

Maia Bang Violin Method Part 1 — Elementary

Author's Preface2-3	Exercises for Gaining Experience in Legato
Autograph Letter from Prof. L. Auer	Playing During String Transfers
The Violin and Its Component Parts5-6	Varieties of Bowing
The Bow and Its Component Parts	Correct Finger Action Across the Strings53-54
How to Hold the Violin Correctly	Preparatory Exercises for Establishing the
How to Hold the Bow Correctly9	Exact Position of B and F55
How to Draw the Bow Correctly	Six-Eight Time55
Illustrations of Correct Postures	Scale of A Minor56
The Simplest Rudiments of Music	Notes of Different Time-Value in One Bow57
Staff, Bars, Measures and Time	The Up-Beat58
Notes—their Shape and Time-Value	Scale of G Major
Rests	Exercises for Crossing the Strings
The Four Strings of the Violin	Detached Notes in One Bow
The Tuning of the Four Strings	Skips Across One and Two Strings
How to Attach the Strings Correctly	Exercises for Change of Bow64
First Exercises for the Open Strings	Exercises Across Two Strings
First Exercises for the Combination of all Four Strings 25	Dynamic Signs
Exercise for Gaining Firmer Control of the Bow26	Duet (Pleyel)
Position and Action of the Fingers of the Left Hand26	Scale of E Minor67
Whole-steps and Half-steps	Bowing Varieties
Additional Remarks Concerning Action of the Fingers 28	Scale of D Major70
Additional Remarks Concerning Use of the Bow28	Tempo Marks .71
First Use of the Fingers	Rustic Dance72
First Finger on A and E Strings	Intervals
First Finger on D and G Strings30	Exercises for Crossing the Strings
Second Finger on A and E Strings	Minuet (Mozart)
Second Finger on D and G Strings	Bowing Exercises
Third Finger on A and E Strings	Scale of B Minor
Third Finger on D and G Strings34	Sixteenth Notes80-81
Fourth Finger on A and E Strings35	Scale of A Major
Fourth Finger on D and G Strings	Staccato Bowing
Preparatory Exercises for Crossing and Gradual	Combination of Legato and Staccato Bowing85-86
Connection of the Four Strings37	Happy School Days (Spohr)87
Additional Exercises in Quarter Notes37-39	Scale of F# Minor
Two-Four Time 40	Dotted Eighths (Legato)89
Three-Four Time	Dotted Eighths (Staccato)90
Four-Four Time	Scale of E Major91
The Scale 43	Home, Sweet Home (Bishop)92
The Minor Scale	The March of Spain92
Scale of C Major44	Daily Finger Studies
Eighth Notes	Scale of C# Minor94
Dotted Notes	Tenth and Last Etude95
Legato Playing—The Slur	Dear Old Mother (Grieg)96

-AUTHOR'S PREFACE -

Inspired by that most prominent of all modern violin pedagogues, Professor Leopold Auer, with whom I had the great opportunity of studying in Petrograd, I conceived the idea to write, as clearly as possible, a Violin Method wherein Prof. Auer's new and unconventional teaching principles would be set forth and thus made available for the teaching fraternity.

I have, ever since earliest childhood, had a rapt interest in that most marvelous of all instruments, the Violin. My constant desire to acquaint myself with every phase of violin playing led me to investigate a great variety of methods, and for many years, I devoted myself to the thorough study of the "German School" in Leipzig, the "Belgian School" and "French School" in Paris and Geneva, and finally the "Russian School" in Petrograd. To the latter I came at the most opportune time, when Prof. Auer's classes were attended by some of his most gifted young violin prodigies.

The opportunities to profit through the advice of this master, the intellectual uplift gained through personal contact and the remarkable results I achieved through his entirely original teaching proved a revelation to me and I realized 'ere long how much in advance his teaching principles those of all other pedagogues with whom I had studied.

When the great European war forced the Master to leave Russia and come to the United States, I grasped the wonderful opportunity to follow him as his assistant teacher; and it was here I wrote the "Maia Bang Violin Method," published in seven volumes. The work covers every phase of violin teaching and violin playing from the very beginning to the highest artistic realization. Into this method has been introduced Prof. Auer's most important instructive principles, not only as a developing feature, but so closely fitted to the exercise material as to prove of the utmost benefit to the student.

In arranging for a well-graded plan of development in this method, I followed one of the most important principles of my illustrious master: to combine purely technical with musical needs at all times by providing a liberal, progressive amount of technical material and relieving it with melodious little pieces designed to interest the pupil and accustom his ear to pleasing and gratifying musical impressions from the very start.

Practical experience proves to every teacher how irksome a task it is to teach the elementary principles of violin playing, and I have long since arrived at the conclusion that in order to succeed we must present every instructive principle and every technical problem in as clear and simple a manner as possible. To this end I would advise the following procedure of practice:

With exercises of pieces offering difficulties for both fingers and bow, the task for mastering the technical details should be divided, owing to the fact that it is a difficult problem for young pupils to concentrate simultaneously upon such different work as the right and left hand are called upon to execute. In other words: the entire attention of the pupil should be concentrated at first upon the fingers of the left hand—using a separate bow for each note—and only when comparative surety in intonation and finger action have been gained should he play with the marked bowings. For instance:

Practice at first with separate bow to each note:



and later on with the bowing as marked:



This system of practising will bring about rapid and satisfactory results and should be employed throughout the entire method.



Maia Bang — Violin Method, Part I

Before closing I beg to refer in brief to the responsibilities and nerve-racking duties of our violin teachers. Only through their devotion and conscientious work can we look forward to the artistic development of our future soloists, discriminating amateurs, and last but not least, of those important members of symphonic organizations such as first and second violinists and viola players.

The violin teacher in truth is one of the fundamental pillars of musical development and if in the presentation of this new method I have succeeded in lightening his arduous and trying duties to even a partial extent, I shall find myself amply rewarded.

The admirable art of violin playing demands long, incessant and pains-taking application and in closing let me recall the old Latin proverb, applicable alike to violin playing as to all the other arts:

Per aspera ad astra! (Through bolts and bars to the stars!)

