Aurora Borealis

MICHAEL HOPKINS

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INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor
8 1st Violin
8 2nd Violin
5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 String Bass

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Your students will love playing this fast and energetic new work! Set in E minor, the piece is great for working on dynamic contrasts, staccato and legato bowing. All parts are playable in first position and feature interesting melodic material for all the instruments.

The eighth notes with a staccato indication can be played either detached and on the string or with an off-the-string spiccato stroke. Quarter notes should be played with slight separation. In the G major section from mm. 40–72, the melody can be played with more legato, and at m. 56 the Violin 2 and Cello parts should be the most prominent. Strict observance of the dynamics will add to the excitement of the piece.

An aurora is a natural electrical phenomenon characterized by the appearance of streamers of reddish or greenish light in the sky, usually near the northern or southern magnetic pole. The effect is caused by the interaction of charged particles from the sun with atoms in the upper atmosphere. In northern and southern regions it is respectively called aurora borealis, or northern lights, and aurora australis, or southern lights.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob Phillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor

Please note: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order.

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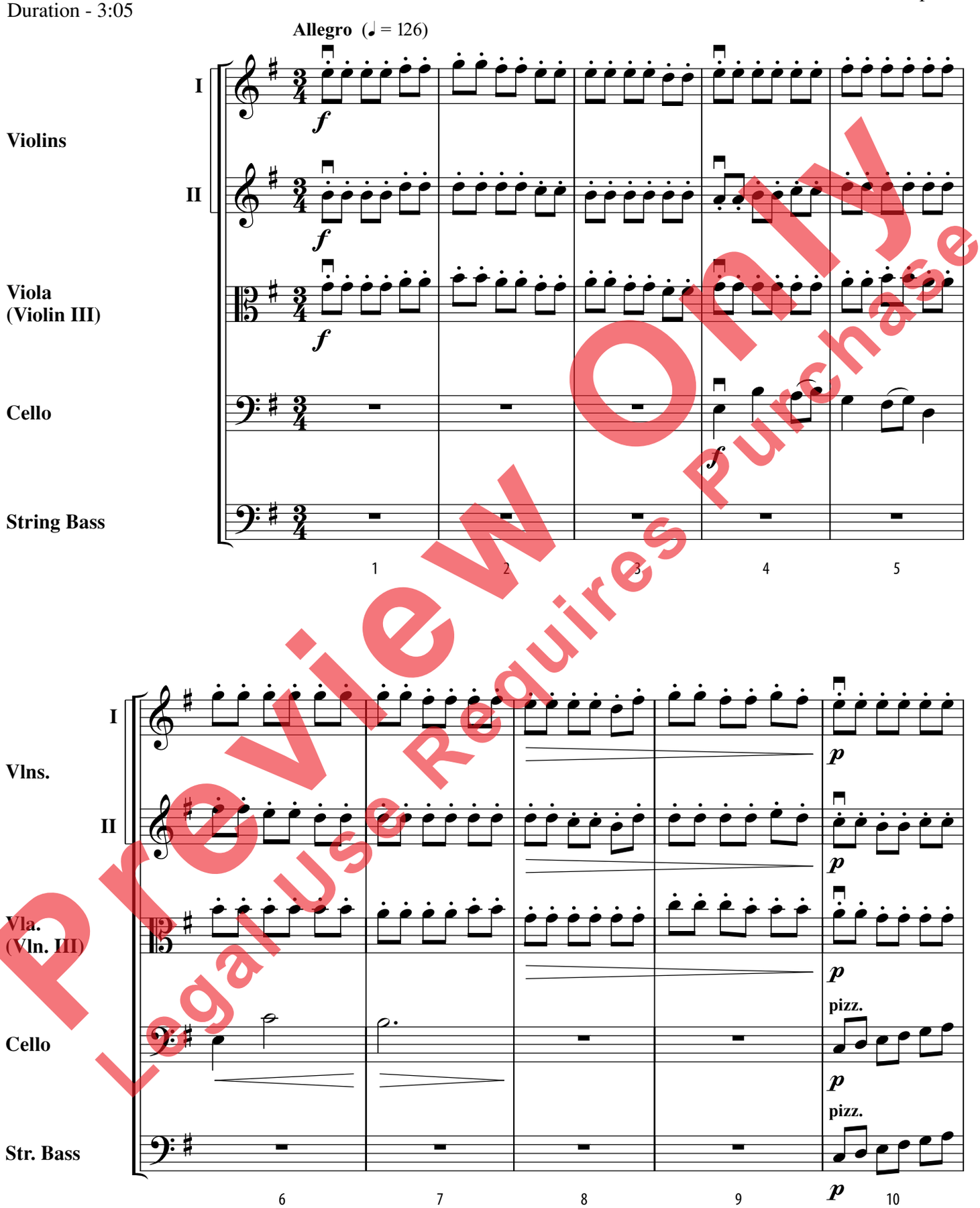
CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 3:05

Michael Hopkins



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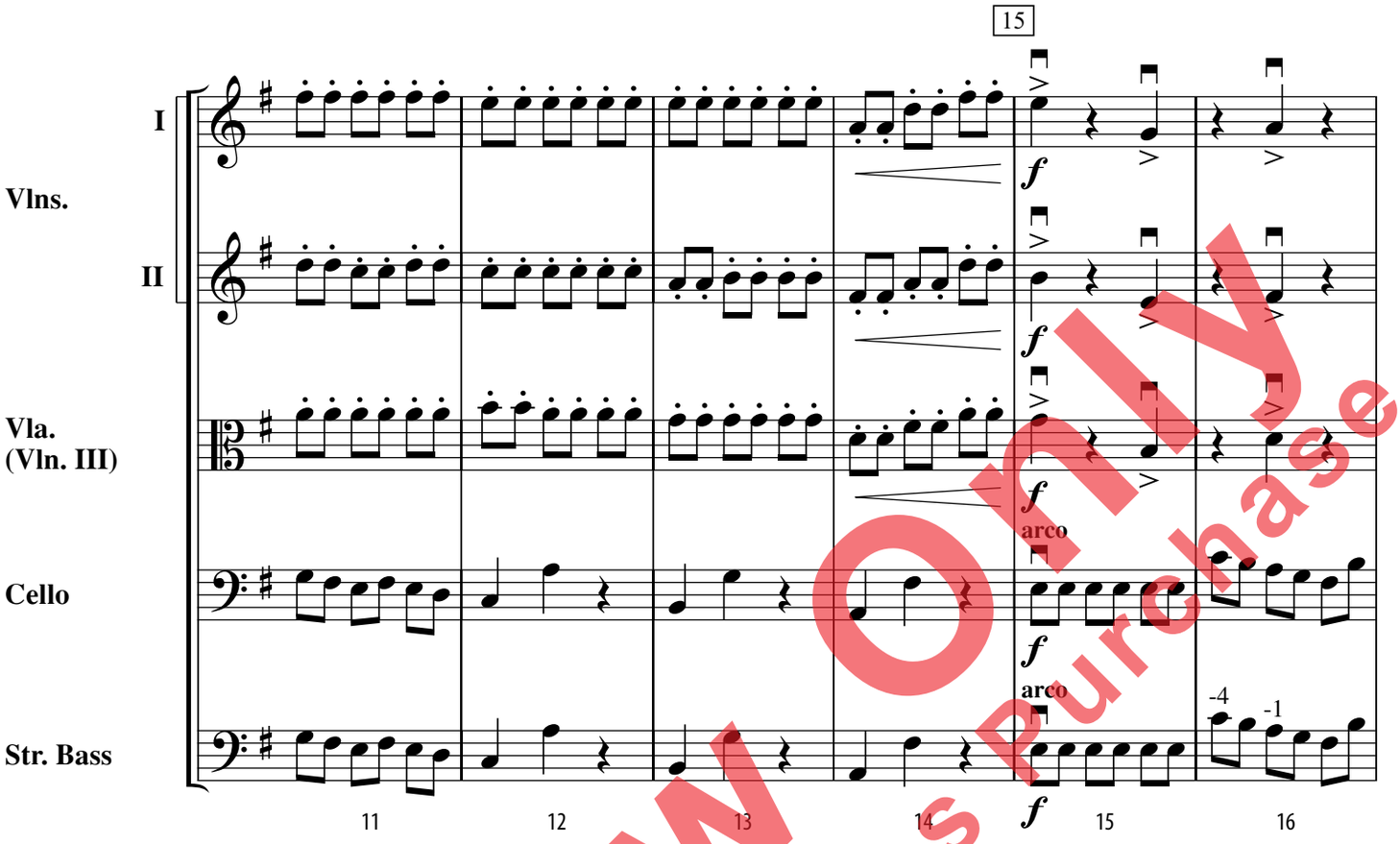

