

Blue Suede Shoes

Written by bluesever

Friday, 19 October 2012 19:49 - Last Updated Tuesday, 23 October 2012 16:26

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Thirty-odd years ago, an English reporter asked **Carl Perkins**, who was then in London promoting his new album

Old

Blue Suede's Back,

how many times he had performed his signature tune

"Blue Suede Shoes."

He didn't rightly know, Perkins replied, with a hint of a grimace crossing his face. He'd lost count, he continued, after the first couple of thousand.

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"**Blue Suede Shoes**" has been called the first true rock 'n' roll hit, in the sense that it was an "all market" hit. Some R&B hits had sold well in the pop market (most notably Chuck Berry's

"Maybellene,"

which had even outsold the white cover versions); likewise, some country records had crossed over into the pop market, and Bill Haley had defined his own pop/R&B hybrid. But there had never been a record that had sold well in all three markets.



Carl Perkins with blue suede shoe

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Carl Perkins is regarded by many as one of the founding fathers of rock-and-roll. Although he placed only one record in the pop top forty "**Blue Suede Shoes**," it became a legendary one in the annals of rock-and-roll and propelled Perkins, one of the original rockabilly singers, into his legendary status.

Born **Carl Lee Perkins** near Tiptonville, Tennessee in 1932, the son of the only white sharecropper (Fonie "Buck" Perkins) on a cotton plantation and Louise Brantley. He kicked off his musical career in the mid 1940s, performing at local dances with his brothers Jay and Clayton as the 'Perkins Brothers Band'. In 1953 drummer W.S. 'Fluke' Holland joined.



The Perkins Brothers Band

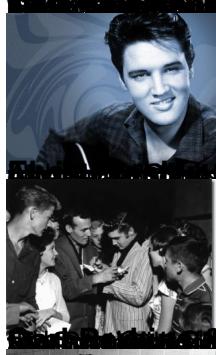
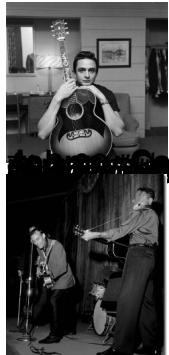
His first release was *Movie Magg*, written when he was fourteen, that sold slowly. However, it allowed him to get bookings where he opened for Elvis. According to Perkins, after a show in Jackson, Tennessee when he was touring with Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash, he wrote down the words of someone on the dance floor.

Johnny Cash was the first to give Perkins the idea for this song. He told Perkins about soldiers in the US army who wore their combat boots in the mess hall and would warn their fellow soldiers not to "*step on my blue suede shoes*." Perkins was watching a dancer at a high school sorority dance - he didn't pay too much attention to his date, but he kept everybody else away from his new shoes.

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Check out the Chords for Blue Suede Shoes! Pick them up with the tabs below. Then, play along with the lyrics and chords.

Elvis Presley performed Blue Suede Shoes in 1956. Listen to the original recording, and then play along with the chords.

Elvis Presley's Blue Suede Shoes is a classic rock and roll song. It was first released in 1956. The song is about a man who is trying to impress a woman with his looks and style. The lyrics mention "blue suede shoes" and "white stockings". The song has become a cult classic and is often played at rock and roll parties.

The song was written by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. It was originally recorded by Big Maybelle in 1951, and then covered by the Coasters in 1956. The Coasters' version became a hit and helped to popularize the song. The song has been covered by many artists, including The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, and Bruce Springsteen.

Blue Suede Shoes is a great song to play on your guitar. The chords are simple and easy to learn. You can play it with a friend or on your own. It's a fun song to play and sing along to. So, get your guitar and start playing Blue Suede Shoes!