MAIA BANG.

Preface to the Revised Edition

It is a great pleasure to offer this new, revised edition of my popular Violin Method, made possible through the courtesy of my esteemed publisher.

Naturally—nothing has been changed either in plan or general layout of my method—I have only brought it up to date and made it more accurate and concise.

More than 300,000 copies of this method have been sold—what a pleasure to see one's work so appreciated and used. I hope it may continue to be of great use and help to my dear friends, the violin teachers, in their strenuous and important work.

Maia Bang







270 RIVERSIDE DRIVE NEW YORK CITY

January 5- the 1919

Dear Miss Hang,

I have read and re- read your Violen-Ichool

with great interest and becognize with pleasure how thoroughly you have been guided

by my own teaching principles and how

completely and clearly you have presented

Them in the book . I I consider the method

an excellent one for beginners and sincerely hope that it will find the deserved sympathy

and support of teachers who, from the start,

wish to lead their pupies along the real and

sure road of violin playing-

Bolieve me Yours most einserely

J. Quer



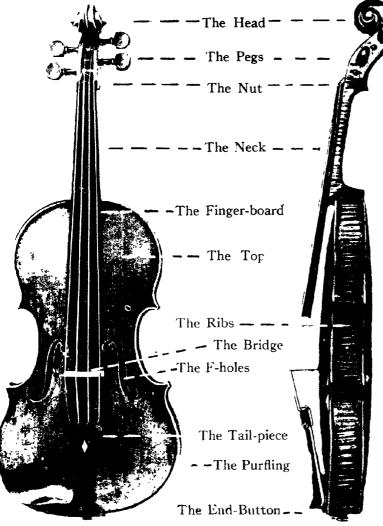


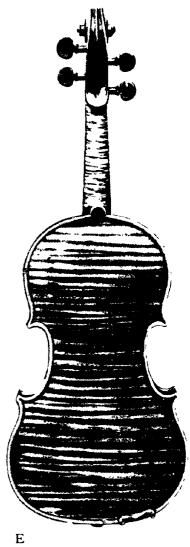
THE VIOLIN and ITS COMPONENT PARTS

Front View
The Top
(Made of Pine wood)

Side View
The Ribs
(Made of Maple wood)

Back View
The Back
(Made of Maple wood)

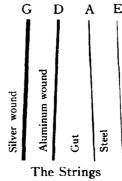


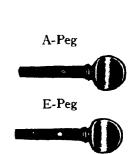




The Bridge







COMPONENT PARTS OF THE VIOLIN (continued)



Inside of the Violin with Top removed

THE INSIDE of the Violin is like an empty box with a number of small corner-blocks placed at the top, bottom and sides, stabilizing the different parts of the Violin.

It also has a lining which follows the contour of the instrument.

THE BASS-BAR is a narrow strip of wood glued against the inner surface of the top and running parallel with the outside G-string. It serves to strengthen the top under the heavy pressure of the thickest string on the Violin (the G-string) and equalize the vibrations.

The Bass-bar (dotted line inside the Violin shows position of Bass-bar under the top)

THE SOUND-POST is a small round wooden prop set inside the Violin, between the Top and Back, just behind the right foot of the bridge. Its function is to brace the Top against the pressure of the strings, transmitting as well as regulating their vibrations. It is through this little prop that the whole body of the Violin is rendered resonant. Owing to its great influence upon the tone of the Violin it is rightly called "I'ame du Violon", (the soul of the Violin).

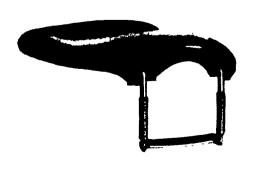
THE END BUTTON sets in the lower end of the ribs of the violin and serves the purpose of holding the Tail-piece to which it is fastened with a strand of heavy gut.



THE CHIN-REST should ve two different purposes:

- Its first purpose should be to enable the Violin player to hold the Violin firmly and securely.
- Its second purpose should be to protect the top of the Violin from being touched by the chin of the player.

According to the latest scientific research, the Violin loses more of its tonal volume when being touched on the top than on the back.



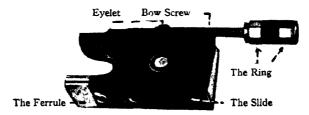
The Chin-Rest



THE BOW and ITS COMPONENT PARTS



THE STICK of the bow is made of *Pernambuco* wood. It is ordinarily round, but occasionally octagonal.



THE FROG AND ITS PARTS

THE FROG of the bow is made of Ebony. Fine bows are mounted with silver or gold. The hairs are horse hairs.

Before using the bow tighten the hair by means of the screw in order to impart the necessary tension to the stick. This tension, however, must never be so great as to cause the stick to become straight; the latter should always remain slightly bent towards the hair. Before playing, the hair should be rubbed with a moderate amount of rosin, and after playing, the hair should invariably be loosened. When the hair becomes worn out, or shiny, and refuses to retain the rosin, it must be renewed.

Always Keep Your Violin and Bow in Perfect Condition and Spotlessly Clean!

Great importance attaches to the size of the violin and bow with which a beginner starts. Both must neither be too large nor too small and a mistake in this respect is liable to increase the difficulties of the pupil to a very considerable extent. To make sure, the teacher should always select the violin and bow, as he or she is best qualified to judge of the practical needs of the beginner.

When you come for a lesson:

"Don't Make Excuses!

Make Good!"

(Remark by Professor Leopold Auer)

The above is one of the first of Prof. Leopold Auer's teaching principles and remarks to be applied to the general instructive plan of this Method; others of equal importance are mentioned throughout this Method in his customary concise, authoritative manner and always signed with his initials: L.A.

The Authoress



HOW TO HOLD THE VIOLIN CORRECTLY

1. Stand erect, with weight of the body resting on the left foot. (See illustration 12, p. 15)

Stand erect, perfectly quiet, with freedom and ease, and always hold your shoulders well to the rear. Such a position will enable freer breathing and better tone production. L.A.