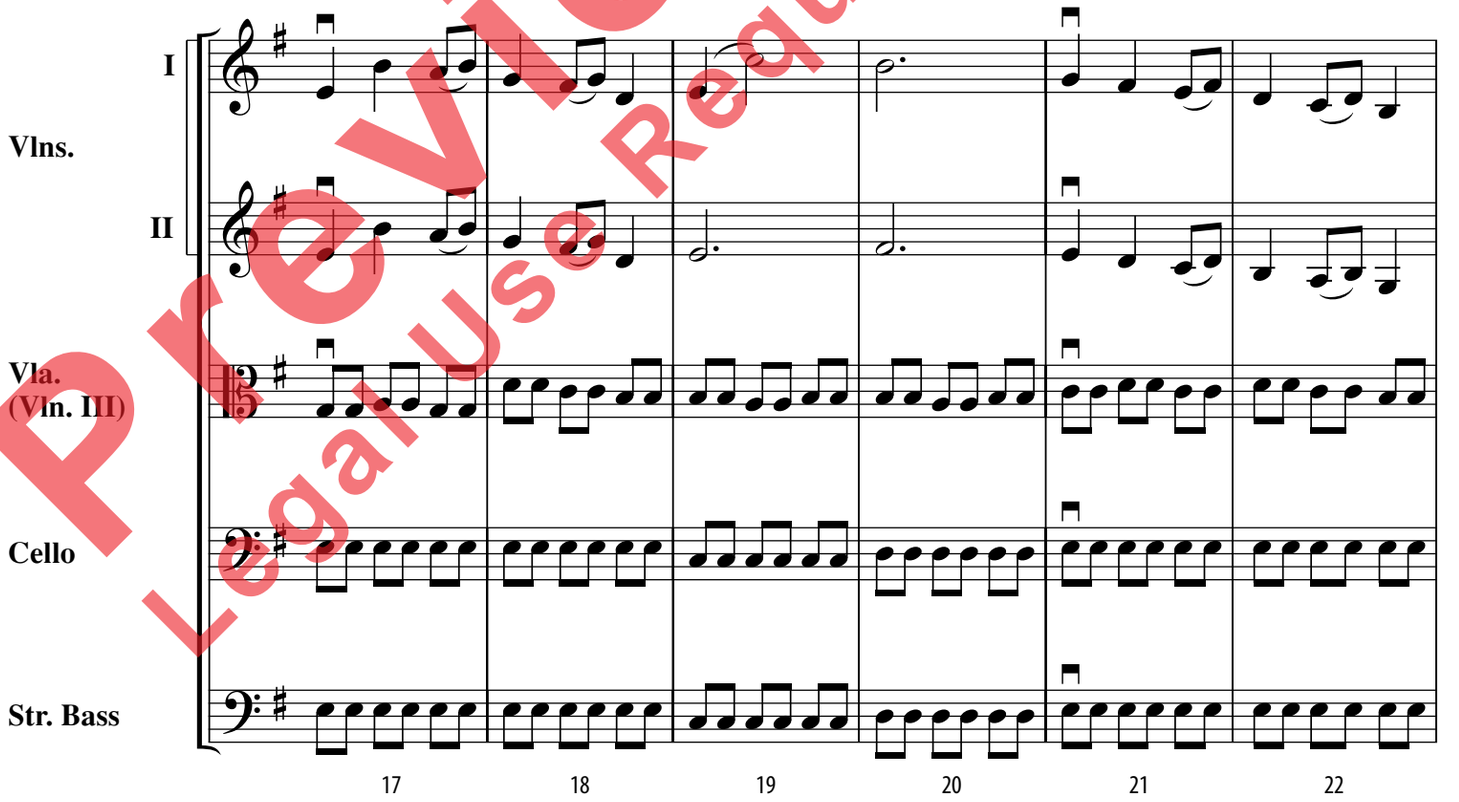

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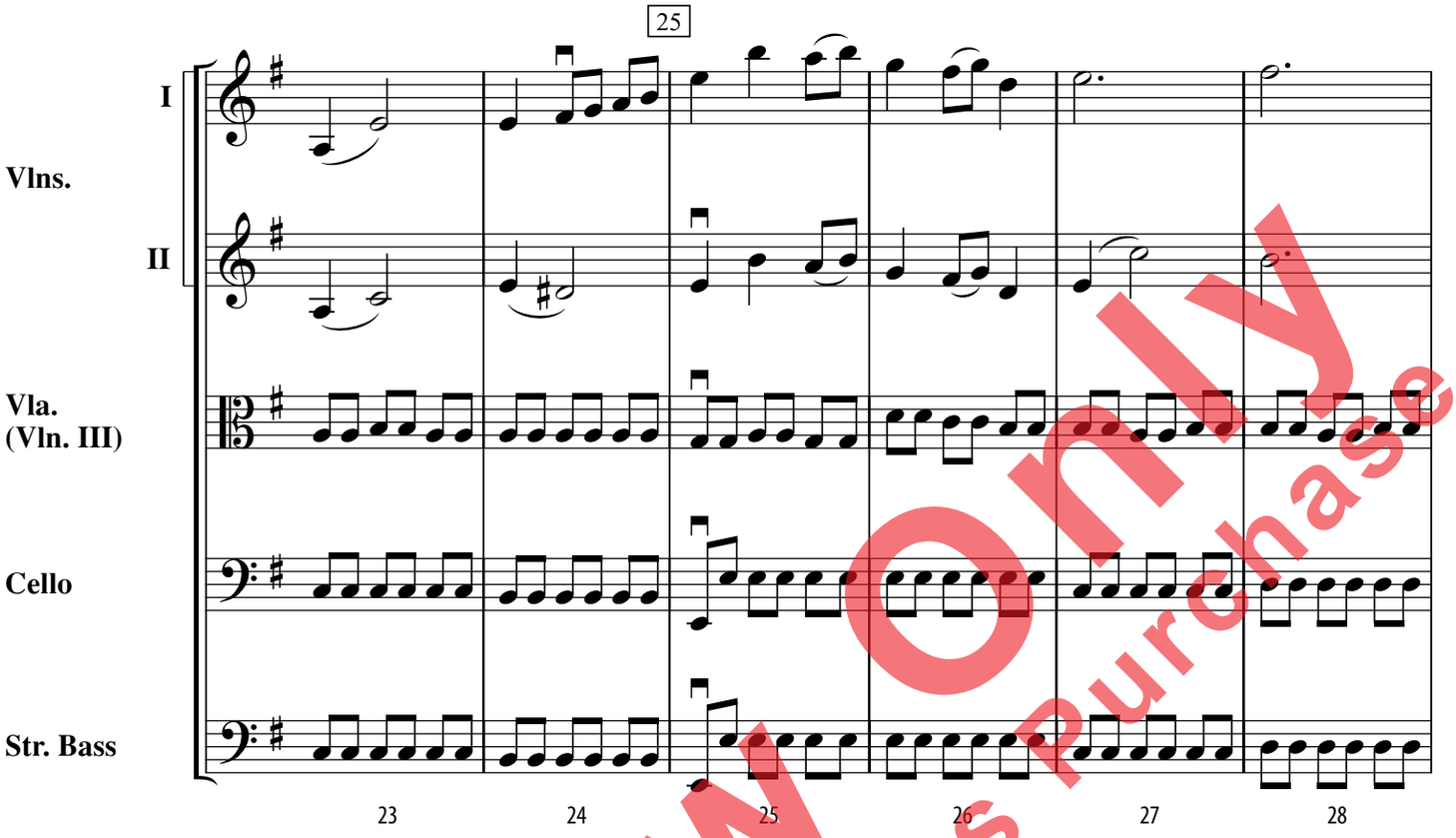

