Sessions

The songs in this book have been selected as they are generally good for singing in sessions.

There is no strict definition of "a session" and they are essentially dynamic and organic informal music and social events. They provide an opportunity for traditional musicians and singers to swap ideas, to learn new tunes and songs, to blether, to play and sing together, and to welcome other musicians and singers to the fold. Sessions are not "gigs," which are usually formal and amplified performances. A session is not a performance; it is a social event with music and song that anyone can expect to participate in.

Sessions may be informal, open to anyone (often held in a pub) or more formal hosted vents. Each one will have its own ethos and unique unspoken rules. There are many aspects of a session that will vary from one session to another,

such as:

A session may be for singers/instrumentalists or both;

It may be structured so that each person takes a turn at leading a song or set of tunes, or with not a set format, so that anyone who wants to start up a song or a tune can do so;

A session may be open to anyone to join in, or by invitation only;

Sessions may be in a public space, where others can listen (many pub sessions are like this), or in a private room;

They may also be led by one or more paid singers/players, or more of a 'free for all';

Some pubs will provide free drinks for people playing/singing in a session.

The main thing about a session is that it is a chance to get out and play and/or sing and to share music and conversation with others.

Thanks to TMSA for their permission to use session definition

Chord Conversion Table

Example: if the key of the song is C, the three main chords will be C, F, and G7th; to transpose it into the key of D, your three main chords become D, G, and A7th.

KEY	3 MAIN CHORDS			SUBSIDIARY CHORDS		
C	C	F	G7	Dm	Em	Am
C#	C#	F#	Ab7	Ebm	Fm	Bbm
D	D	G	A7	Em	F#m	Bm
Eb	Eb	Ab	Bb7	Fm	Gm	Cm
E	E	A	B7	F#m	G#m	C#m
F	F	Bb	C7	Gm	Am	Dm
F#	F#	B	C#	Abm	Bbm	Ebm
G	G	C	D7	Am	Bm	Em
Ab	Ab	C#	Eb7	Bbm	Cm	Fm
A	A	D	E7	Bm	C#m	F#m
Bb	Bb	Eb	F7	Cm	Dm	Gm
B	B	E	F#7	C#m	Ebm	Abm