



# JAM SKILLS CHECKLIST ✓

for bluegrass, folk and country jamming  
Note which skills you have and which you need!

Please copy & share!  
Lots more free instruction  
from Pete Wernick at ...

[LetsPick.org](http://LetsPick.org)

## ✓ Essentials

Learn these and you're ready to jam

- \_\_\_ Tune your instrument (using a tuner), quicker the better. Check tuning often!
- \_\_\_ Learn G, C, D, and A chords, fingering each string accurately, for clear sound (check by sounding each string individually, making sure it's clear and not muted)  
*Bass and fiddle players don't make chords, but need to know which notes go with which chord.*
- \_\_\_ Switch quickly between chords, with accurate fingering (with each switch, sound any problem string individually, making sure it's clear, not muted)  
Practice these sequences:  
\_\_\_ G-D-G (most common)  
\_\_\_ G-C-G \_\_\_ D-A-D \_\_\_ C-D-C \_\_\_ G-A-G
- \_\_\_ Change chords *without looking*, cleanly and quickly
- \_\_\_ Maintain a rhythm pattern while changing chords accurately
- \_\_\_ Follow chord changes watching a guitar player (see other side)
- \_\_\_ Find a slow jam that uses only G, C, D, and A, or play along with a slow jam recording\*

Wernick Method Classes  
(see below)

**require** the skills in this  
"Essentials" section and  
**teach** the others!

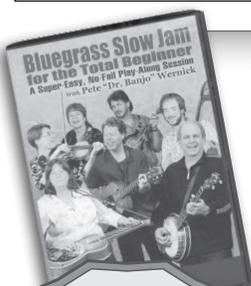
## ✓ Jamming is easier and better when you can...

- \_\_\_ Remember chord changes of a new song – which chords happen and when
- \_\_\_ Anticipate chord changes, to make them at exactly the right time
- \_\_\_ Sing a song while playing, with accurate chording and a consistent rhythm pattern
- \_\_\_ Play and sing a song straight through with no pauses or hesitations
- \_\_\_ Play and sing a song fluently from memory, not using a written version



## ✓ You can add a lot to a jam if you can...

- \_\_\_ Lead a song. Skills include knowing how to intro a song before playing (give key and chord changes to watch for), designate solos, ending, etc.
- \_\_\_ Fake an instrumental solo on the fly, following the chord changes, melody optional
- \_\_\_ Sing harmony
- \_\_\_ Know how to find jams and/or how to start one



### \* Bluegrass Slow Jam for the Total Beginner

17 standard songs, with just 4 chords: **G C D A** shown on each instrument. Slow speeds! Chords and lyrics included.

39 more songs on 2 more videos, chances to solo on every song. Gentle tempos.

The **BEST**  
way to start —  
for **ALL** bluegrass  
instruments!

visit [LetsPick.org](http://LetsPick.org)

## Wernick Method Jam Classes

... teach bluegrass jam skills to novice and experienced players alike, including ear skills, small group jamming and all the ground rules and protocols taught. See [LetsPick.org](http://LetsPick.org)

