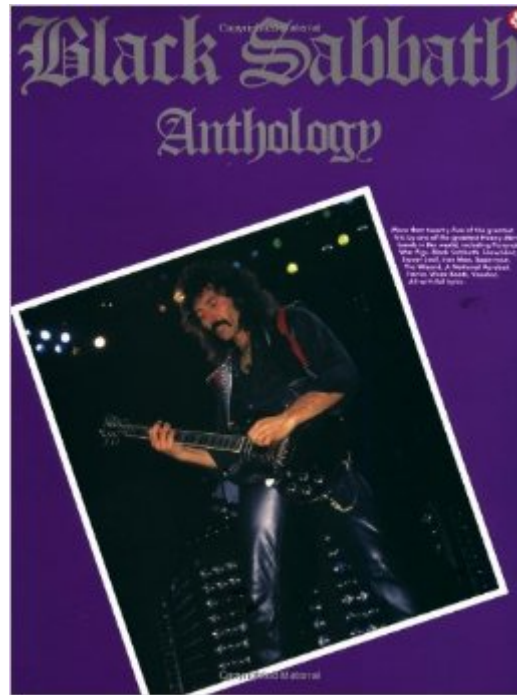


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# Black Sabbath - Anthology



## Synopsis

This unique collection of 27 of Black Sabbath's greatest songs will be a hit with your favorite HM guitarist. Includes such headbangers as Iron Man, Paranoid, and War Pigs. All guitar solos are notated in both standard notation and tablature.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars See all reviews (17 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This collection includes all the familiar Sabbath classics, plus some pieces hard to find in sheet music stores: e.g.: National Acrobat, Voodoo, Country Girl, Hard Road, Supernaut, Neon Knights, Heaven and Hell, Children of the Sea, Etc. Many of the "complete" or "recorded versions" of the same songs had numerous guitar overdubs transcribed and since Sabbath are a one-guitar band, the simplified, one-guitar versions were much simpler to follow and that that was the whole idea. The omitted solos to something like "Snowblind" are just pentatonic and are easy to figure out anyway. So the great thing about this book is the simplicity. It is all well and good for someone to notate every last guitar overdub on an album but it can get confusing when you want a one-guitar version of something. Another advantage to the simplified versions is that it takes less space per page for easier reading. Example: the "outro" solo on "War Pigs" is transcribed on one page instead of 5-10 pages and that way you can play along with the record without having to worry about turning the pages. Well worth the money that I paid for it

I've owned this sheet music book for a couple of years and I still occasionally reference it. The song selection is actually better than on any of the "greatest hits" albums I've seen. What disappointed me is how incomplete some of the transcriptions are. For instance at the end of "Snowblind," the caption simply says to improvise something, rather than taking the extra effort to finish the tablature. Certain riffs like Children of the Sea would have been better written-out instead of in "rhythm slash" notation. "A Bit of Finger" is present and seems reasonably accurate, but there's no "Warning" to go with it. It happens to be my favorite track on that side of the album. Every song in this book is vital and worth learning, and I'd recommend it to any intermediate guitarist who wants to take on some heavy blues and hard rock influences. Its incomplete status and semi-official credibility are my only disappointments.

Black Sabbath Anthology was originally published in 1986 by Amsco Publications, and features transcriptions of 28 Sabbath songs, which partially incorporate the "tab" format. While guitar tablature or tab is almost universal today, in the early 80's, it was just beginning to become familiar to guitarists interested in hard rock and heavy metal, with the magazine *Guitar for the Practicing Musician* (1983-99), serving as the introduction to tab for many players. Early tab transcriptions were often rather crude and incomplete, but over time they have become much more accurate and detailed. When first published in 1986, the transcriptions in *Black Sabbath Anthology* were probably above average, and while not comparable to the best transcriptions that are available today, the book still contains much useful information. Most overdubs, fills, harmony parts, and other nuances, were not typically included in 1986. Those expecting these details may be disappointed, but the book provides a good overview of the primary guitar parts. When I bought this book in the late 80's, I found it to be quite helpful. It attempts to give you some insights into the legendary Tony Iommi's unique lead guitar style, as well as the riff master's approach to song structure, and the use of power chords. This knowledge and technique, can certainly be applied to other metal tunes. The 28 selections are drawn from Black Sabbath's classic early period, which includes the first Ozzy Osbourne era (1968-1979), and first Dio era, featuring songs up through the seminal *Heaven and Hell*, and *Mob Rules*. Among my favorites are "War Pigs", "Heaven and Hell", "Snowblind", "Dirty Women", and "Country Girl".

I found this to be an excellent reference. Complete guitar chords, lyrics and tab for a wide variety of familiar Sabbath. Clearly no book can contain everything, but this one did pretty well. A good number of Sabbath tunes are included. Tab is pretty good and accurate. Better than most others I

have seen.

I honestly find this book useful, but I have also found that the tabs are not always precise and at times the songs are not even finished (see "Heaven and Hell" for example). Instead the player is expected to improvise the rest of the song. I suggest looking at the Songster website for help. It is very useful. The song selection is ok, although there are songs that I would not even consider part of a Black Sabbath Anthology. But my overall judgement of this book is positive.

All of the songs that the book list as being tuned to D is in reality tuned to C#. Iron man is tabbed one step higher than it is played, so lower everything by one fret. This is a good starting point but make sure you play along with the recording to match pitch. The rhythms are a little off as well, in heaven and hell they list the intro as just 4 8th notes when it is really a 16th note and 3 8th note triplets. Hopefully one day there will be a more accurate book but this is really the best out there right now and it does have an excellent track listing.

the book is fine even if it has some wrong notes and in some songs the tuning is not the standard tuning and it doesn't show up in the page.

This book contains a good selection of the old original Sabbath - great guitar songs from the early days! Tony Iommi at his very finest!!

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