- 2. Bend the *left arm* well toward the *right*, in order to enable your fingers to fall upon the strings from above and with the necessary surety and strength; in fact your elbow must be drawn under the instrument to such an extent that you can see a little part of it. (See Ill. 1, p. 13). Never hold the elbow towards the left. Also remember, that the Violin *should never* be held in position by the left hand—only by collar-bone and jaw-bone. The hand should always be free and independent for the purpose of playing.
- 3. Hold the violin in a horizontal and slanting position—the right side lower than t he left, place it upon the collarbone and hold it firmly in position with the jaw-bone upon the chin-rest. (See Ill. 2, p. 13)

Hold the Violin well up in front of you and in such a manner that the top of the instrument will face the listener. Such a position will enable the tone to leave the F holes in a direct line towards the listener, without detriment to its volume or quality. L.A.

4. Never use your left shoulder to support the instrument and hold the latter firmly in position with aid of the collar and jaw-bone only (see Ill. 4, p. 13). In fact do not allow the Violin to touch your shoulder or use a cushion to support the instrument, as such methods will invariably muffle the tone.

Drawing up of the left shoulder as well as the use of a cushion for supporting the Violin is absolutely wrong and both methods will tend to muffle the tone. A cushion will rob the Violin of a third of its tonal volume. L.A. *)

5. The fore-arm, wrist and hand should form a straight line. (See III. 7, p. 14) Do not bend the wrist either too far out or too far inward, so as not to touch the body of the violin. Hold the neck of the Violin between the first joint of the thumb and the third joint of the fore-finger and never forget that there must be a very noticeable space between the thumb and neck. (See III. 8, p. 14) In addition, do not press the thumb against the neck of the Violin.

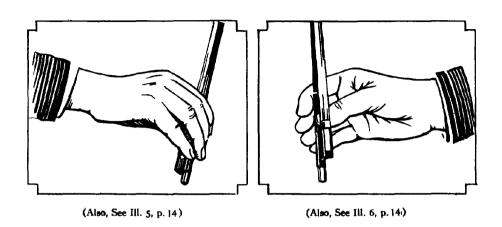
*It should be remembered here that this remark by Prof. Auer was intended for his artist pupils of whom he always asked the height of perfection. Beginners and amateurs should not take this request too literally. Pupils' necks differ; a pupil with a short neck needs no cushion while a pupil with a longer neck does need one. Use your own judgment.

It also seems that Prof. Auer somewhat overestimated the harm of using a cushion. Modern scientific experiments show, that while the violin may be robbed a little of its tonal volume by using a cushion, this loss does not amount to as much as a third of its volume.

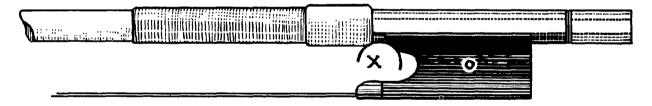


HOW TO HOLD THE BOW CORRECTLY

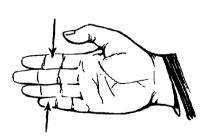
I. Place the thumb of the right hand, slightly curved, close to the nut, beneath the stick and opposite to the middle finger, with the other fingers placed side by side on the bow within touch of each other.



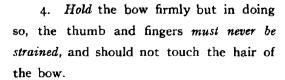
2. The thumb must be placed simultaneously against the nut and the stick at the point marked no the bow:



3. The bow must lie in a slanting position between the first and second joints of



the index finger and between the end and the first joint of the little finger. (Russian School).





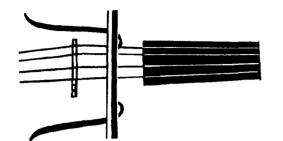
(End View of Bow position at the Frog)

5. Never forget that next to the fingers and the arm itself, the *wrist* is the most important factor for ultimate mastery of bowing. To play with a *stiff* or *cramped* wrist will not bring satisfactory results in violin playing as a *loose* and *flexible wrist* is one of the main essentials of correct and artistic bowing.



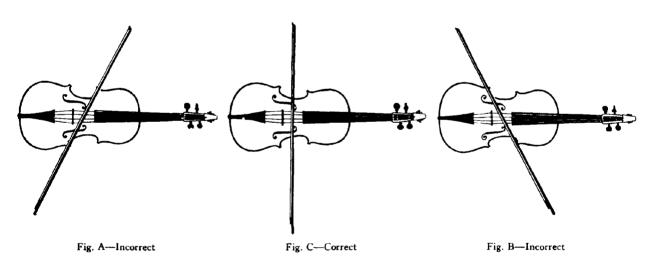
HOW TO DRAW THE BOW CORRECTLY

- 1. The bow should be drawn straight across the string, parallel to the bridge and midway between the bridge and the fingerboard. It should be drawn evenly, touching only one string at a time.
- 2. The wrist should be entirely loose and flexible, capable of moving with absolute ease. In fact, the bow can not be drawn straight across the string without raising the wrist at the frog and lowering the wrist at the tip.



A supple, flexible wrist enables the production of a beautiful, singing tone, while a stiff and inflexible wrist invariably produces a tone of harsh, unmusical quality. L.A.

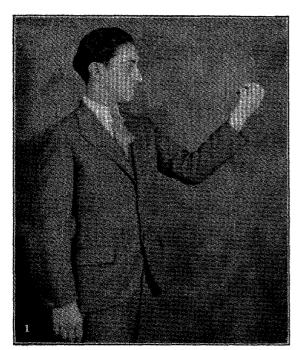
3. The change of bow should not be noticed but be done as inaudibly as possible, and here again a loose wrist is required. In fact, mastery of this most important requirement would be impossible without a flexible and pliant wrist.



- 4. The bow should never be drawn in a direction too far backward (Fig. A) or too far forward, (Fig. B) but always in a straight line, parallel to the bridge. (Fig. C)
- 5. The lower arm and wrist should always be moved to and fro with natural freedom and simultaneous action. Do not hold the *elbow* too near the body and also beware of holding it too high. When playing upon the G string the elbow must always, and quite naturally, be held considerably higher than when playing upon the E string. The faulty method of forcing or pressing the bow with the aid of the shoulder in order to produce a more voluminous tone, will never result in anything else but scratching; and this method must be severely condemned.
- 6. And finally: I he straining of muscles and ligaments of both the left and right hands, fingers, wrists, arms and shoulders, through stiff or cramped exertions on the part of the player, must be absolutely avoided and all movements must be carried out with natural freedom and pliancy. Remember: "There should be no effort in art."



