

Violins- Summer Term!

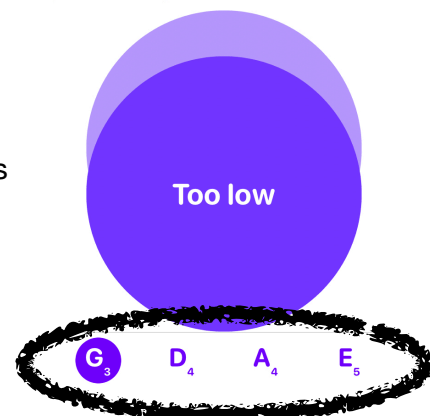
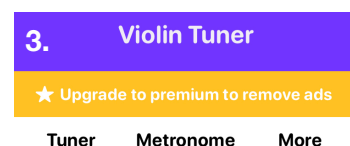
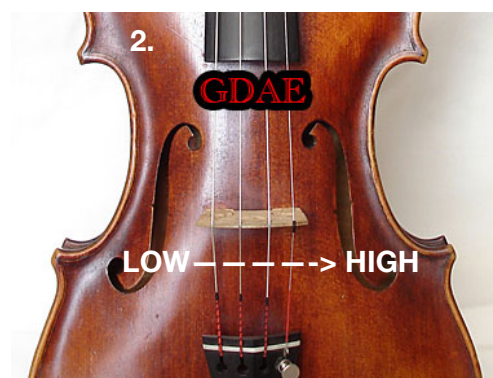
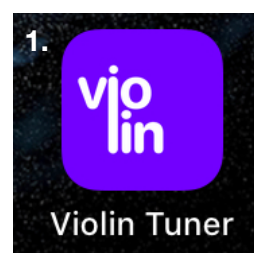
Hello Everyone!

I hope you're all safe and well and have had a nice half term. In this pack are some new warm-ups and pieces to practice on your violins at home!

There is also a section on how an adult can help you to tune your violin at home!

TUNING THE STRINGS

- Tuning a violin is tricky and we don't want any of the strings to snap- so I would recommend an **adult at home does** this for you.
- If you can, download a tuning app- such as 'Tune This!- Violin' (1.)
- The violin has four strings going from LOW—> HIGH (2.)
- The strings (from lowest to highest/ thickest to thinnest) are G D A E
- As you can see on the tuning app- those different strings run along the bottom (3.)
- We tune the violin using the tuning pegs at the end of the neck of the instrument and to make small adjustments, we can use the fine tuners which are near the chin rest and look like little screws (4.)



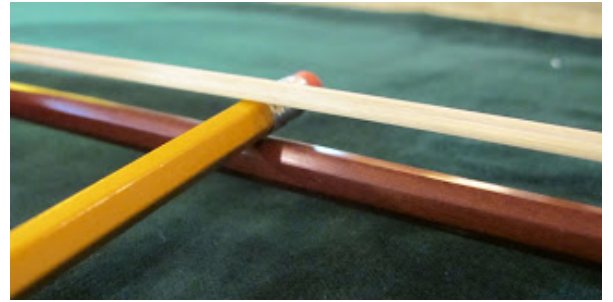
- When we tighten a peg or a fine tuner, the string will get tighter and the note will get higher. If we loosen them, the note will get lower.
- As most of the violins given out were new- the chances are the all the strings are very loose and low now.
- When you click on one of the notes at the bottom of the app you will hear the string being plucked. You can then pluck the corresponding string on the violin and listen to hear if it is the same- the app will also tell you if the note it heard is too high, too low or correct. Make sure you're in as quiet a space as possible and the tuner is close to the instrument
- Use the correct peg for each string (you'll need to trace the string back to the correct peg). Start with the D or A string as these are often the easiest for our ear to pick up. Tighten the peg little by little (like a second hand on a watch) and keep listening to the correct note on the app.
- Make sure the pegs don't keep slipping back and loosening by ensuring you keep them securely wedged into the instrument as you turn them
- Once you're close, you can use the fine tuners, if you like, to make small adjustments- *avoid tightening these little screws all the way in, as they can become hard to loosen again*- If you find you've had to screw them in a long way, go back to using the larger pegs to make adjustments instead
- Each string will need to be tighter than the last, as they are higher notes- so don't worry if you think the A and E strings seem very tight- just keep listening and looking at the app to see what it says. *Make sure you've clicked on the right string you're tuning though!*
- **GOOD LUCK**- and remember, as we have only just started learning the instrument, we don't need the strings to be perfectly in tune yet, just try to get as close as you can!
- HERE is a video to help you!



