

Second and Fourth Position **STRING BUILDER**

FOREWORD

The Second and Fourth Position String Builder is to be used after the Third and Fifth Position String Builder. However, it is also to be used as a continuation of Book III of any of the standard string class methods.

In this book, the Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass play together. The book for each instrument, however, is a complete unit and may be used separately for class or individual instruction. In this book the pupil is carefully taken step by step through the second and fourth positions. The pupil is taught to find each finger, after which simple shifts are introduced with the same finger, followed by shifts to these positions with different fingers. Each type of shift is presented and developed with interesting melodies.

This book includes the following bowings: the *détaché*, the *collé*, the *martelé*, wrist and finger stroke, *spiccato*, and *staccato*.

The material in this volume is chosen for its musical interest and its technical value. There are a number of duets which are to be played by either two pupils or with the class divided into two groups. There also are a number of melodies in which the class becomes a string ensemble, each instrument playing a different part. A small "p" after the number indicates there is a piano part for that melody.

The material in this book is realistically graded so that only a minimum of explanatory material is required. Suggestions for work by Rote are presented throughout the book.

TECHNICAL PROGRESSION

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The Second Position (2nd)

Slide the entire hand up the fingerboard (from the elbow joint) until the first finger reaches the 2nd finger. As in the 1st position, the thumb is placed opposite the 1st finger, with a space between the base of the thumb and the neck.

“t” above a note means to test the note with the open string. Leave the finger on the string while testing.

Finding the First Finger in the Second Position

Play each of these a few times. Use the whole bow for the entire page.

First Finger Ditty

Finding the Second Finger

On the G string, the 2nd finger C (in the 2nd position) is a half step from the 1st finger B. On the other strings, the 2nd finger is a whole step from the 1st finger. Be sure to keep the lower fingers down.

Finding the Third Finger

On all strings (in the 2nd position) the 3rd finger is a whole step from the 2nd finger.