

I Don't Love Nobody - Traditional
Banjo Tuning: gCGCD

C F C G7

1-2

3.

This tune is apparently based on an old ragtime minstrel song from the late 19th Century, which was common throughout the South. Gid Tanner and the Skillet Lickers first recorded it for Columbia Records in 1924, and it was soon to be found in fiddler's repertoires throughout the country. My setting is based upon a recording made by Fiddlin' Doc Roberts in March, 1932, for the ARC Banner label, with a few notes in the B part borrowed from the Skillet Lickers. Doc Roberts was reported to have learned the tune from the Skillet Licker's recording, but is a bit more syncopated. There are quite a few off-the-beat notes that need to be emphasized a little bit for this to sound right, and I have highlighted those in yellow in the tab. In Roberts' ragtime inspired recording, the ensemble inserts a stop-time interruption at the end of the first and third measures of the B part (measures 36 and 42), and the second and last phrase- the E7 phrase- is played as a bass run on the guitar. I have included banjo phrasing for that strain just the same, in case I am in a jam session where the guitar player is unprepared to take the stop-time lead. Note that the second time through, I move the last two notes up the neck, to be in a better position to play the pick-up notes going back into the A part.