

Hi all - hope you got a lot out of our first class!

You have homework for the next week! Unless you have gigs where you have to do otherwise, your assignment is to stay within the first five frets for the entire week. No 6th fret, no 7th fret. Wear out the first five frets of the Dobro in the key of G until you know that area inside and out and can never forget where the G major scale notes fall.

- Memorize the G major scale notes up to the fifth fret - memorize the names of the notes and their location. It's easy.
- Go through the exercise where you play an open string and then slide to the same pitch at the adjacent lower string, alternately letting the open string ring and then damping that open string while doing the slide. Always slide from the nearest scale note for this exercise.
- Practice the "easy G major scale" that utilizes the most convenient barred notes and open strings. Say the names of the notes out loud while you do it. It's easy - just the alphabet (but you'll say "F sharp" when playing D strings at the 4th fret).
- Practice the major scale on each string up to 5 frets. Memorize the pattern on G and D strings "home > 2 > 4 > 5" and on the B strings "home > 1 > 3 > 5" - play these low to high and high to low on each string
- Remember that scale practice isn't a race - practice slowly with a metronome or along with the backing tracks.
- Practice the descending string by string scale moves that incorporate the pretty slide moves** - this exercise is gold for drilling these slide moves into your muscle memory and into your musical vocabulary. Definitely practice this one daily, make sure those slides are in tune, and that you like the tone you're hearing.
- ascending/descending/cascading scale exercise
- Practice chord arpeggios - learn the locations of the chord tones for G, C, D, Am, Bm, and Em in the chart I provided, but check the recorded class for more-ergonomic ways of moving through some of those arpeggios.
- Practice playing chord-specific phrases along with the backing tracks, especially the 1-4-5 in G track and the C-G-D-Em track. Go back to the class recording for an explanation.
- Hammer on and pull off exercises - see recorded video and focus on technique more than the licks.
- Picking exercises - see recorded class. Focus on your hand position, proximity to the bridge, relaxing your fingers
- If you have time, try to practice for an hour per day this coming week - let's learn this stuff so we can never possibly forget it!

See you next week!

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