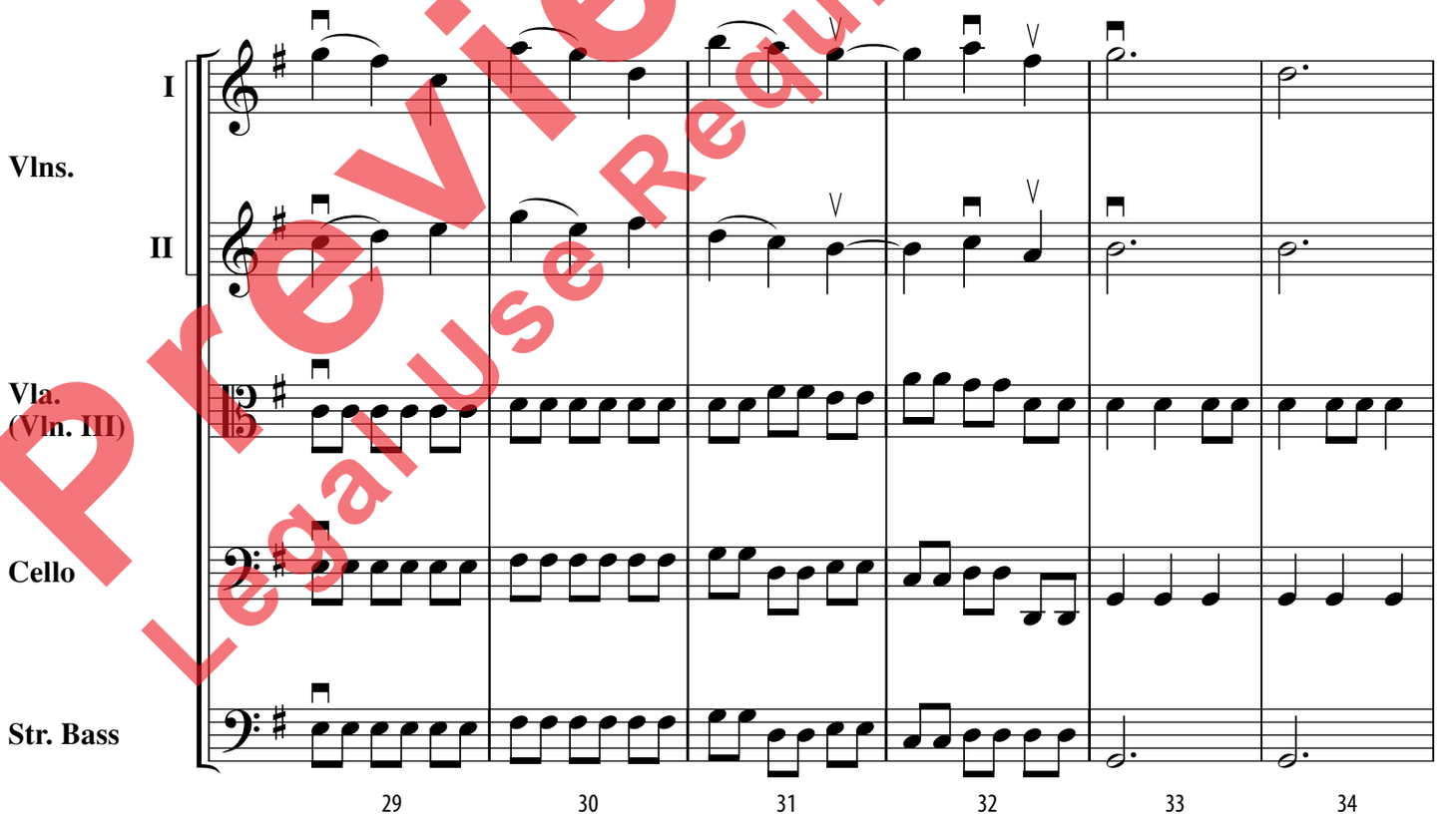

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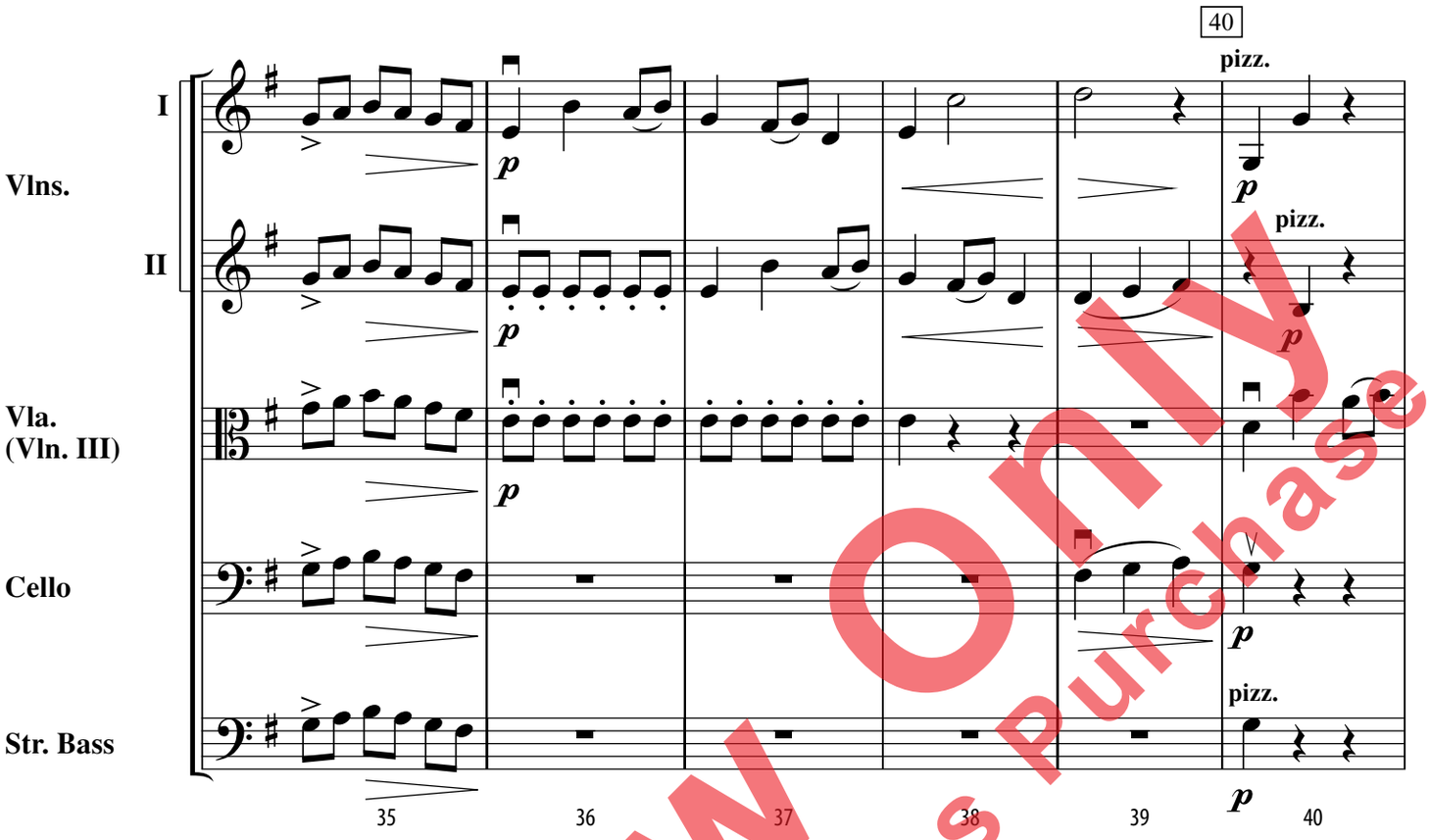

