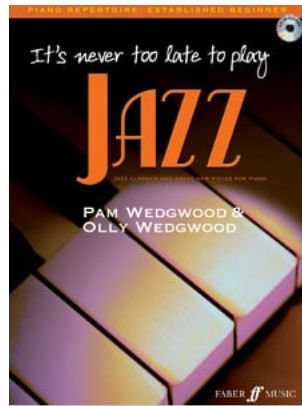


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## *Deep River Blues*

Olly Wedgwood

♪ Nivel 35/100 (Principiante)

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# Introducing the blues and walking bass

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## Pam's noticeboard

The **blues** evolved from the work songs, spirituals, chants and shouts of the African American slaves in the late 1800s/early 1900s. In a blues song, they would use '**blue notes**' (or 'bent notes' on a guitar) which are the **flattened third, fifth and seventh notes** of a scale. In C major, the blue notes are Eb, Gb and Bb. The blues works on a twelve-bar chord pattern: in the key of C major, the twelve-bar chord pattern would be: C<sup>7</sup> | F<sup>7</sup> | C<sup>7</sup> | C<sup>7</sup> | F<sup>7</sup> | F<sup>7</sup> | C<sup>7</sup> | C<sup>7</sup> | G<sup>7</sup> | F<sup>7</sup> | C<sup>7</sup> | G<sup>7</sup>

## Deep river blues

Try playing this piece with and without the backing track. Which sound do you prefer? The bass player is filling in the **tonic** (first note) of the chord at the start of each bar, while the left hand plays the third and seventh, making a full and jazzy sound. The chord in each bar is named so you can work out which note is the third and seventh – are any flattened?

Medium swing ♩ = 96

Olly Wedgwood

mp

b7th  
3rd

1  
4

2  
5

1  
4

2  
4

3

mf

mp

1. 2.