

Your First Week on Accordion

A short guide for adult beginners — no experience needed

Welcome! The accordion is one of the most rewarding instruments to start as an adult: you hear real music from your very first note, and progress is fast once a few habits click into place. This guide covers the five things that make the biggest difference in your first week.

Five Things to Try This Week

1. Sit, don't stand, for your first sessions.

A firm chair without arms lets the instrument rest properly on your lap and keeps your left hand free to move. Standing can wait until the straps feel familiar.

2. Let the bellows do the breathing.

Think of the bellows as your instrument's lungs, not a pump to fight against. Open and close slowly and evenly with your right forearm — the sound should never spike or dip when you change direction.

3. Find middle C on the right-hand keyboard first.

Before playing any tune, just locate and repeat middle C with your index or middle finger until your hand finds it without looking. Everything else is built from that anchor point.

4. Practice the bass buttons blind.

The left-hand bass buttons are arranged by touch, not sight — that's the whole point of the layout. Spend five minutes a day with your eyes closed just finding the C and G bass buttons by feel.

5. Play for 10 focused minutes, not 45 tired ones.

Short daily sessions build the coordination between both hands and the bellows far faster than one long weekly session. Consistency beats duration, especially in week one.

None of this needs to be perfect right away — every accordionist starts exactly here. If you'd like feedback on your hand position or bellows control, that's exactly what a trial lesson is for.

Warm regards,

Mirco Lieber, MMag.

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Ready to try it with guidance?

Book a free trial lesson with Mirco — live, 1:1, over Zoom.

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