

# THE BELWIN STRING BUILDER

VIOLA  
Book One

by Samuel Applebaum

## FOREWORD

The Belwin String Builder is a string class Method in which the Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass play together throughout. Each book, however, is a complete unit and may be used separately for class or individual instruction.

In this Method, the quarter note approach is adopted not only because it is the unit of the beat, but because it encourages freedom of the bow arm at the outset. Starting from No. 15, the open string melodies and those that introduce the first finger serve as an accompaniment to well-known folk songs which are written for the piano. This provides musical purpose to the melodies and stimulates rhythmic interest. A small "p" after the number indicates that there is a piano part for that melody.

After the first finger, F# and C# are introduced. This has proven to be most practicable from the standpoint of tonality and left hand finger placement. From this point on, the student plays the actual melodies. However, on Page 20, F natural and C natural are presented to develop intonation and to more readily prepare the pupil for the school orchestra.

The material in this book is realistically graded so that only a minimum of explanatory material is required. Each melody is interesting and will provide the basis for a fine left hand technic and bow arm.

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## MORE MELODIES with OPEN STRINGS

### The Whistle

NURSERY RHYME

17 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'The Whistle' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are two square accents above the first and fifth measures.

### Pierrot

FRENCH FOLK SONG

18 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Pierrot' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and a 'v' (down-bow) marking above the eighth measure.

### THE HALF REST (on the 3rd line)

The half rest receives 2 counts.

### Bobbie Shafto

NURSERY RHYME

19 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Bobbie Shafto' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and a 'v' (down-bow) marking above the eighth measure.

### Baa! Baa! Black Sheep

NURSERY RHYME

20 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Baa! Baa! Black Sheep' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and a 'v' (down-bow) marking above the eighth measure.

### Hot Cross Buns

NURSERY RHYME

21 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Hot Cross Buns' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and a 'v' (down-bow) marking above the eighth measure.

### LIFTING the BOW

Lift the bow when you see the two slanted lines (//).

### Who is Thumbkin?

FRENCH DANCE SONG

22 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Who is Thumbkin?' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and two slanted lines (//) above the eighth measure.

### Merrily We Roll Along

TRADITIONAL

23 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Merrily We Roll Along' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and a 'v' (down-bow) marking above the eighth measure.

### Old King Cole

TRADITIONAL

24 <sup>p</sup> Musical notation for 'Old King Cole' in 3/4 time, starting with a piano (p) dynamic. The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half rest on the third line, followed by a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. There are square accents above the first and fifth measures, and two slanted lines (//) above the eighth measure.

In 22p, we lift the bow at the end of the phrase in order to start down-bow.

In 24p, we lift the bow because the phrase ends on an up-bow approaching the frog.

# STRENGTHENING the FOURTH FINGER - LEFT HAND PIZZICATO

The notes marked with crosses (+) are to be plucked with the 4th finger of the left hand.

## The Fourth Does the Picking

115 *p*

## Chop Sticks

116 *f* TRADITIONAL

*p*

## A Maypole Dance

Lift the bow before you pluck the string.

117 *f* ENGLISH SINGING GAME

## Smooth Slurring

118 *f*<sup>3</sup>

*f*

## Snowflakes

119 *p* FRENCH FOLK TUNE