

## 3 Steps for Learning the Blues Scale

1. Play the blues scale (Start with G for alto and C for tenor)
  - a. Go up and down the scale
  - b. Don't add rhythm yet
  - c. Repeat multiple times until comfortable
2. Add rhythm to the blues scale
3. Tell a story
  - a. Just like a good story, an improvised solo will grow and develop, reach a high point in tension, and then resolve.
  - b. Here are some ideas to accomplish the points in 3a (This is just one approach. I used this in the video)
    - i. Where to begin
      1. Start off softly
      2. Start with the low notes on the saxophone
      3. Use simple rhythms
    - ii. Begin to grow (development stage)
      1. Become louder
      2. Begin to play higher notes
      3. Develop into more complex rhythms
    - iii. Climax
      1. Play loud (but with a good tone)
      2. Play mostly higher notes

3. Use more notes (don't go crazy 😊)

iv. Resolution

1. Begin to work your way down with your volume (dynamics) and continue until you reach your starting point

2. Play middle range and lower notes

3. Use simple rhythms again

c. Most of the solo should be in the development stage (3-ii), spend a little time at the climax, and a short amount of time in the resolution

d. Listen to (and copy) your favorite musical styles to get ideas