Photographic Illustrations - of HOW TO HOLD THE VIOLIN

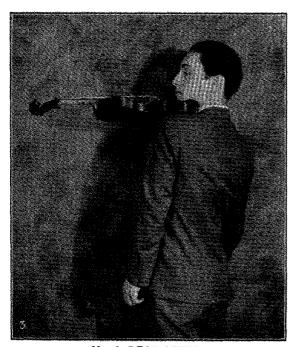


No. 1. FRONT VIEW Left arm bent inward.

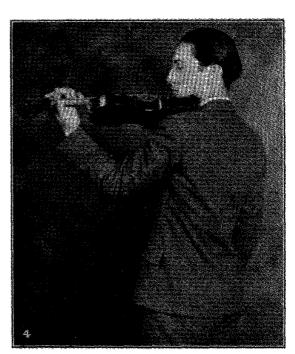


No. 2. FRONT VIEW

The violin held in horizontal position only by aid of the jaw-bone and collar-bone.



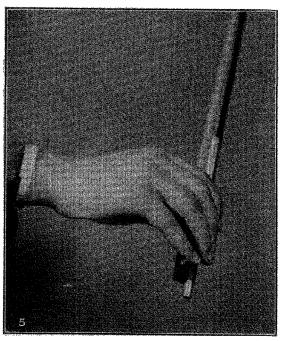
No. 3. REAR VIEW The violin held in correct position.



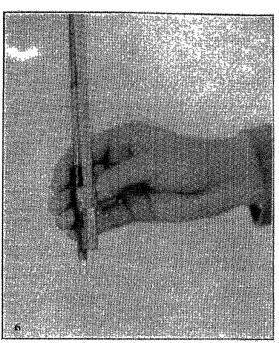
No. 4. REAR VIEW
The violin, left arm and hand in correct position.



HOW TO HOLD THE BOW Left Hand and Arm Positions



No. 5. FRONT VIEW Right Hand holding the bow.



No. 6. VIEW from INSIDE Right Hand holding the bow,



No. 7. FRONT VIEW Left Hand and Arm forming a straight line.



No. 8. SIDE VIEW
Open space underneath the neck, between the thumb and first finger.



HOW TO DRAW THE BOW



No. 9. FRONT VIEW

Correct position of the right hand while playing with the TIP of the bow.



No. 10. FRONT VIEW

Correct position of the right hand while playing with the MIDDLE of the bow.



No. 11. FRONT VIEW

Correct position of the right hand while playing at the NUT

(Frog) of the bow.



No. 12. FRONT VIEW Correct position in general. The body rests on the left foot.



HOW TO DRAW THE BOW



No. 13. CORRECT POSITION Viewed from the right side.



No. 14. CORRECT POSITION Viewed from the left side.



No. 15. CORRECT POSITION Rear view.



No. 16. CORRECT POSITION Front (face) view.



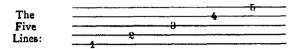
THE SIMPLEST RUDIMENTS OF MUSIC

Notes: Their Names and Notation

Musical sounds are represented on paper by means of *Notes*, named after the first seven letters of the alphabet:

ABCDEFG

These Notes are written on the five Lines and in the four Spaces of the Staff.



In addition the Notes are also written upon and between shorter Lines above and below the Staff, known as Leger Lines:



The G or Violin Clef ir always placed at the beginning of the Staff. It encircles the second line (G) and establishes the pitch.







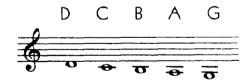
The Names of the Notes in the Four Spaces



(Remember: Every Good Boy Deserves Fun)

(Remember: Face!)





The Names of the Notes above the Staff:



The names of the Notes in succession:



The Sharp (#) raises a note one half tone.

The Flat (b) lowers a note one half tone.

The Natural (4) places a note into its original position.



THE STAFF, BARS, MEASURES and TIME

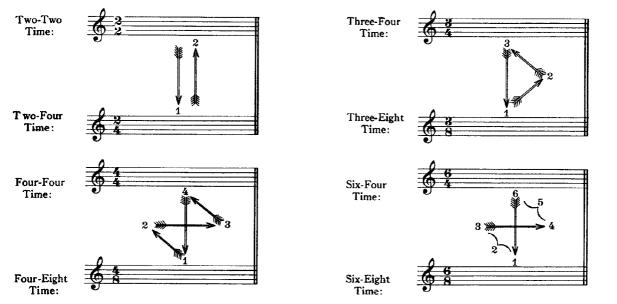
The STAFF:—the name for the 5 lines and 4 spaces.

BARS:—the vertical lines which divide the Staff into Measures.

MEASURES:—the systematized division of the Staff according to Time.

TIME is marked at the beginning of a piece of music in fractional numbers.

There are many different kinds of Time. The following illustrate some of the principal varieties.



The arrows in each of the above diagrams indicate the Up, Down or Side movements, for beating time with the hand, just as the director of an orchestra would use.

The upper number, known as the numerator, establishes the number of beats in each measure.

The lower number, known as the denominator, establishes the note-value of each beat.

Always count according to the Numerator. M.B.

