

# Ramblin' Man (First Solo)

Words and Music by Dickey Betts

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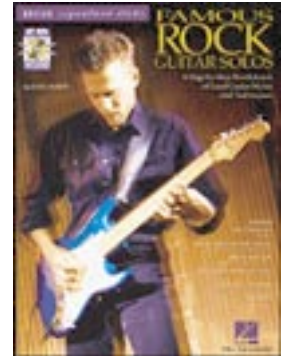
From the book:

## FAMOUS ROCK GUITAR SOLOS

by Dave Rubin

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[AUDIO CLIP - FULL BAND](#) 🔊

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“Ramblin’ Man” is a landmark country-rock classic from 1973, based on diatonic major and minor chords. With two lyrically joyous solos, it is a must-learn for serious twangers. (Note: The recording is actually in G#, necessitating the use of a capo at fret 1 or tuning up one half step.)

## Figure 1—Solo 1

The relative minor scale has always been one of Betts’ favorites, and he intelligently applies the E Aeolian (relative to G major) mode at the fifteenth position and the octave root position at fret 12. After firmly establishing the major tonality with a singing bend of the 9th or 2nd (A) from the Aeolian mode to the major 3rd (B), he basically treats measures 1–6 (I and IV) as a G tonality and emphasizes the root (G), 3rd (B), and 5th (D) notes from the G major triad. Measures 11 (vi) and 15 (I) are the only time that Betts uses the b6th (C) from the Aeolian mode as a quick pull-off to the B (major 7th of C and 3rd of G) for melodic variety.

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Fig. 1

AUDIO CLIP - FULL BAND 

AUDIO CLIP - SLOW 

Tune up 1/2 step:  
(low to high) E# - A# - D# - G# - B# - E#

## Guitar Solo 1

Fast Rock ♩ = 184

Gtr. 1  
(clean) *8va*

G C G

5 C D

*8va* *loco*

9 C G Em C

*1/2*

13 G D G

*8va* *loco*