

# Classic Chord Progressions

Dr. Glen Newton, July 15, 2006

## Description

*"Heart and Soul", "I Got Rhythm", "Sweet Georgia Brown" - the chord progressions of these songs show up again and again in popular music. In this workshop, you'll learn these classic chord progressions and some popular variations on them.*

**Goal:** Learn to jam on popular chord progressions.

## Heart and Soul

Song form: AA'BA''

Basic Progression:

C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / |  
C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / F / | C7 / / / |  
F / E7 / | A7 / D7 / | G7 / C / | B7 / E / | F / E7 / | A7 / D7 / | G7 / C7 / | F / G7 / |  
C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / | C / Am / | F / G7 / | E7 / A7 / | Dm7 / G7 / | C / F / | C / / ♯ ||

Variation:

C / Am / | Dm7 / G7 / | etc.

## Sweet Georgia Brown

Song form: ABAC

A7 / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / | D7 / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / |  
G7 / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / | C / / / | / / G7 / | C / / / | E7 / / / |  
A7 / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / | D7 / / / | / / / / | / / / / | / / / / |  
Am / / / | E7 / / / | Am / / / | E7 / / / | C / B / | Bb / A / | D7 / G7 / | C / / / |

## I Got Rhythm

Song form: AA'BA''

G / Em7 / | Am7 / D7 / | Bm7 / Bb<sup>dim</sup> / | Am7 / D7 / | G / G<sup>6</sup>/B / | C / Cm / | G/D / D7 / | G / Am7 D7 /  
G / Em7 / | Am7 / D7 / | Bm7 / Bb<sup>dim</sup> / | Am7 / D7 / | G / G<sup>6</sup>/B / | C / Cm / | G/D / D7 / | G / C7 / |  
B7 / / / | / / / / | E7 / / / | / / / / | A7 / / / | / / / / | Am7 / / / | D7 / / / |  
G / Em7 / | Am7 / D7 / | Bm7 / Bb<sup>dim</sup> / | Am7 / D7 / | G / G<sup>6</sup>/B / | C / Cm / | G/D / D7 / C / |  
Bm7(-5) / E7 / | A7 / D7 / | G / / ♯ ||

“A” section variation:

G / Bb9 // | A9 / Ab // | G / E7 // | Eb7 / D7 // | G / G7/B // | C / C#<sup>dim</sup> // | Am7/D / D7 // | G / D+7 // |

“B” section variation:

F#7sus4 /// | B7 /// | Bm7 /// | E7 /// | Em7 /// | A7 /// | Eb9(-5) /// | D7 / D+7 // |

Another “A” section variation:

G / Bb<sup>dim</sup> // | Am7 / C<sup>dim</sup> // | Bm7 / E7 // | Am7 / D7 // | G7 / Db7 // | C / F9 // | Bm7 E7 Am7 D7 |  
G / D+7 // |

Another “B” section variation:

F#m7 /// | F7 /// | Bm7/E /// | Bb7 /// | Em7 /// | Eb7 /// | Am7/D /// | Ab7(-5) /// |

## Molly Malone

Song form: AA'A'

Progression almost the same as the “A” section of “Heart and Soul.”

C // | Am // | Dm7 // | G7 // | C // | Am // | Dm7 // | G7 // |  
C // | Am // | Dm7 // | G7 // | C // | Am // | Dm7 / G7 | C // |  
C // | Am // | Dm7 // | G7 // | C // | Am // | Dm7 / G7 | C / ♯ ||

## Blue Moon

Song form: AA'BA''

Progression almost the same as “Heart and Soul” except the bridge.

C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // |  
C / Am // | F / G7 // | C / Am // | F / G7 // | C / Am // | F / G7 // | C / F // | C / Am // |  
Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G // | C /// | Ab / Bb // | Eb / Cm7 // | G / D7 // | G7 /// |  
C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / F // | C // ♯ ||

Blue Moon variation:

C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | C / Am // | Dm7 / G7 // | E7 / A7 // | D7 / F/G // | C / Am // | etc.