At the end of a piece, a heavy double-line serves as the sign of conclusion:

When necessary to repeat a part, or a whole section of a piece the repetition sign is used:



NOTES

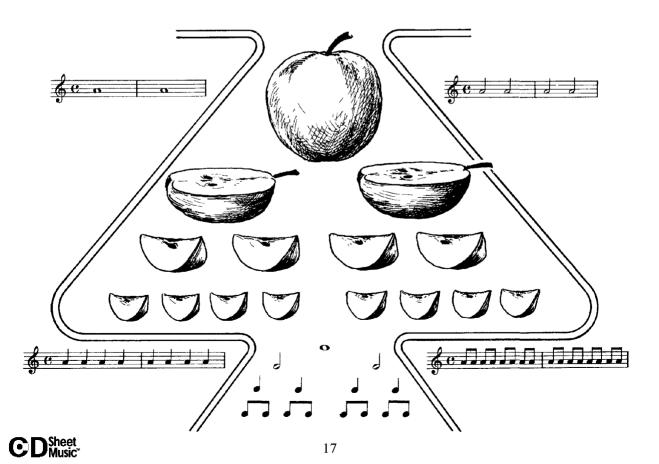
Their Shape and Time-Value

There are different kinds of notes, each of a definite, precise time-value:

Whole-Note	O
Half-Note	0
Quarter-Note	
Eighth-Note	1
Sixteenth-Note	A

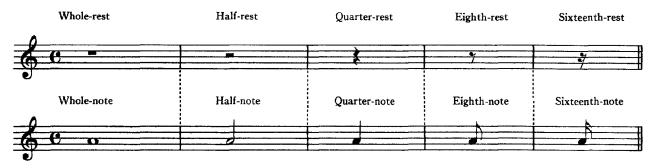


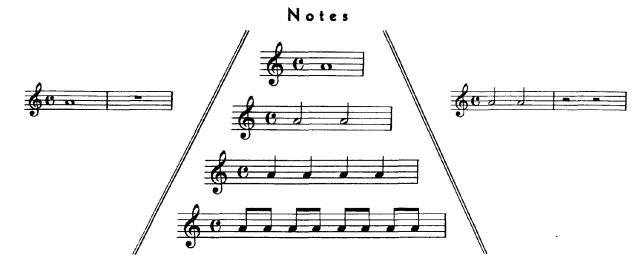
An apple divided into equal parts will illustrate how the whole-note can be divided:

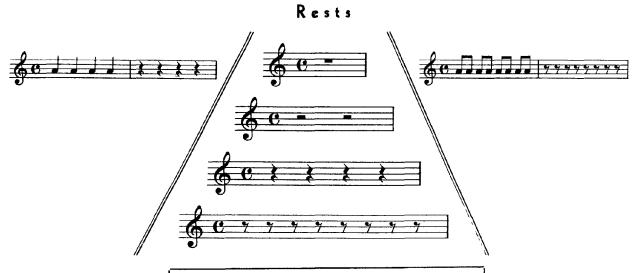


RESTS

The rest indicates a pause or interval of silence between two tones. Its time value corresponds exactly with that of the similarly named note:





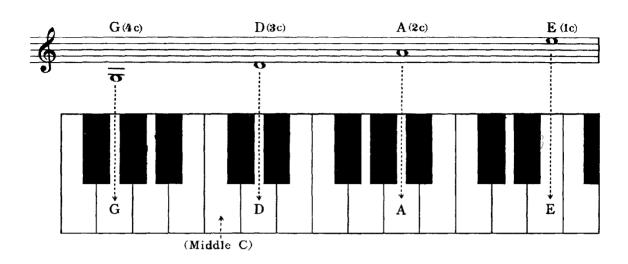


A rest is as important as a note!

Never overlook a rest but count it accurately! M.B.



THE FOUR STRINGS OF THE VIOLIN



C means corda: String.

indicates Down-Bow. V indicates Up-Bow. o indicates Open String.

TUNING OF THE FOUR STRINGS

The Four Strings are tuned in so-called *Perfect Fifths*. A perfect Fifth is an interval of five (5) diatonic degrees, counted from the first note (*prime*) in a scale.

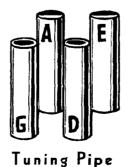


G to D is a Perfect Fifth

It is of the utmost importance that the Violin be properly tuned. As correct tuning of the Violin by car is difficult for a beginner, the Violin may at first be tuned with the aid



D to A is a Perfect Fifth





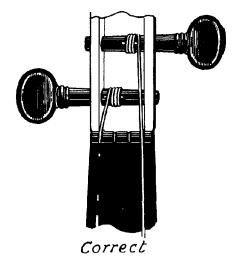
A to E is a Perfect Fifth

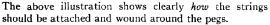
of a piano or a tuning pipe. As soon as possible, the pupils should be taught to tune their own Violins by ear. This is one of the reasons why Eartraining should begin early.

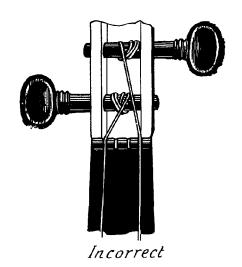
Always tune very softly. (piano), L.A.



HOW TO ATTACH THE STRINGS CORRECTLY







The above illustration shows clearly how not to attach the strings and wind them around the pegs.

The pegs should always be in good condition, should fit exactly and should respond to the slightest touch of the player.

If the pegs begin to stick and do not work easily, they should be taken out—one at a time—and be rubbed with a little soap if too tight, or with a little chalk if too loose.