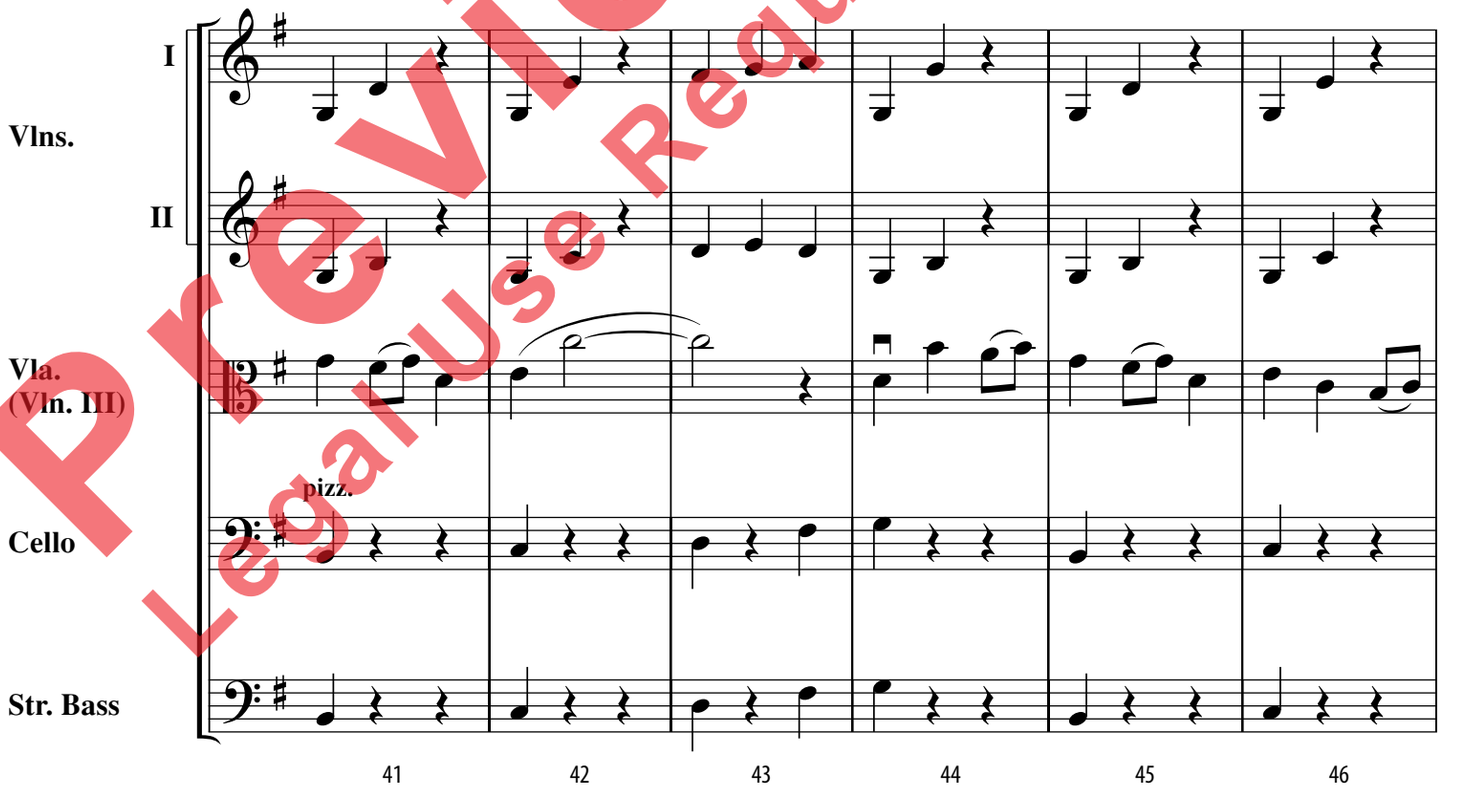

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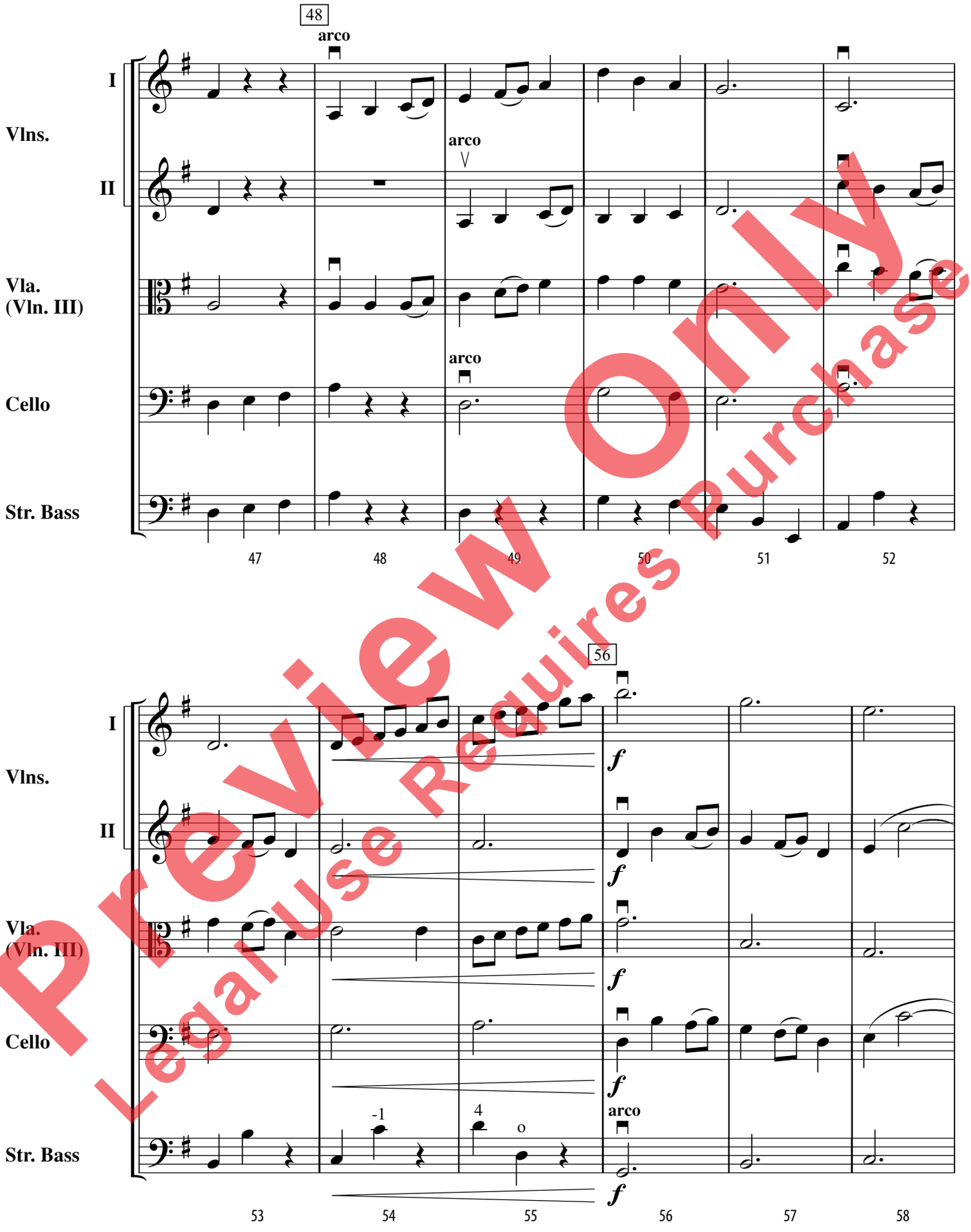

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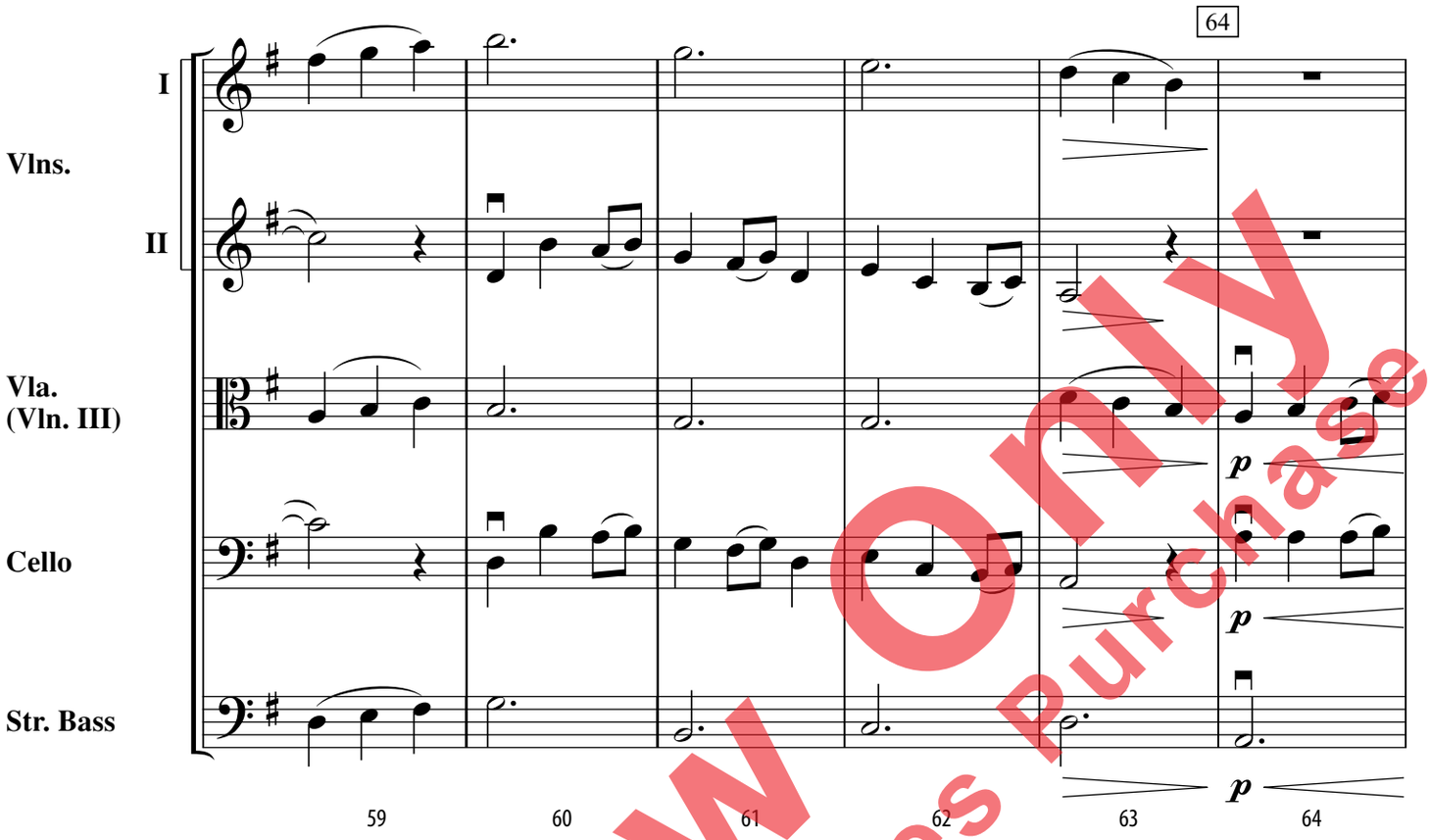

