. The Natural Minor also provides a COMPLETE MAJOR SCALE in 3rd position, beginning with #3 Draw. This versatile tuning is an absolute thrill to play!

GREEN LABEL 12 Keys: Abm, Am, Bbm, Bm, Cm, C#m, Dm, Ebm, Em, Fm, F#m, Gm.

Natural Minor
Example: Key of Gm
Designed to play in Cross Harp, beginning on #2 Draw.

Harmonic Minor

Harmonic Minor was used for one entire side of Lee's highly-acclaimed first solo album titled, "LEE OSKAR". This versatile, multi-cultural tuning has a very SOULFUL EASTERN EUROPEAN SOUND. Five notes have been altered from standard Major tuning. This makes it easy to play TRADITIONAL ETHNIC MUSIC (International Blues?) that is important to the heritage of many cultures. Great for playing minor YIDDISH, GYPSY, FRENCH, ITALIAN, GREEK, ASIAN, EUROPEAN FOLK, AMERICAN FOLK & MIDDLE EASTERN music. The Harmonic Minor tuning plays fluently in many languages!

YELLOW LABEL 12 Keys: Abm, Am, Bbm, Bm, Cm, C#m, Dm, Ebm, Em, Fm, F#m, Gm.

Harmonic Minor
Example: Key of Cm
Labeled in the Straight Harp Key.

This Key of Harp

Abm Abm Bbm Bm
Am Am C G
Bbm Bbm C# Ab Ebm
Bm Bm D A Em
Cm Cm Eb Bb Fm
C#m C#m E B F#m
Dm Dm F C Gm
Ebm Ebm F# Db Abm
Em Em G D Am
Fm Fm Ab Eb Bbm
F#m F#m A E Bm
Gm Gm Bb Cm

This Key of Harp

Abm Am Bbm Bm
Am Am C G
Bbm Bbm C# Ab Ebm
Bm Bm D A Em
Cm Cm Eb Bb Fm
C#m C#m E B F#m
Dm Dm F C Gm
Ebm Ebm F# Db Abm
Em Em G D Am
Fm Fm Ab Eb Bbm
F#m F#m A E Bm
Gm Gm Bb Cm

Normally played in 1st position.

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