



Performer Guidelines

Welcome to the Victoria Folk Music Society's weekly gathering! We hope you enjoy playing here and offer this bit of performance advice on what works best for our club. Some of the suggestions may seem obvious, while others may not have occurred to you before.

- 1. Please be considerate and don't go overtime.** There is a ten-minute limit for open-stage sets and ten minutes goes by fast -- especially if you're talking about yourself and your music as well as playing! Pace yourself accordingly, which means you've probably got time for two songs unless they're particularly short ones. When in doubt, check with the host.
- 2. Perform to be heard.** The acoustics are great in this hall, but you still need to project so that the people at the back can hear you. Consider standing up while you perform; otherwise, your sound may not get much beyond the first row. Remember that folk-song lyrics are at least as important as the music. If you're singing and playing, especially in a group, you may need to sing louder and/or play softer to ensure that your words are heard by all.
- 3. Present well-practiced material.** The Folk Club is an excellent place to try out new material with a receptive audience, but it's not the place to "fake it till you make it"! Please respect yourself and your audience enough to practice your material before you come.
- 4. Consider including a chorus song in your set,** especially one that's well known. Our audience loves to sing along! If the song isn't well known, prompt us the first time so we know when and what to sing.
- 5. Please plan to stay and listen to others play.** It's a great way to meet people and also to pick up new material and performance ideas.
- 6. Have fun and we hope to see you again!** If you'd like some feedback on your performance, please feel free to ask.