

Milwaukee Blues

source: Charlie Poole

Key of C
Tab by Jack Beuthin

Banjo break

Three-finger picking

First system of the Banjo break. It features a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes a D chord (D4, G4, B4, D5) and a G chord (G2, C3, E3, G3). The melody consists of eighth notes with fingerings 1, 2, 2, 0, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. A 'Po' (pull-off) is indicated over the first 2-0 pair. The lyrics 'T I M T M I T I T I T M I T M T M I T M' are written below the staff.

Second system of the Banjo break. It continues the melody with fingerings 2, 1, 0, 2, 0, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 0, 0, 0, 4, 2, 0, 1, 2, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0, 0, 5, 2, 0. 'Po' markings are present over the 2-0 pairs at measures 1, 4, 5, and 8. The lyrics 'M T M I T I T I T M T I T I T T T T T M T I T I' are written below the staff.

Third system of the Banjo break. It continues the melody with fingerings 7, 5, 6, 0, 7, 6, 5, 0, 0, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 2, 1, 2, 0, 0. The lyrics 'T M T M T M M I T M T M T I T M T M T M T' are written below the staff.

Bridge to verse

Up-picking

Bridge to verse musical notation. It starts with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature, then changes to 4/4. The melody includes fingerings 5, 5, 5, 10, 10, 5, 5, 5, 0, 2, 1, 2, 0, 1, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0. 'Po' markings are present over the 2-0 pairs at measures 4 and 6. The lyrics 'T I M T M I T I T T T I M T I M I M T' are written below the staff.

Verse

First system of the Verse. It features a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth notes with fingerings 1, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0, 1, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 1, 1, 2, 0, 2, 0. 'Po' markings are present over the 2-0 pairs at measures 1, 3, 5, and 7. The lyrics 'I T I M T I M T I M T I M T I M T I M T I M T' are written below the staff.

Second system of the Verse. It continues the melody with fingerings 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 2, 0, 2, 1, 1, 3, 1, 1, 3, 1, 2, 0, 0. A 'Po' marking is present over the 2-0 pair at measure 1. The lyrics 'I M T I M T I M T I M T I M T I M T I M T' are written below the staff.

Bridge to banjo break
Three-finger picking

Up-picking

The banjo break is played with three fingers. There are a couple of brushes in this part that I execute by down-stroking with my middle finger. The bridge into the verse changes over to up-picking in which I use my middle finger for the brushes. The bridge back to the banjo break starts with three-finger style but ends with up-picking. Also, the two bridges can be swapped around, as I do in my YouTube video (<https://youtu.be/aALDsmkkanzU>). You may find that different fingering approaches work better for you.

In my video, I use the standard C tuning but am tuned down a half step.