THE BOW

- Remember that we need to keep our bow nicely rosined so the strings make a sound when we play
- Your violin should have come with rosin- but if you don't have any, you can buy a beginner rosin online for less than £5, such as *Hidersine 3V Violin Rosin* from the Yamaha online shop

- Before we start playing we tighten the bow a little and then we loosen it a little once we are finished playing and we put it back into our case
- When the bow is tightened correctly, you should be able to just fit a pencil between the hair and the wood *in the middle of the bow*
- The hair should be closer to the wood towards the middle and further away towards the ends



WARM-UPS

- Now all the serious stuff is out of the way- we can start playing!
- First of all let's see if you can match up these different musical signs with what they represent- the answers are on the next page!



UP BOW

2 BEAT NOTE (MINIM)

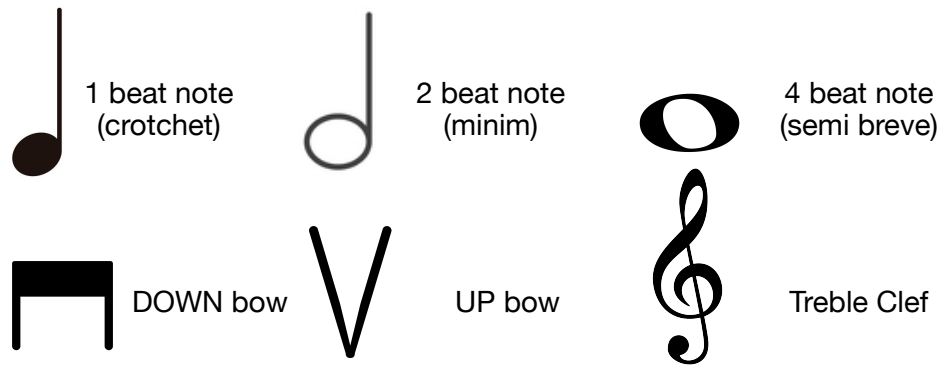
DOWN BOW

1 BEAT NOTE (CROCHET)

TREBLE CLEF

4 BEAT NOTE (SEMI BREVE)

• ANSWERS:

**BOWING WARM UP**

- To begin with- let's try and make a lovely sound on some open strings- practice playing **four** beat, **two** beat and **one** beat notes on each string
- Make sure you keep your bow between the bridge and the fingerboard and also keep it parallel/ straight
- Start in the middle of your bow and make each up bow and down bow nice and long
- Remember to bend from your elbow not your shoulder- so your arm should be straightening and bending as you play

Hold each note for 4 beats



Hold each note for 2 beats



Play each note for 1 beat

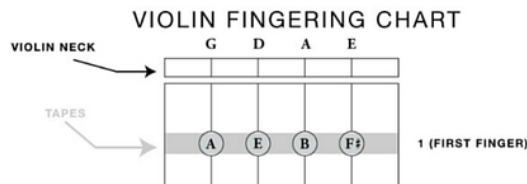


1. Now try going backwards- E A D G
2. Then try playing your own rhythm on each string- for example:



1ST FINGER PIECES!

- You should all have a first finger sticker on your fingerboards which shows you where to press your index/pointing finger onto the string to play the first finger notes.



- Try play the music above nice and slowly to practice using your 1st finger
- Now have a go at the piece below! It only uses notes on the G, D and A string
- When you reach the end- go back to the beginning and finish at **FINE**
- You can play along with it [HERE](#)

12 Tap dancer

Count 2 bars

Steadily



KB & DB

7

G. D. D1. D. G. D. D1. D. A. A. A1. A. D. D. D1. D

11

G. D. D1. D. G. D. D1. D. A. A. D. D. G. D. al Fine

Tap. Tap. Tap. REST Tap. Tap. Tap. REST. Tap Tap. Tap. REST. Tap REST REST REST

* Hold the bow upright and tap the screw end of the bow on your music stand.

