

Ready? Set? Play!

Sound advice for getting started on your instrument

INSTRUMENT CARE

1. String instruments are made of wood and are fragile. Be careful with your instrument.
2. Your teacher will show you how to remove the instrument from the case and return it, and how to handle it carefully.
3. Your teacher will show you how to apply rosin to your bow and how to tighten and loosen the hair.
4. Keep your instrument clean by wiping the rosin dust off with a soft cloth.
5. Remove the shoulder rest before putting your instrument into the case.
6. Loosen the bow before putting it away.

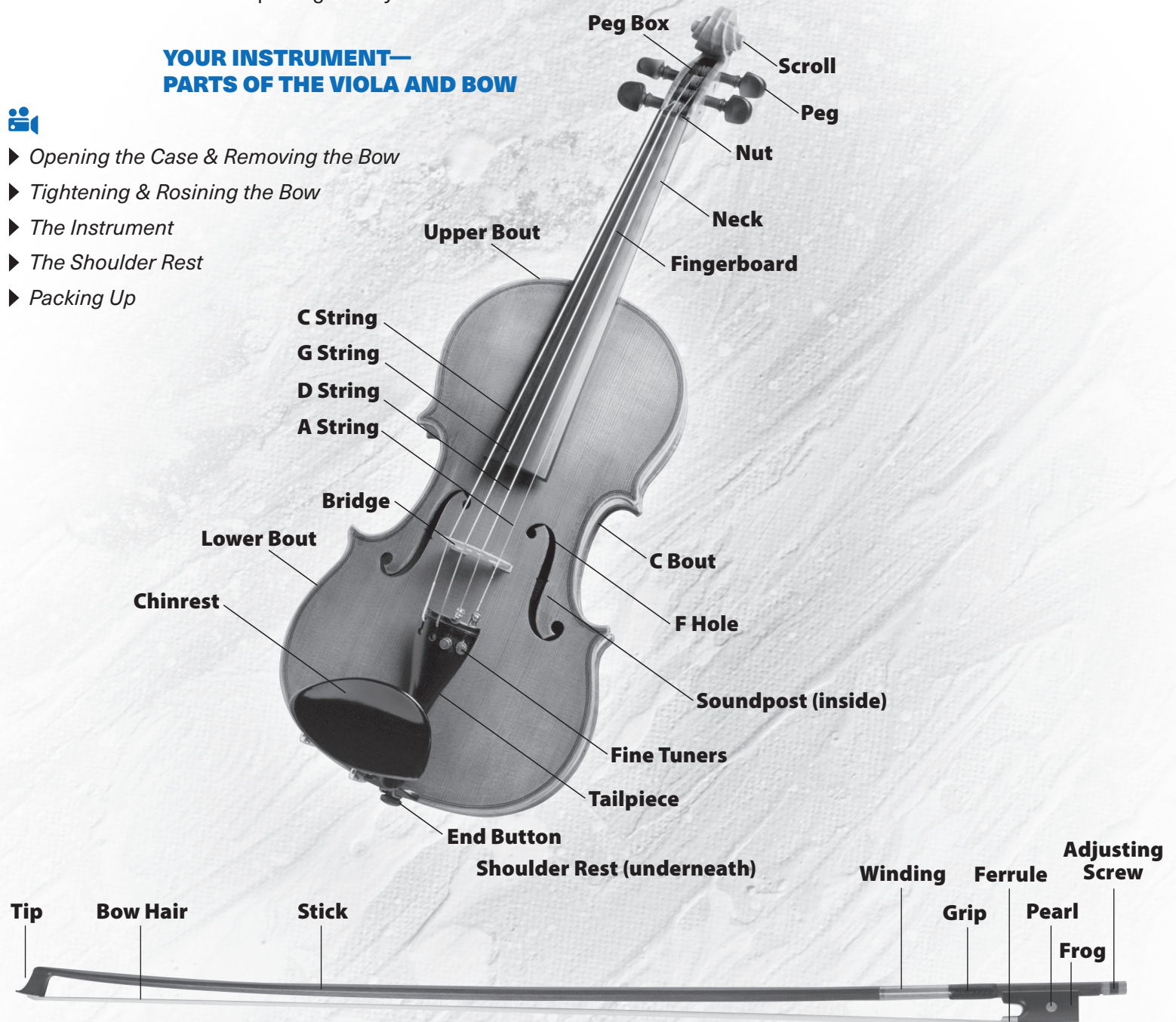
INSTRUMENT HISTORY

The earliest bowed string instruments were the *erhu* from China, the *rebab* from the Middle East, and the *esraj* from India. The instruments we know today as the violin family (violin, viola, and cello) were developed in Europe in the 1500s. The string bass developed later. Some of the most famous string instrument makers, or luthiers, were Italian families such as the Amatis, Guarneris, and Stradivaris. Many of these instruments, made hundreds of years ago, are still played today. New developments in string instrument making are ongoing, but the basics have remained virtually unchanged for 500 years.

YOUR INSTRUMENT— PARTS OF THE VIOLA AND BOW



- ▶ Opening the Case & Removing the Bow
- ▶ Tightening & Rosining the Bow
- ▶ The Instrument
- ▶ The Shoulder Rest
- ▶ Packing Up



Level 2: Sound Fundamentals

LEFT-HAND PIZZICATO (+) tells you to pluck the string with the 4th finger of the left hand.

FINGER PLUCKS—Play arco and then pluck with the 4th finger.

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NEW FINGERING



▶ *New Fingerings Levels 2 & 3*

FOURTH FINGER A ON THE D STRING—Make sure your 4th finger is in tune by comparing it to the open A.

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A NEW WAY TO PLAY A—Play A with the 4th finger.

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FRÈRE JACQUES—In this familiar song, we practice repeats and the 4th-finger A.

French Folk Song

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DREYDL, DREYDL—How many times do you play an A?

Jewish Folk Song

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SHEPHERD'S HEY—Play the left-hand pizzicato notes with emphasis.

English-Australian Folk Song

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