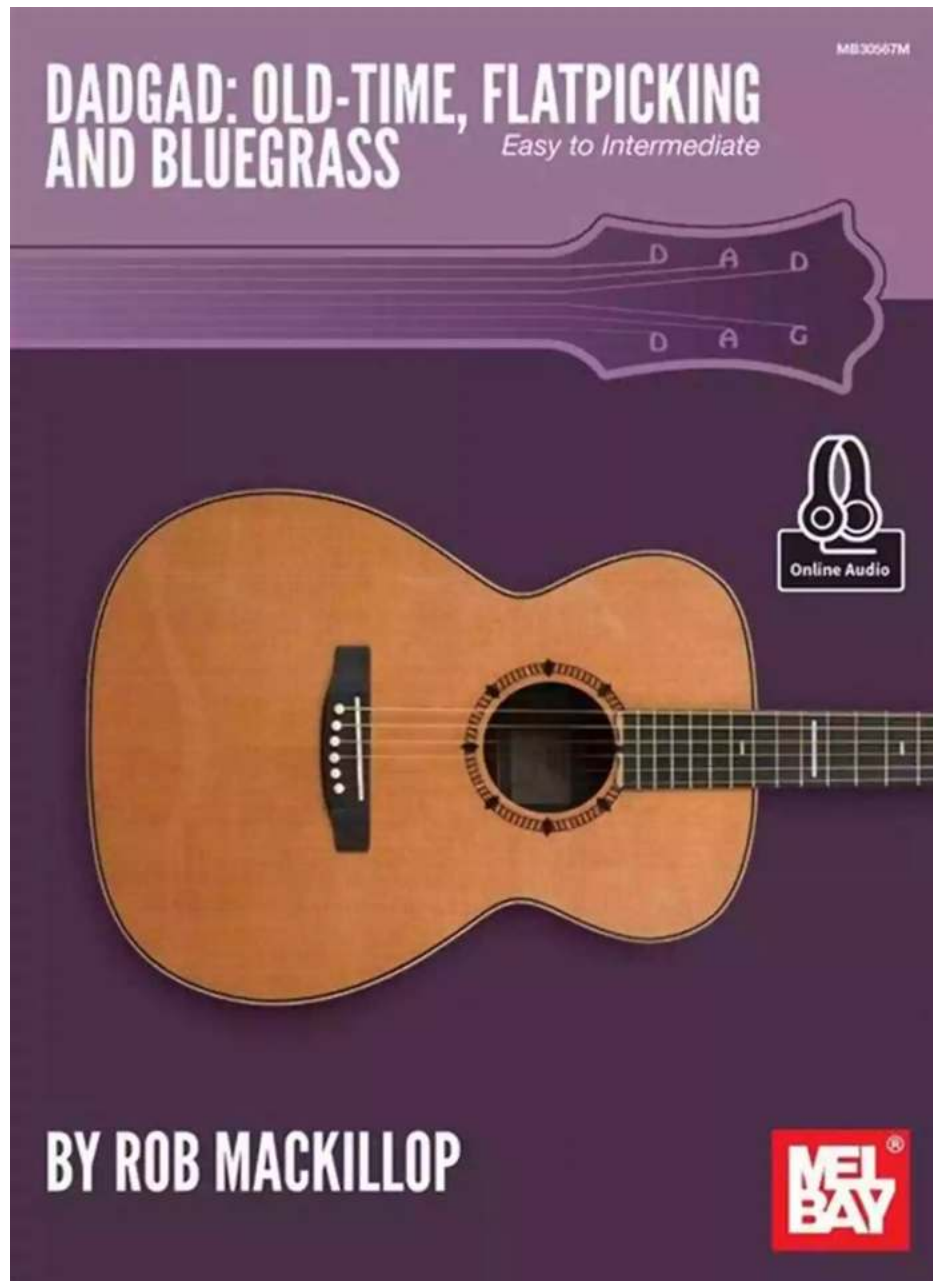


# Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking And Bluegrass: A Melodic Journey Through Stringed Music

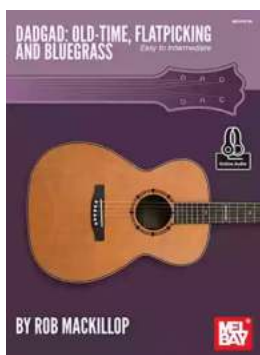


There's something magical about the sound of a guitar being effortlessly plucked and strummed in the Dadgad tuning. This alternate tuning technique is a gateway to a timeless genre of music that encompasses Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass. In this article, we will take you on a melodic journey through the

origins, techniques, and influential players of Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass.

