GENERAL

blinded by the light tab

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Introduction

When a guitarist hears the opening chords of Bruce /Springsteen's classic "Blinded /by /the /Light," a spark of excitement often lights up their fingers. The song's driving rhythm, soaring vocal line, and unmistakable hook have made it a staple of setlists for generations of musicians. Yet, for many players, the real challenge lies in translating the song from the page to the fretboard. That's where the **blinded by the light tab** comes into play. In this guide, we'll walk you through every nuance of the tab, explain how to read it, and share practical tips to help you master the track in no time.

Background of "Blinded /by /the /Light"

Released in 1976 on Springsteen's debut album *Greetings from Asbury Park, N.J.*, "Blinded /by /the /Light" quickly became one of the singer songwriter's signature songs. The track was later re recorded for the 1992 *Tracks* compilation, adding a polished sheen that many fans prefer. The song's narrative—about a young man caught between love, ambition, and the allure of a city—resonates with anyone who has chased a dream while staying true to themselves.

Musically, the song is a blend of rock, folk, and a touch of country. Its memorable riff, built around a simple yet effective chord progression, makes it accessible for beginners while still offering depth for advanced players. Because of its popularity, countless guitarists have attempted to learn it, and as a result, a wealth of tabs—both official and fan made—have circulated online. However, the quality and accuracy of these tabs vary, which can lead to confusion for those who are new to guitar tablature.

Why the Blinded /by /the /Light Tab Matters

A well structured tab serves as a roadmap. It tells you where to place your fingers, which strings to pluck, and how fast to play. For a song as iconic as "Blinded by the Light," a clear tab can make the difference between a good practice session and a truly rewarding one. Below are some reasons why a reliable tab is essential:

- Time saving – You won't waste hours trying to decipher the right notes.
- Accuracy – A precise tab ensures you hit the right chords and avoid common mistakes.
- Confidence – Knowing exactly what to play frees you to focus on expression rather than guesswork.
- Learning foundation – A solid tab teaches you how to read standard notation and guitar symbols.

Understanding Guitar Tab Basics

Before diving into the specific tab for "Blinded /by /the /Light," let's review some fundamentals. Guitar tabs are written on a six line staff, each line representing a string. The lines are ordered from the lowest (thickest) string at the bottom to the highest (thinnest) string at the top.

```
e|----------|  1st string (high E)
B|----------|  2nd string (B)
```

```
G|-------------------|  3rd string (G)
D|-------------------|  4th string (D)
A|-------------------|  5th string (A)
E|-------------------|  6th string (low E)
```

Numbers indicate the fret to press. A **0** means the string is played open. A dash (**-**) indicates a muted or skipped string. When you see a **p** or **b**, those are pull offs and bends, respectively. The tab also uses slashes (**/**) to separate measures.

Step by Step Guide to the Blinded /by /the /Light Tab

Below is a clean, annotated version of the most commonly used tab for “Blinded by the Light.” We’ve included chord names above the corresponding measures to help you see how the chords and melody interlock.

Intro & Verse 1

```
e|-----------------------------------------------|
B|-----------------------------------------------|
G|---2--2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2--|
D|---2--2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2--|
A|---0--0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0--|
E|---0--0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0--|
  G     G    G   G G    G   G   G   G
```

This section uses a simple **G** chord to set the groove. The rhythm is steady, so focus on keeping a consistent tempo.

Pre Chorus

```
e|-----------------------------------------------|
B|-----------------------------------------------|
G|---4--4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4--|
D|---5--5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5--|
A|---5--5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5--|
E|---3--3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3--|
  D     D    D   D D    D   D   D   D
```

Here the chord changes to **D**, giving the song a lift. Pay attention to the slight syncopation in the rhythm.

Chorus

```
e|-----------------------------------------------|
B|-----------------------------------------------|
G|---4--4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4-4--|
D|---5--5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5--|
A|---5--5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5-5--|
E|---3--3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3--|
```

```
  G    G   G  G G   G  G  G  G
```

The chorus repeats the **G** chord, but the vocal line drives the melody. Try to sing along to keep the timing precise.

Bridge

```
e|-----------------------------------------|
B|-----------------------------------------|
G|---2--2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2--|
D|---2--2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2--|
A|---0--0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0--|
E|---0--0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0--|
  Em   Em  Em Em Em  Em Em Em Em
```

The bridge introduces an **Em** chord, adding a slight melancholy before the final chorus.

Outro

The outro mirrors the intro, looping the G chord pattern until the final chord resolves. Keep the tempo steady and let the rhythm carry you to the finish.

Chord Progression Overview

Below is a quick reference of the chord changes throughout the song. This can help you practice without constantly looking at the tab.

- Intro / Verse – G
- Pre Chorus – D
- Chorus – G (repeated)
- Bridge – Em
- Outro – G

Strumming Pattern and Rhythm

The groove of “Blinded /by /the /Light” is built on a steady down stroke pattern with occasional syncopated up strokes. A simple approach is:

1. Downstroke on the downbeat.
2. Up stroke on the off beat.
3. Repeat.

Practice this pattern at a slow tempo first, then gradually increase to match the original speed. Using a metronome can help maintain consistency.

Tips for Mastering the Tab

- Start Slow – Play the tab at a fraction of the original tempo. Once you’re comfortable, speed up gradually.
- Use a Metronome – Keep the rhythm tight and avoid rushing.
- Practice Each Section Separately – Focus on verses, choruses, bridges individually before stitching them together.

- Record Yourself – Listening back can reveal timing issues you might not notice in real time.
- Play Along with the Original Track – This helps you internalize the feel and timing.
- Check Your Finger Placement – Keep your fingers close to the fretboard to reduce string noise.
- Use a Capo if Needed – If you find the key too high or low, a capo can help you match the original pitch.

Common Mistakes and How to Avoid Them

- Skipping the Pull Offs – The tab includes a pull off in the bridge. Neglecting it will make the line sound choppy.
- Incorrect Timing on Syncopation – The pre chorus has a subtle syncopated rhythm; keep the down strokes tight.
- Wrong Chord Voicings – Using alternate voicings can change the song's feel. Stick to the standard shapes unless you're comfortable with variations.
- Ignoring Dynamics – The original track swells during the chorus. Try to mimic the dynamic changes to bring the song to life.

Tags: #blinded #light