RECAPITULATION



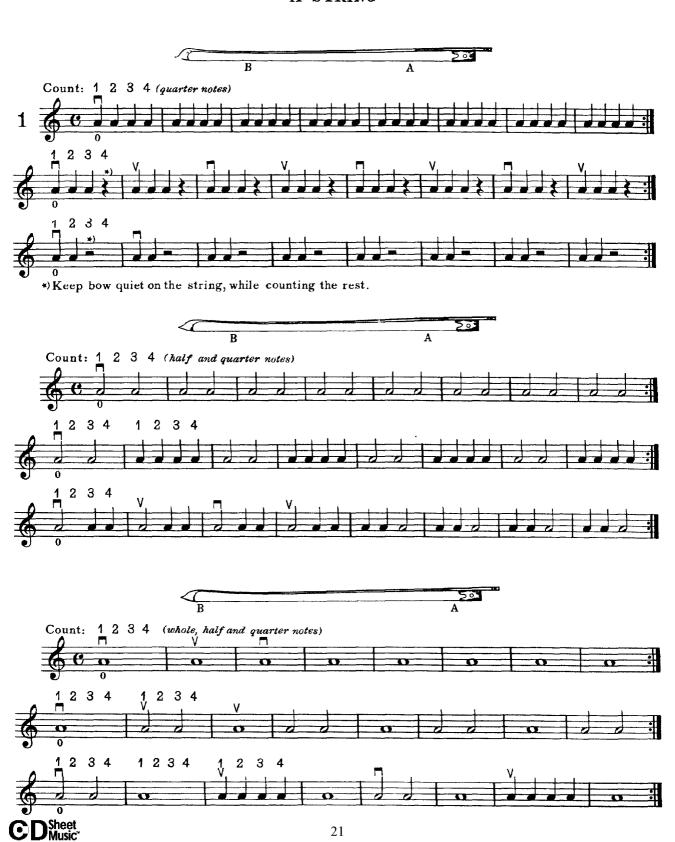
Adjustor for the Steel E String

- 1. Stand erect, with shoulders well back and chest forward; the weight of your body resting on the left foot.
- 2. Do not let your Violin sag but keep it in a straight, horizontal position.
- 3. Draw your bow mid-way between bridge and fingerboard, straight across the string; the point of contact must never vary and the direction in which it is drawn must always be parallel to the bridge.
- 4. In changing from down-bow to up-bow, or from up-bow to down-bow, move the wrist.
- 5. Play in exact time giving the precise value to each note. Train your sense of rhythm incessantly through correct and proper counting.
- 6. Be sure that your Violin is perfectly tuned.
- 7. The music must be placed exactly in line with your eyes, the height to be regulated by the necessary raising or lowering of the music stand.
- 8. Good bodily health is of the utmost advantage to a violinist. Above all, students should accustom themselves to well-regulated breathing while practising, remembering that inhaling of ozone will cause the blood to circulate more freely and in this way bring about the healthiest and most active condition of both body and mind.

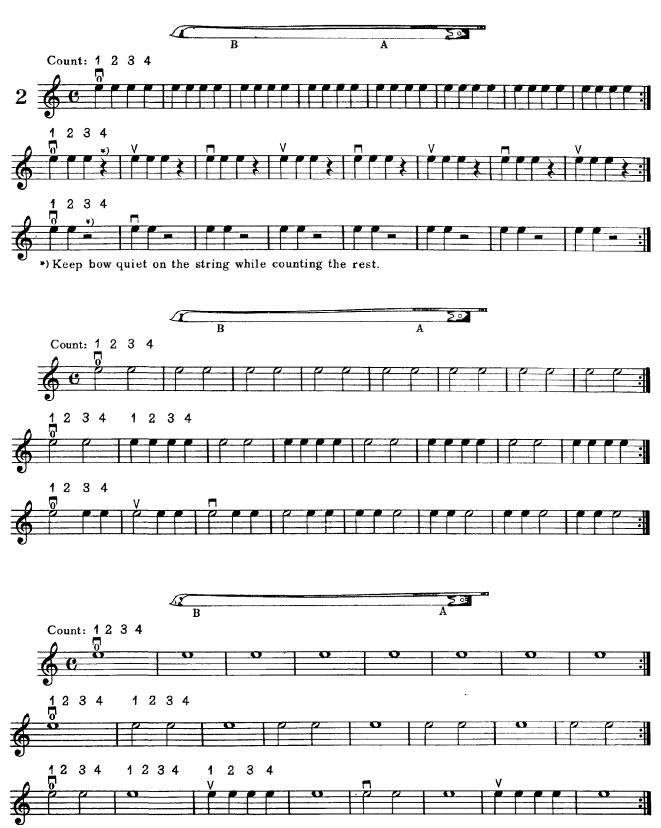
Always play naturally and without unnecessary grimaces, gesticulations or movements. L.A.