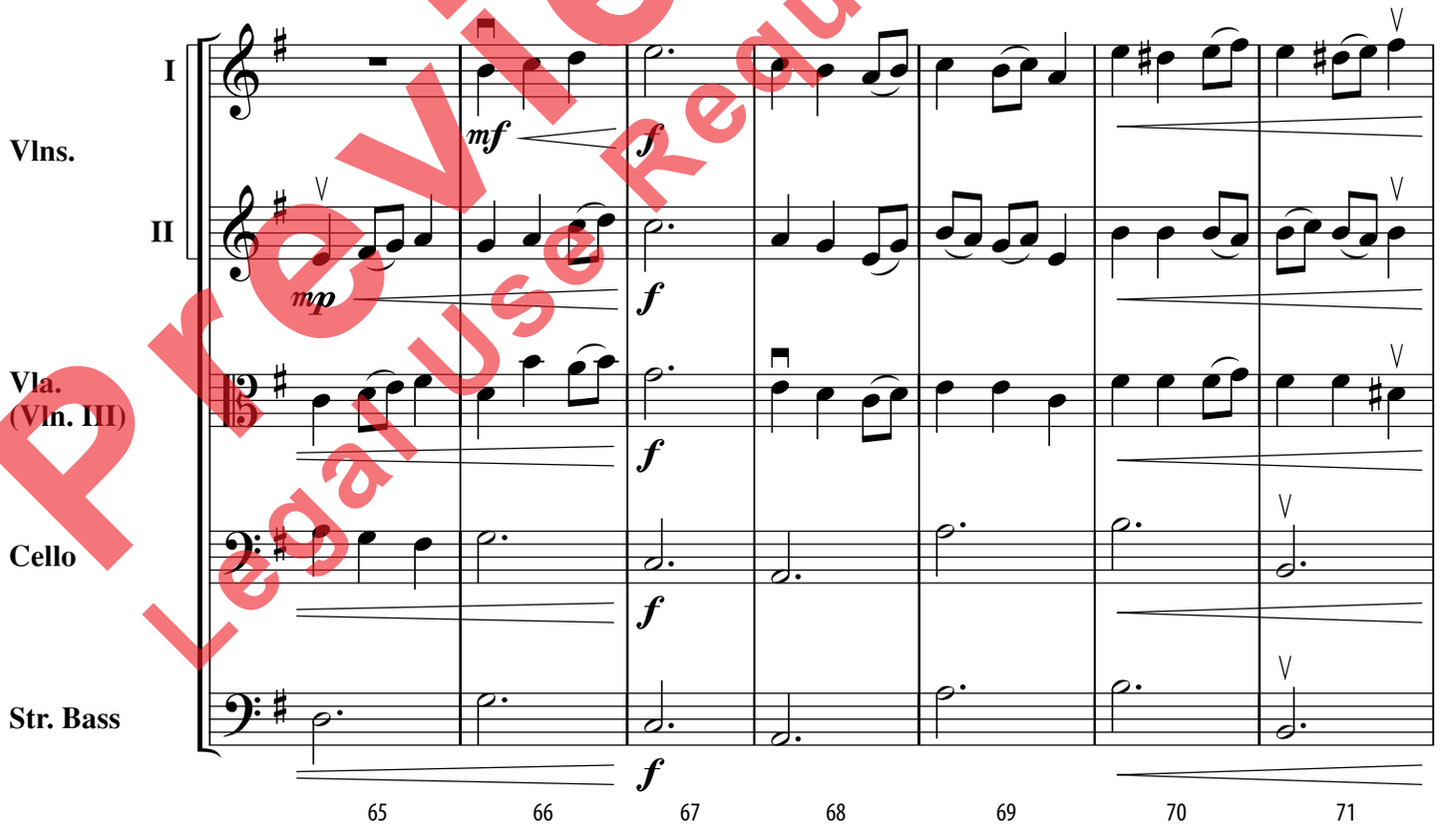

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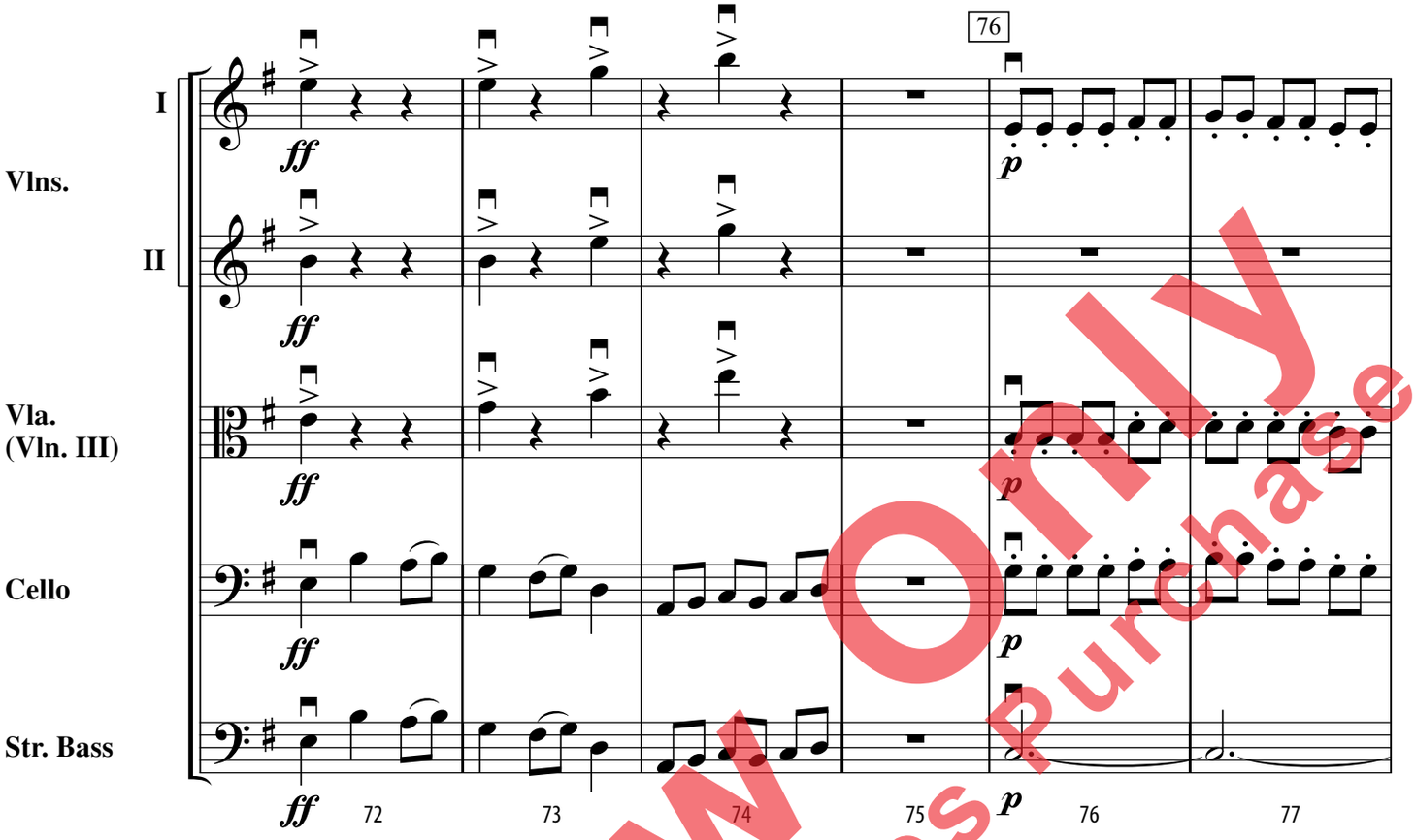