## The Beauties of Dadgad Tuning

The Dadgad tuning, also known as Celtic tuning, is an alternate tuning used by many acoustic guitarists, particularly in the genres of Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass. The name Dadgad refers to the notes of the open strings: D-A-D-G-A-D. This unique tuning opens up a world of new possibilities, harmonies, and melodic patterns.



### DADGAD: Old-Time, Flatpicking and Bluegrass

by Dave Rubin (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 8165 KB  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Print length : 45 pages  
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



One of the remarkable qualities of Dadgad tuning is its drone-like effect. When playing in this tuning, the guitar produces a resonant and haunting sound due to the repeating D strings. This adds depth and richness to the music, making it perfect for creating soul-stirring melodies.

## Origins and Influences

The origins of Dadgad tuning can be traced back to traditional Irish music. It gained popularity among Celtic guitarists in the 1960s and has since been embraced by many musicians around the world. The flexibility of Dadgad allows

guitarists to explore various musical styles, making it a perfect fit for Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass.

Some influential players who have contributed to the development and popularity of Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass include Tony Rice, Clarence White, and Norman Blake. These virtuosos have showcased the immense potential of playing in Dadgad, inspiring generations of guitarists to explore this captivating tuning.

## **Techniques in Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass**

Playing in Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass involves a unique set of techniques that enhance the overall musical experience. In this section, we will explore some of these techniques:

### **Alternate Bass**

The alternate bass technique involves alternating the bass note with the melody, creating a rhythmic and melodic interplay. This technique adds complexity and dynamics to the music, exemplifying the rhythmic essence of Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass.

### **Crosspicking**

Crosspicking is a technique where guitarists use a flatpick to play multiple strings at once, creating a shimmering and cascading effect. This technique is widely used in Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass to add depth and texture to the music.

### **Double Stops**

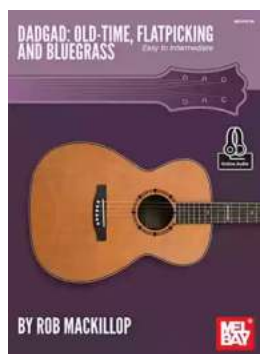
Double stops involve playing two strings simultaneously, creating harmony and richness in the music. Dadgad tuning provides unique possibilities for exploring

double stops, allowing guitarists to create captivating melodies and chord progressions.

## The Magic of Bluegrass

Bluegrass music, with its fast-paced picking and soulful harmonies, is a genre deeply rooted in American traditions. Dadgad tuning brings a new flavor to the Bluegrass scene, allowing guitarists to infuse their playing with fresh ideas and melodic variations. The combination of Dadgad and Bluegrass creates a mesmerizing fusion that delights both musicians and listeners alike.

Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass are genres that thrive on the beauty of alternate tunings and intricate techniques. Through the adoption of the Dadgad tuning, guitarists have unlocked a treasure trove of melodic possibilities. Whether you're an aspiring guitarist or a music enthusiast, exploring the vibrant world of Dadgad Old Time Flatpicking and Bluegrass will undoubtedly enrich your musical journey.



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Make your old-time and bluegrass music sing through the warm open-string sound of DADGAD tuning! This book includes twenty classic old-time and

bluegrass tunes, arranged and recorded by Rob MacKillop. The material is ideal for players of easy to intermediate levels and is designed for flatpicking, but can also be played fingerstyle. Repertoire includes Angeline the Baker, Blackberry Blossom, Fire on the Mountain, Old Joe Clark, Whiskey Before Breakfast, Wildwood Flower and much more. Additional content includes DADGAD chord diagrams, instructions and a technique primer. Includes access to online audio.



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