

Bluegrass Jam Basics and unspoken rules

Be in tune

Use a tuner to ensure your instrument is in tune

Learn the chords

If you don't know the chords, you can watch the left hand of a guitarist who knows the chords

Be considerate

The goal of the jam is to have fun and enjoy the music. Treat all participants with respect and help others who need help. Be mindful of your volume and make sure you can hear the vocalist or soloist.

Song Choice

Select songs from the song list or suggest simple, easy songs that others will be able to follow.

Participate

Come prepared to lead a song or two. Sing harmony on the chorus. Take a solo (if you are able). If you don't know a song, it's okay to lay out and just listen.

Have Fun

Is there anymore to say?

Format

Participants take turns leading a song. This means singing lead on a song or playing the melody of an instrumental. Whoever is singing or leading an instrumental usually leads the group through the song and signals who is taking a solo. If appropriate, the leader can announce the key and any tricky chords that are used in the song. It is common for instrumentalists to play a solo between the chorus and the next verse. Either the leader will signal who is taking a solo or the group will simply go around the circle trading solos.