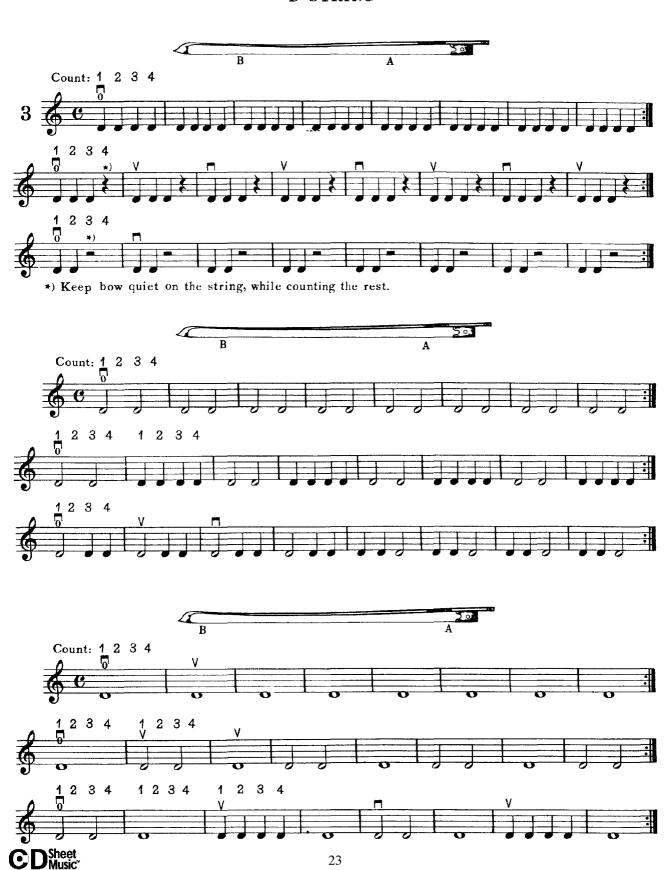
Exercises on Open Strings A STRING



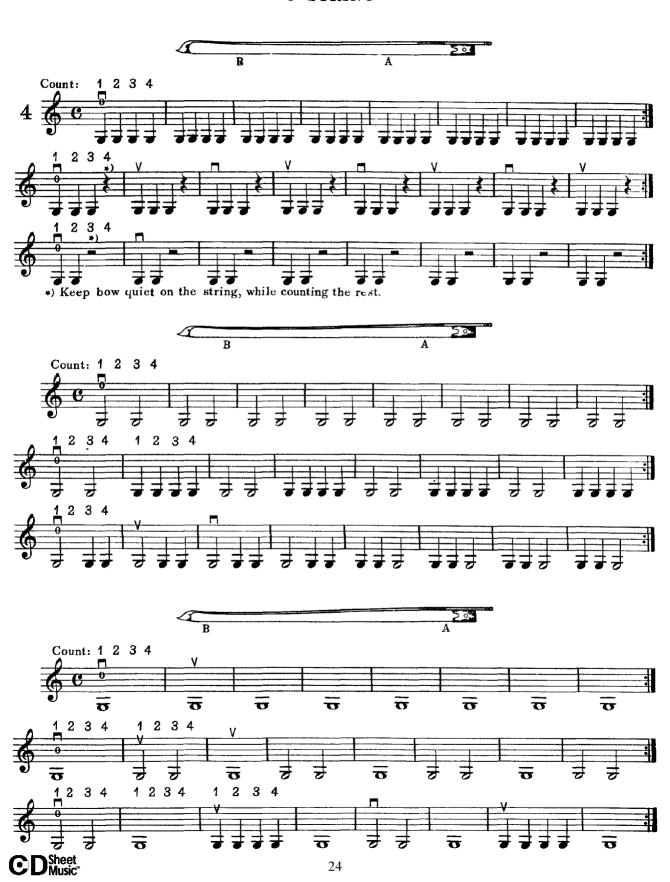
E STRING



D STRING

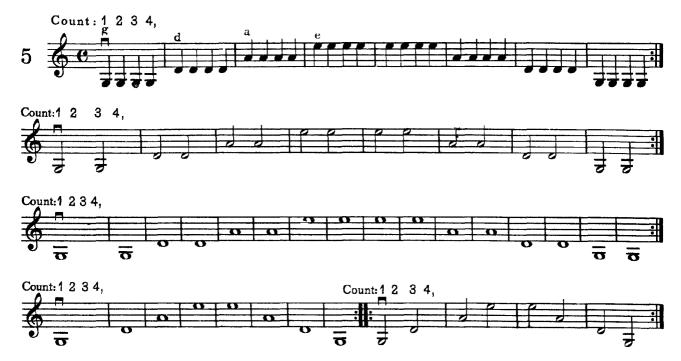


G STRING



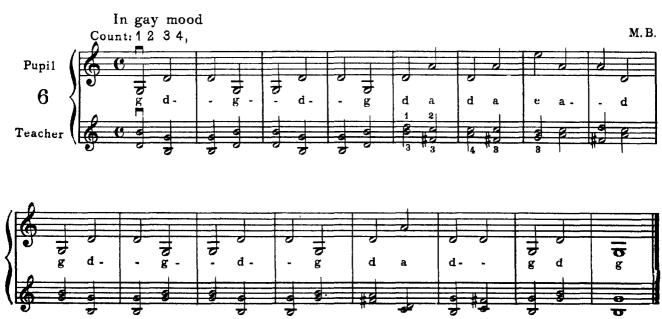
EXERCISES

for combination of all the four strings



Ensemble playing should be cultivated from the very beginning; it is of great value in developing musicianship in the pupil. Part 7 page 3 contains a piano accompaniment to "Marching to School." Study every tune with piano.

Marching to School



25

EXERCISE

for gaining firmer control of the bow

Be careful to exert even pressure upon both strings.



POSITION AND ACTION

of the Fingers of the Left Hand

As may be seen from the pictorial illustrations and explanatory remarks, the fingers of the left hand should be held above the fingerboard in a natural and curved position, and for the actual stopping of the notes only the tips of the fingers, where the sensory nerves are located, should touch the strings. To do this correctly, and enable all the fingers to be kept above the finger-board, ready to fall into place with the necessary strength and precision, requires an upright attitude of the hand and correct position of the elbow alluded to in preceding instructions, and as a further necessary detail, short trimming of all the finger nails. (See Part VI, page 513.)

For the very first attemps at setting the fingers it should be remembered that the finger in use should touch only one string at a time.

Fingering for violin music is marked as follows:-

- 0 indicates use of an open string.
- 1 indicates use of the first or index finger.
- 2 indicates use of the second or middle finger.
- 3 indicates use of the third or ring finger.
- 4 indicates use of the fourth or little finger.



Whole-Steps and Half-Steps

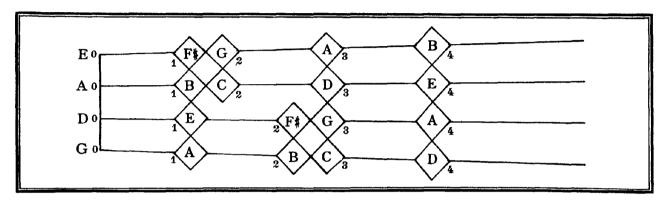
There are two different ways of placing the fingers on the strings as shown on the following diagram.

1. Whole-steps, taken somewhat apart.

2. Half-steps, taken closely together.

DIAGRAM OF THE VIOLIN FINGER-BOARD

showing the four strings, distances between whole and half steps, names of notes and fingers with which the notes are taken



EXPLANATION OF THE DIAGRAM

E String:	A String:	D String:	G String:
E to F# whole-step	A to B whole-step	D to E whole-step	G to A whole-step
F# to G half-step	B to C half-step	E to F# whole-step	A to B whole-step
G to A whole-step	C to D whole-step	F# to G half-step	B to C half-step
A to B	D to E whole-step	G to A whole-step	C to D whole-step

Notice that: 1st Finger is placed alike on all 4 strings

2nd Finger is placed alike on 2 strings and 2 strings (see pages 35 and 36)

3rd Finger is placed alike on all 4 strings

4th Finger is placed alike on all 4 strings



Sheet

Professor Auer's Two Most Important Principles

concerning FINGER and BOW PRESSURE

1. CORRECT ACTION OF THE LEFT HAND FINGERS

The fingers should stop the strings with exceedingly strong pressure, but without stiffening or cramping the hand or fingers.

The pupil should gradually strengthen and develop the fingers, so that they will fall upon the strings like individual little hammers.

