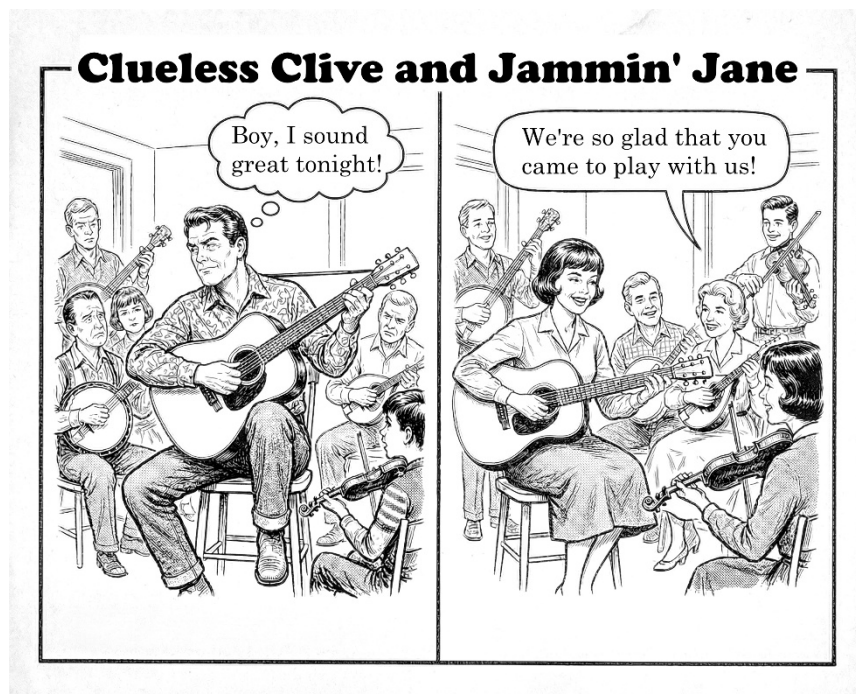


Bluegrass Jam 101: “Do”s and Don’t”s



Sometimes, a person will spoil the vibe at a jam for everyone else. Don't be like **Clueless Clive** who tries to turn it into a one-person show. Be like **Jammin' Jane** who makes everyone happy to have her join the jam.

Each jam is different, but here are suggestions for what not to do, and what to do instead:

Clueless Clive...

- ...barges to the front of the circle on his first visit.
- ...plays noisily all the time.
- ...sings along loudly during someone else's song.
- ...waits until the last possible moment to pass on a solo.
- ...calls for tunes with lots of verses and complicated chords.
- ...noodles on his instrument between songs.

Jammin' Jane...

- ...comes to observe once or twice before joining in.
- ...plays softly so that she can hear the singer and the solos.
- ...sings along on the chorus if others are singing.
- ...lets the player next to her know early when she's going to pass on a solo.
- ...chooses songs that are familiar to most players.
- ...listens quietly for the call of the next song and its key.

If you want to be more like Jammin' Jane, check out the Bluegrass Jam 101 online course. It will help you be more confident and prepared to participate in a bluegrass jam. You'll learn how to play along on songs that you don't know, from anticipating chord changes before they happen, to three simple approaches to playing solo breaks. Find out more at <https://bluegrassjam101.com>.