

Things to keep in mind:

Keep in mind that our teaching philosophy here at Next Level Guitar focuses on giving students a well rounded musical education. This does not mean you have to master every lead guitar avenue or scale before moving on to the next. You will want to work on multiple things at once by dividing up your practice time.

Throughout these written lessons we teach many lead guitar avenues so feel free to hop around. Some are more challenging than others and take more time to learn and apply.

With practice, you will find the principles and techniques sink in and will eventually become automatic. Then you can let your ear take you to all the right notes. You won't have to think about techniques and applications so much, but rather focus on emotion and feel.

It can be overwhelming with so much to learn and so many learning materials readily available. Try not to take on too much at once as you may become overwhelmed and frustrated. You don't want to rush things and then end up skimming over important topics leaving voids in your playing. Chip away a little each day and remember, it's not a race, it's a journey.

It's critical to take the extra time to learn "why" things work. Learning the "whys" will give you the musical knowledge to blast these principles and techniques across all your playing. It will give you the lead guitar confidence to be able to instantly know what avenues are possible when soloing and improvising.

Use these lessons and jam tracks as "templates" to learn the "whys" and then develop them into your guitar arsenal through practical application. Then you will have the tools and confidence to blast these playing techniques across all your playing at any given time, in any given key, in any given jam, and in any given song.

As you further develop your lead guitar skills you want to keep developing your rhythm skills. Your rhythm and groove are critical elements to your overall abilities on the guitar.

Your lead playing will really only ever be as good as your rhythm playing. No matter how good a solo is, it's the song that will always be remembered.

KEY POINT: Keep in mind that there is just no substitute for practicing the right things, learning scales, studying the sounds and relationships between chords and scales, developing your ear, practicing and honing your skills using jam tracks, and continually pushing yourself and refining your art.

Key Points:

Keep in mind not to neglect your rhythm playing. Your lead playing will only ever be as good as your rhythm playing.

Keep in mind that no matter how good a solo is....in the end it's the song that will be remembered.

