

**Chord** – two or more notes played at the same time

**Blues Scale** – a scale used for improvising

**12-bar blues chords in C**

**C chord**  
C, E, G

C D E F G A B C

**F chord**  
F, A, C,

C D E F G A B C

**G chord**  
G, B, D

A B C D E F G A

C Eb F G Ab Bb C

3

Swing rhythm

**Improvising** – making up music on the spot

C Eb F G Ab Bb C

Blues Lyrics follow AAB structure

**A** Mmmm, standin' at the crossroad, I tried to flag a ride  
**A** Standin' at the crossroad, I tried to flag a ride  
**B** Didn't nobody seem to know me, everybody pass me by

**Walking Bass Line** – uses the most important notes from the chords

C F G

C ///	C ///	C ///	C ///
F ///	F ///	C ///	C ///
G ///	F ///	C ///	C ///

**12-Bar Blues Progression**

<b>I</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///
<b>IV</b> ///	<b>IV</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///
<b>V</b> ///	<b>IV</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///	<b>I</b> ///

**Tonic** – 1<sup>st</sup> **I** (C chord)  
**Subdominant** – 4<sup>th</sup> **IV** (F chord)  
**Dominant** – 5<sup>th</sup> **V** (G chord)