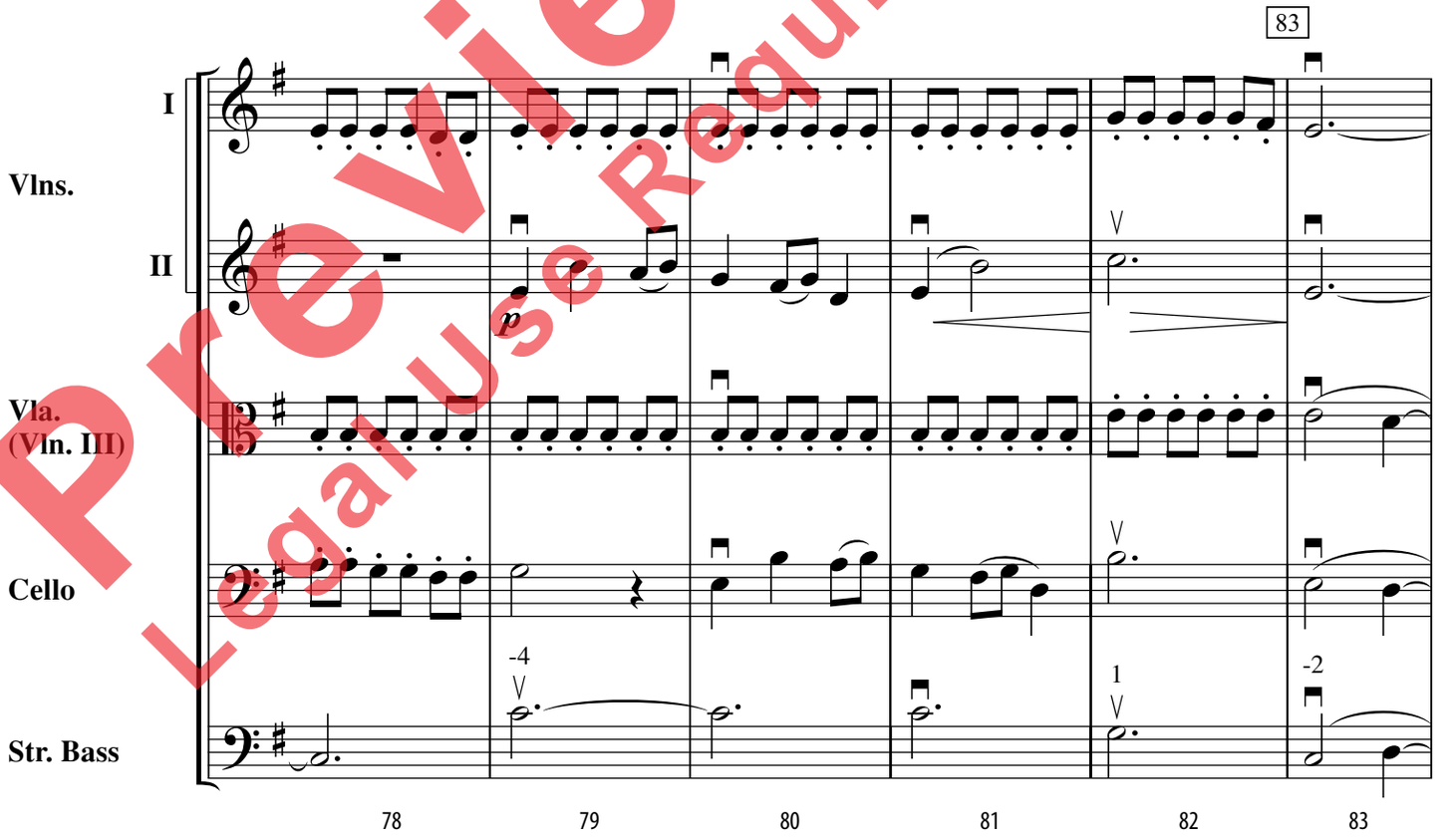

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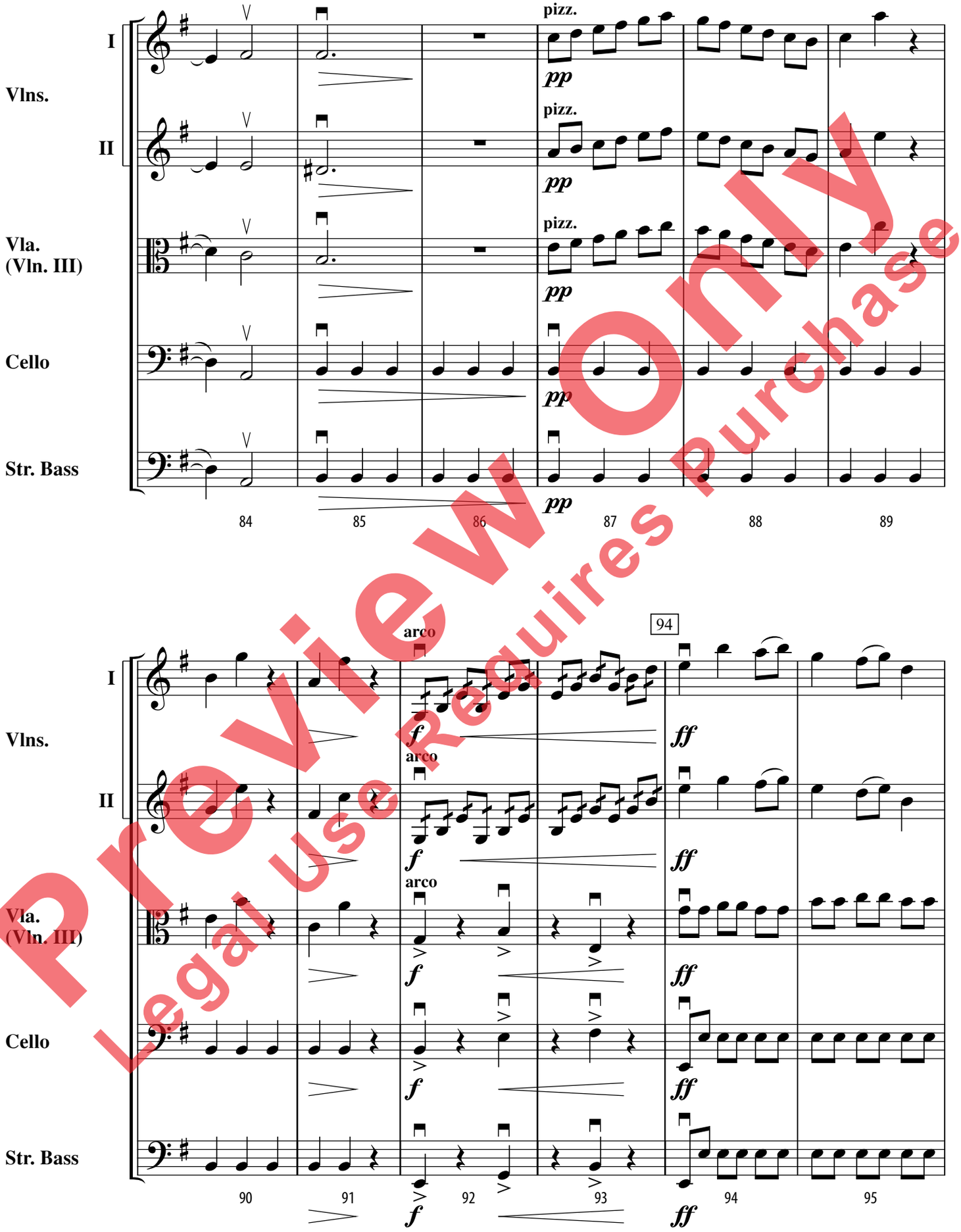

