

Basic Chord Progressions by Ear (With a Little Help from Your Accordion)

Audience: Beginning to early intermediate accordionists (and other musicians)

Prerequisites: Ability to form simple chords (major, minor, seventh) on the keyboard (or other instrument)

Early-stage accordionists often don't spend much time on Ear Training. Active Listening has many aspects and benefits, including learning to hear the basics of chord progressions and song structure. A couple of examples of Active Listening will be given, to set the stage for chord progression efforts.

This session will help early-stage accordionists to hear "signposts" and arrangements that lead to an understanding of a song's structure and harmonic motion. Beginning with very simple chord sequences, we will learn to listen for the secrets of melody and bass line that reveal musical forms and chord progressions.

A few of the classic "standard chord progressions" will be highlighted, and attendees will explore these sequences to assist in their capture and application. No prior experience with chord progressions is required, though an understanding of how to read and write simple chords (major, minor, seventh) will be useful.