

Blue Tango

Transposed from Eb major to D major (as is commonly done)

Leroy Anderson

*arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion ensemble with drums
(1, 2, 3, 4, bass, drums, glockenspiel)*

Leroy Anderson was an American composer, mostly known for short concert pieces, and for light music. Famous compositions include “Sleigh Ride” and “the Syncopated Clock”, but “Blue Tango” (written in 1951 and recorded by Anderson’s orchestra) was the first instrumental recording ever to sell one million copies. (The B-side contained “Belle of the Ball”.)

While Blue Tango is originally a purely instrumental piece, different artists have added their own lyrics to it (including first Mitchell parish and much later Amanda Lear).

The arrangement can be played by an accordion quintet, but there is also a drum part (with bells/glockenspiel at the very end), and especially the third voice can benefit from some diviso if more players are available.

Professor P made a recording available on YouTube (with the drums part played by Musescore).

This arrangement is provided under the Creative Commons Attribution license, but the composition itself is still under copyright until January 1, 2026 in some countries (like Canada) and 2046 in other countries (like EU countries).

Blue Tango

(transposed from Eb major to D major)

Leroy Anderson
arr. Paul De Bra

Tempo di tango $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 115$

(strict tempo)  light tremolo

Blue Tango

8

I **1**

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

12

I

II

(\odot 8va if switch is possible)

III

IV

B

D. Set

Blue Tango

3

16

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

mf *mp*
mf *mp*
mf
mp *v* *mp* *v*
v *v*
v

mp

20

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

v *v*
v *v*
(8va if switch is possible)
v *v*
v *v*

Blue Tango

24

I II III IV B D. Set

mf *f* *f* *mf* *mf*

28

I II III IV B D. Set

f *f* *f* *mf* *mf*

() if switch is possible

low notes on MB for better legato

Blue Tango

5

32

I

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

p

mp

v

36

I

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

v

(G on M.B.)

v

Blue Tango

40

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

44

4

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

mf

ff

f

div. if possible

mf

fp

mf

fp

mf

fp

mf

Blue Tango

7

48

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

52

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

Blue Tango

56

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

60

5

I
II
III
IV
B
D. Set

Blue Tango

9

64

I

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

(G on M.B.)

68

I

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

low notes on MB for better legato

p

p

mp

p

p

p

Blue Tango

72

(G on M.B.)

D. Set

76

6

poco a poco cresc.

D. Set

Blue Tango

11

80

I

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

83

I

II

III

IV

B

D. Set

To Glockenspiel

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