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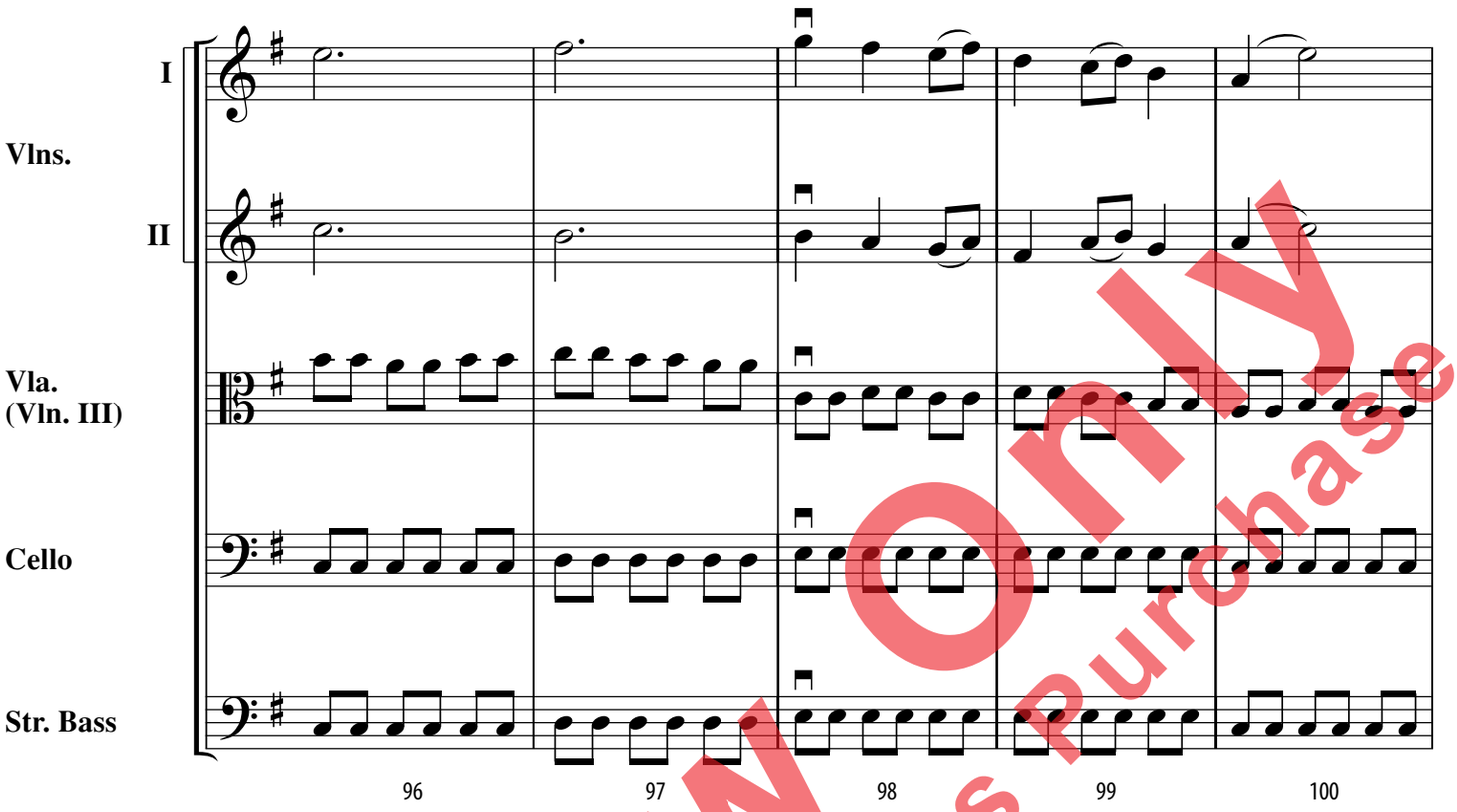

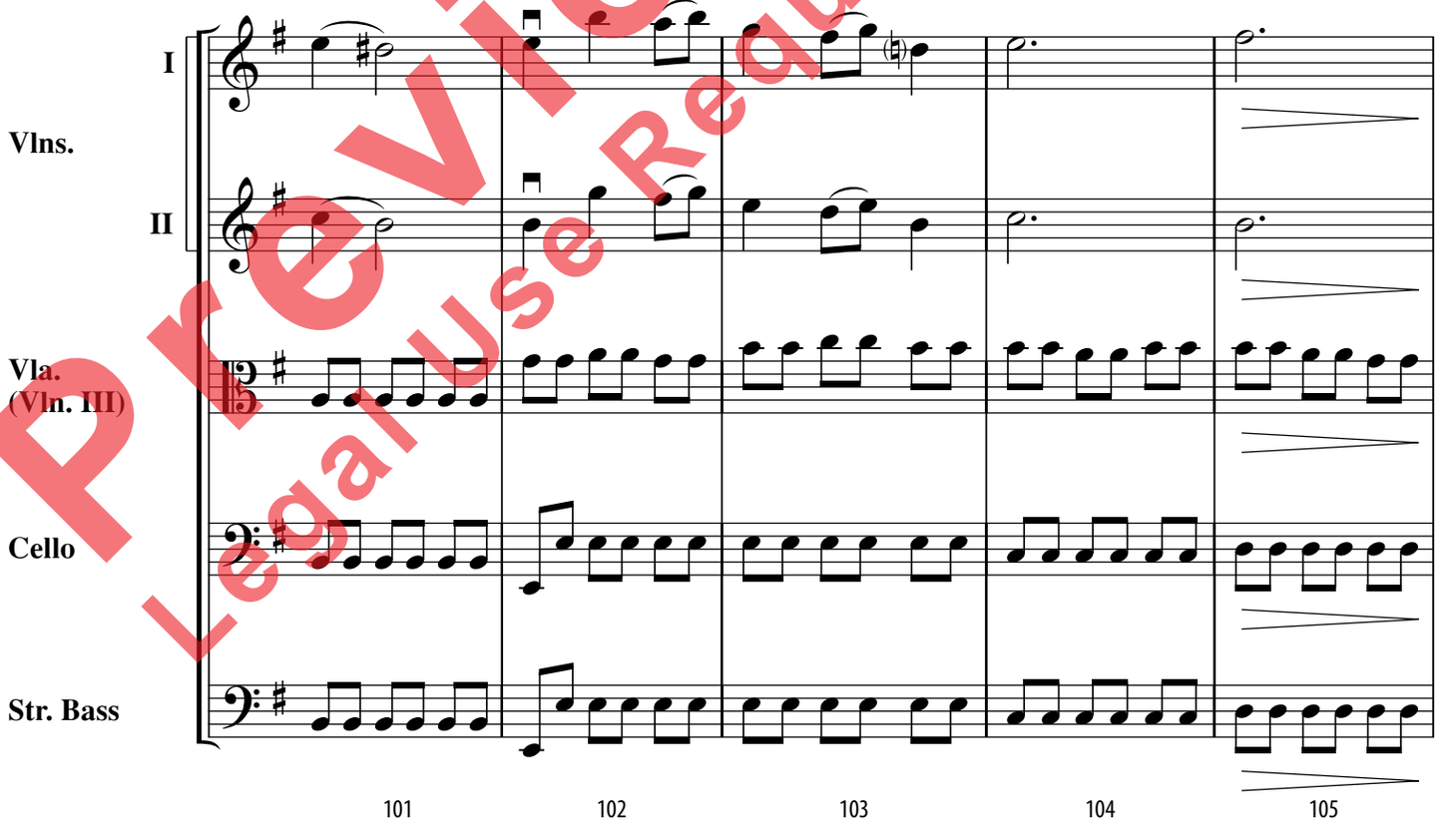

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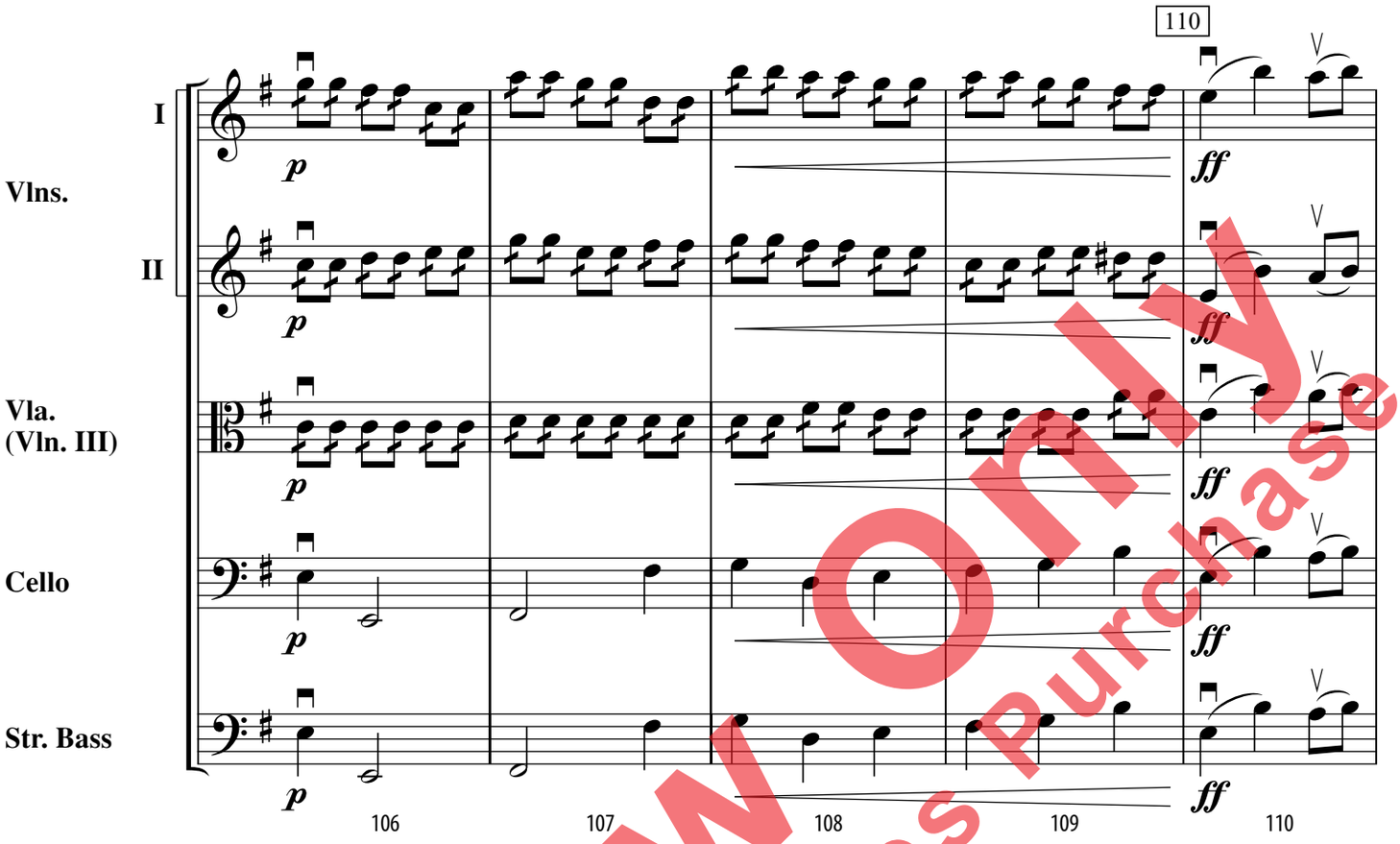

