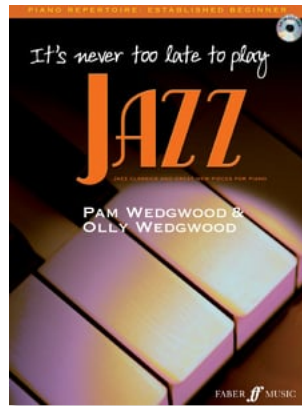


Ø K T A V



Deep River Blues

Olly Wedgwood

♪ Niveau 35/100 (Débutant)

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Introducing the blues and walking bass

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: C⁷ | F⁷ | C⁷ | C⁷ | F⁷ | F⁷ | C⁷ | C⁷ | G⁷ | F⁷ | C⁷ | G⁷

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

The musical score for 'Deep river blues' is presented in four systems. The first system (bars 1-3) begins with a **C⁷** chord in the bass, with the 3rd and 7th notes (Eb and Bb) explicitly labeled. The melody in the treble starts with a quarter rest followed by a quarter note G4. The second system (bars 4-6) features **F⁷** chords in the bass. The third system (bars 7-9) includes **C⁷**, **A⁷**, and **D⁷** chords. The fourth system (bars 10-12) features **G⁷** and **C⁷** chords, with first and second endings. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. A large watermark 'O' is overlaid on the score.