

I Thou shalt arrange thyself in a small circle so that thou may hear others. Present not thyself in the center of the circle. If in doubt ask who wants thy backside in his face. Honor the wishes of the group leader follow his guidance.

II Thou shalt play in tune. Tune thy instrument beforehand with thine electric tuner; but ye shall allow time for the banjo player to change keys.

III The honor of tune selection shall be passed clockwise around the circle. Thou shalt commence and cease playing each tune together as one, so that the noise ye make be a joyful noise. Choose a tempo that allows all to participate. Before commencing ask who wishes to partake a break. Be mindful of who precedes you so that thou commence your break on time.

IV Upon introducing a new tune thou shalt render to the rhythm players a chord sheet so that they will not flounder in confusion. The singer shall select the key, an inalienable right. All are encouraged to join in while singing the chorus.

V Thou shalt play softly when someone lifteth his voice in song, when another taketh his break or when thou knowest not what thou are doing.

VI Forget not to be helpful to the beginner, remembering the days, yes even the years of thine own strife.

VII Thou shalt maintain the rhythm and not forsake the beat; for the bass player may scorn thee.

VIII Thou shalt listen with thine ears to the songs and attempt to play in accord with the group; also, open thine eyes betimes to look about thee, lest there be a visual sign someone is endeavoring to send thee. Hog not the session. Give thy neighbor his turn. Unlikely as it may seem, they may be as gifted as thee.

IX Thou shalt observe the ancient law of "AABB" and be learned of exceptions. If thou sinneth or make a grave error thou must atone by reentering the tune in the proper place and continuing.

X He who selects the tune endith the tune. When it has been played sufficient times over thou shalt stick out thine own foot or else lift up thy voice crying "Last Time". Upon seeing or hearing this sign, thou shalt complete the tune then cease playing.

Remember that a tune played slowly with clarity is closer to godliness than a tune played speedily and sloppily.

The Ten Commandments of Jamming