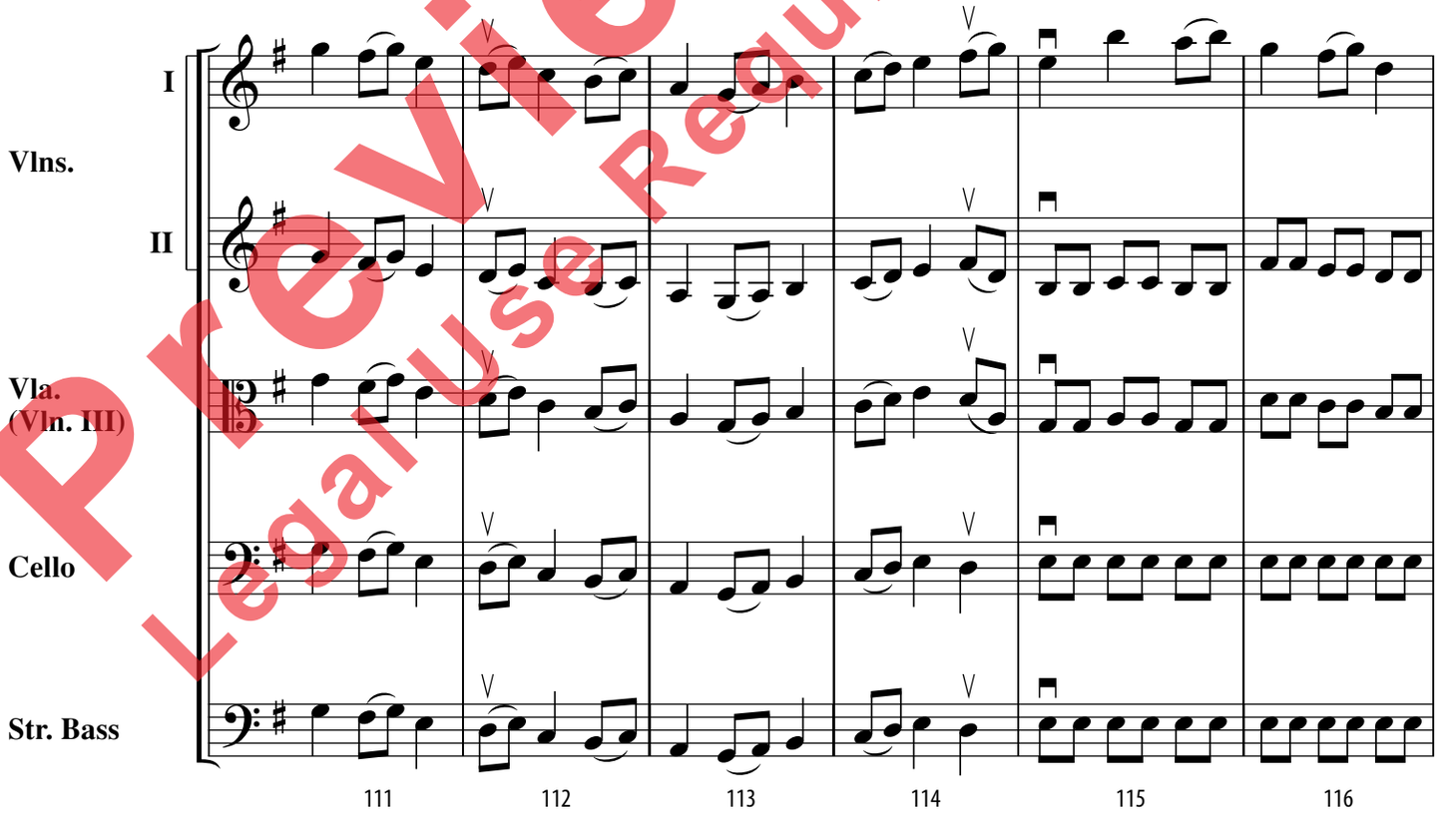

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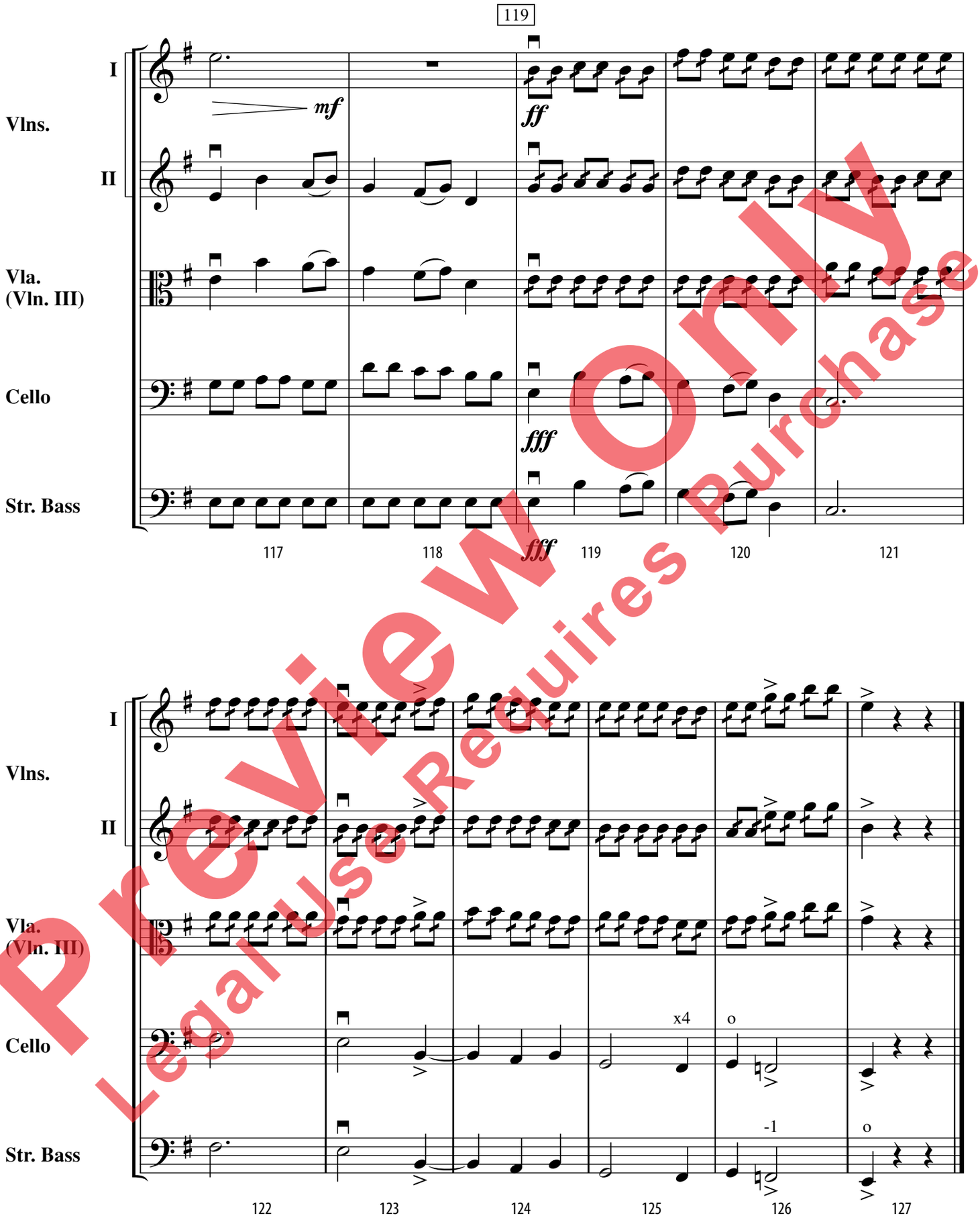

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