Bluegrass is a vocal music with some instrumentals, so more songs than tunes.  Solos in traditional bluegrass mostly playing the singing melody with establishments on that individual instrument.  This style is based on the 1945 recordings of Bill Monroe and his Bluegrass boys featuring Lester Flatt, Earl Scruggs and Chubby Wise.

Bluegrass fiddling is a distinctive style of [American fiddle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_fiddle) playing which is characterized by bold, bluesy improvisation, off-beat "[chopping](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chop_chord)", and sophisticated use of both [double-stops](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Double-stop) and [old-time bowing patterns](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old-time_fiddle). Monroe taught the fiddlers to play with a blues sound, thus a lot of flat3, flat 5 and flat 7 blues notes in the solos.

The solos in a singing piece were usually 16 measures.  At first 14 measures were this embellished melody then into a 2 measure phrase that "wrapped up" the solo,  often called a tag (see Solo Form 1).  After a few years, it was quite common to play the first 12 measures of the solo as embellished melody, then go away from the melody for 2 measures, and the last two measures as described in form 1 (see Solo Form 2).   By the mid 1950s, a common solo was 4 measures embellished melody, 4 measures of fiddle "licks" away from the melody, 4 more measures of melody and the last 4 measures as described previously.

A few early bluegrass fiddlers: Kenny Baker, Chubby Wise, Paul Warren, Benny Martin.

A YouTube search will bring up most of Kenny Baker’s iconic instrumental fiddle albums on County Records. He composed many of the now classic bluegrass instrumentals, leading the way in the development of the bluegrass style. Besides backing up a singer, he could play dance tunes, swing, beautiful waltzes, and even jazz when he wanted to all at a virtuosic level.

Search STONEY LONESOME KENNY BAKER - this classic instrumental is on the album ‘Kenny Baker plays Bill Monroe’.

Search CAN’T YOU HEAR ME CALLING BILL MONROE - bluegrass fiddle pioneer Chubby Wise playing textbook bluegrass fiddle with a band.

Transcriptions with authentic bowings, chords and notes are attached here.

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Pete has YouTube videos, 14 instructional books, Skype and in person lessons on many styles of fiddle and mandolin.