RHYTHM FEVER

- This is a fun rock piece that uses notes on the D, A and E string
- Have a listen to it [HERE](#) played nice and slowly so you can play along
- This piece is lively- so make sure you have lots of energy in your bowing arm and move it across the strings quickly
- The first section in **GREEN** is all played on the D string. The notes are either open Ds or 1st finger on the D string (D1= low E)
- Try singing the lyrics along to the video first to get the rhythm!
- Once you can play the GREEN section- try the rest of the piece!
- The next section in **YELLOW** uses the E string, A string and 1st finger on the A string (A1= B)- you can move your bowing arm elbow up or down to help when crossing strings
- Finally, try the last section, which is similar to the beginning
- Then, if you're feeling confident- try to play along to the proper speed [HERE](#)!

13 Rhythm fever

Count 2 bars

Rock tempo

KB & DB

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Rhy - thm fe - ver, 1 2 3 4 feel the beat, 1 2 3 4

7 1 1 0 1 1 0 1 E E A1 A1

feel the rhy-thm, 1 2 3 4 in your feet. 1 2 3 4 Feel the rhy-thm

12 A A A1 A1 E E A1 A1 A A A1 A1 D1 D1 D D1

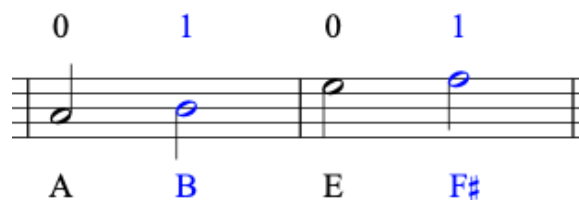
as you play it, feel the beat go 1 2 3 4 Rhy - thm fe - ver,

16 A1 A1 A A1 D1 D1 D D1 D1 D1

1 2 3 4 rhy-thm fe - ver, 1 2 3 4 rhy-thm fe - ver, oh yeah!

SO THERE!

- This piece only uses four different notes!
- First, have a listen [HERE](#)
- The first 4 bars and the next 4 bars use the SAME FINGER pattern but just start on different strings- try that **GREEN** section first
- The > signs under the notes are called **ACCENTS**- it tells us to play the note loudly
- Now try the **YELLOW** section- here we have to cross between the E string and the A string a few times
- Can you work out/ write in the last sections' notes yourself? Have a look at what came before to help you!
- When you're ready- try to play along with the video!



15 **So there!**

Brightly

0 0 1 1 0 0 1 0 E E E1 E1 0 0 1 1 KB & DB

A A A1 A1 > >

11 0 0 1 0 E1 A A1 0 1 0 E A A1 0 1 0

17 E E 1 1 E E 1 1 A A 1 0 > >

23 > > So there!

18

Tiptoe, boo!

- Here's 3 more pieces that use open strings and 1st finger!
- Click the links to hear the pieces and play along!

LISTEN

Count 2 bars

Spookily!

9 Tip-toe tip-toe tip-toe, boo! (etc.)

15 The same as the beginning!

21

Boo! (shout!)

Detailed description: The musical score for 'Tiptoe, boo!' is written in 4/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are G, G1, G, G1, G, G1, D, followed by a sequence of open strings (G, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, D) and another sequence (G, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, D). The second staff continues with D, D, D, D, G, then D, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, A, and D, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, A. The third staff starts with D, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, A, followed by A, A, A, A, D. The piece ends with a final sequence of notes and a 'Boo! (shout!)' instruction.

Also try playing this pizzicato.

19

Travellin' slow

This piece has lots of long 4 beat notes
Move your bow slowly across the string when you play
Not all the notes are written in this time!

LISTEN**In first gear**

9

D Low E D G Low A A A D

B A D

Detailed description: The musical score for 'Travellin' slow' is written in 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are D, Low E, D, G, Low A, A, A, D. The second staff continues with B, A, D. The piece is marked 'In first gear' and 'Travellin' slow'.

20

Lazy cowboy**LISTEN**

Count 2 bars

At a gentle trot

11

E F# E A

B A B Low E

A

Detailed description: The musical score for 'Lazy cowboy' is written in 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The notes are E, F#, E, A, followed by a sequence of notes (B, A, B, Low E). The second staff continues with E, A, A. The piece is marked 'At a gentle trot'.