

Thanks again for taking my “Dobro Crash Course” – I hope you got a lot out of it and have plenty to work on for the next few months. I’d advise working on the basics a lot until they’re fully internalized, and until those basic licks and bits of Dobro vocabulary just fall right out of your hands without thinking. Really drill the fretboard, but try to do so while playing music, e.g. put on some slow tempo music in a key you’re comfortable with and jam along, trying use those fretboard areas we’ve covered to play a solo or play backup behind a vocalist. Keep working on the picking and barring technique too, and don’t forget that on Dobro, intonation really matters, so make sure you like the sounds that you’re hearing. If not, troubleshoot how you’re picking, barring, and sliding and see if you can find something that works better.

We’re already planning Dobro Crash Course #2. Dobro Crash Course #1 will be the recommended prerequisite. I’ll reference but not rehash all of what we just covered, and we’ll build on this set of skills and knowledge to get your playing up to the next level. We’re looking at February sometime for a likely starting date, so that gives you three full months to practice, and it gives me three months to plan the perfect follow-up workshop series. In the meantime, I should have plenty of time from mid-November through January for private lessons via Zoom if you’re interested – shoot me an email for details: ivanDrosenberg@gmail.com

If any of you would like to offer a quote we can use about this workshop series, please email it to me and Megan. In terms of promoting the next one, nothing’s better than a few great quotes from workshop attendees. Thanks in advance if anyone has a few good words to offer :)

Big thanks to my dear friend Megan Lynch-Chowning at Nashville Acoustic Camps for organizing, hosting, doing all the admin and emailing, and for being such a superstar in the world of bluegrass music education!

A note for those of you who have attended Nashville Dobro Camp in the past, we’re taking at least a one-year break. It’s my favorite of all music camps, but we’ve always had a hard time getting enough students, and it doesn’t make sense for Megan to keep doing it when all of her other camps sell out in minutes. So we’re building our Nashville Acoustic Camps Dobro community through these Zoom workshops, and we’ll look at the possibility of doing an in-person Nashville Dobro Camp in 2025 if it looks like we have sufficient student interest to make it work. Thanks for understanding. That said, this Zoom format is really great both for teaching and learning. I think it’s really beneficial to be able to see the Dobro up close, have recordings of classes, and take a week between classes to work on the material. In person camp is a lot more fun, but Zoom “camp” is probably better from a pedagogical point of view, so I appreciate the opportunity to teach via Zoom, and I hope to see you next time!

Thanks again!
Ivan