Thoroughly developed and completely trained left hand fingers should be as strong and unfailingly certain, as though made of iron. L.A.

2. CORRECT ACTION OF THE BOW ARM

The bow should be drawn lightly and smoothly over the strings without any rough or heavy pressure.

This calls for a different dynamic pressure from the two hands:

- a) Strong Finger pressure
- b) Light Bow pressure

The Wrist should be free and flexible to insure free movements of the arm. The Change of the Bow should not be heard.

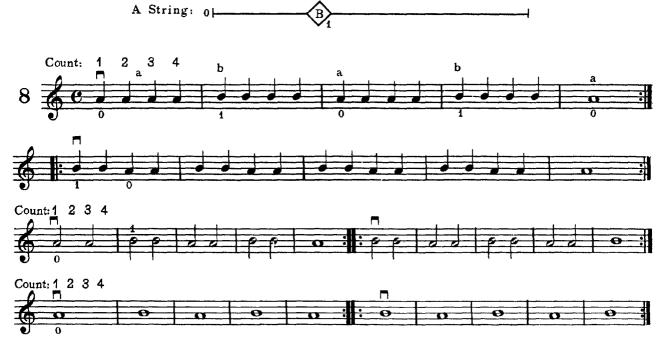
Ideal perfection in this detail of bowing requires that the change itself be made with utmost smoothness and without the slightest sound or scratching noise. To gain this perfection requires constant use of a flexible wrist.

L. A.

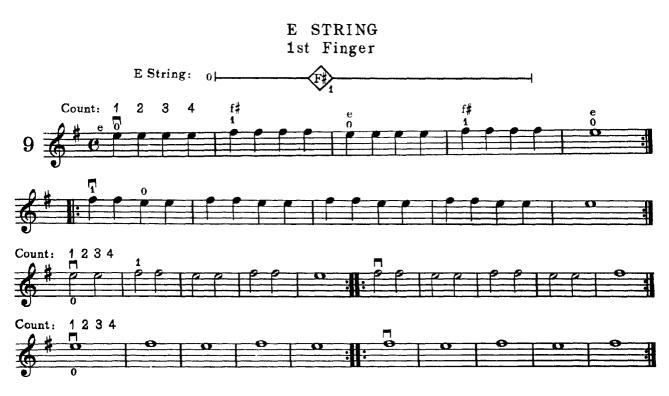
These two principles of Professor Auer, together with holding the violin without a cushion constitute the most important of his scientific discoveries in connection with the art of violin playing; it cannot be mastered with ease, but if finally gained through unceasing effort and toil, it will result in the production of that luscious, wonderful tonal quality for which all the foremost disciples of the Auer School have earned such world-wide fame.



A STRING 1st Finger



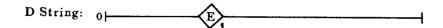
For quarter, half and whole-notes use the bowing exactly as marked on page 25 for Exercises on Open Strings.

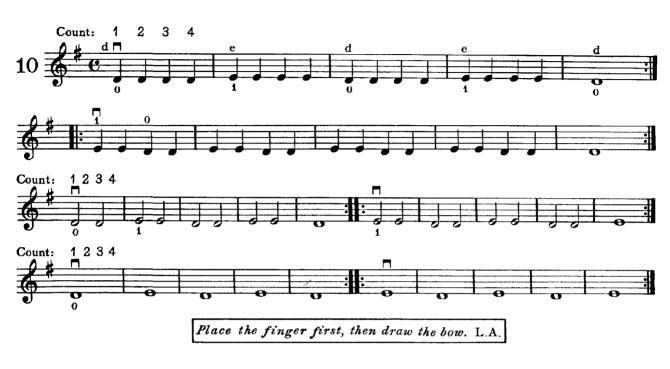


The 1st finger is placed alike on the A-E-D-G strings.

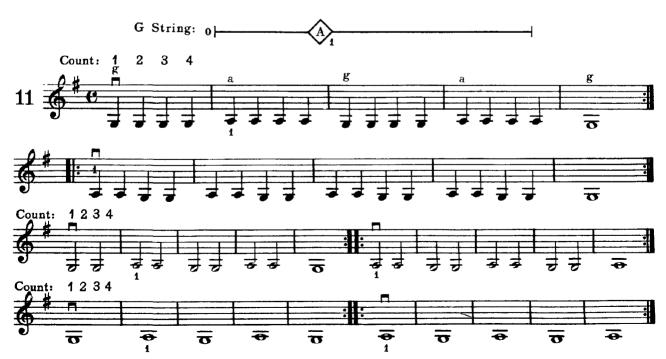


D STRING





G SIRING

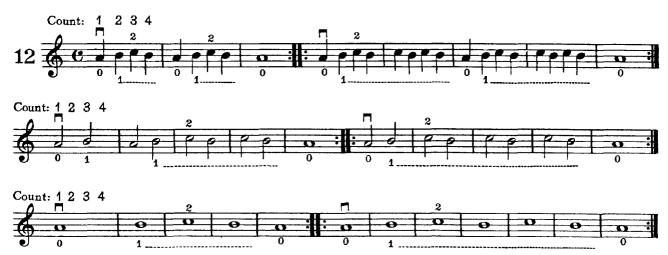


The 1st finger is placed alike on all four strings.



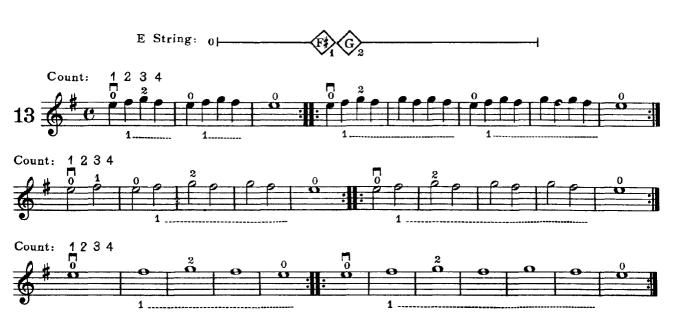
A STRING 2nd Finger





Keep 1st finger down for the length of the dotted lines.

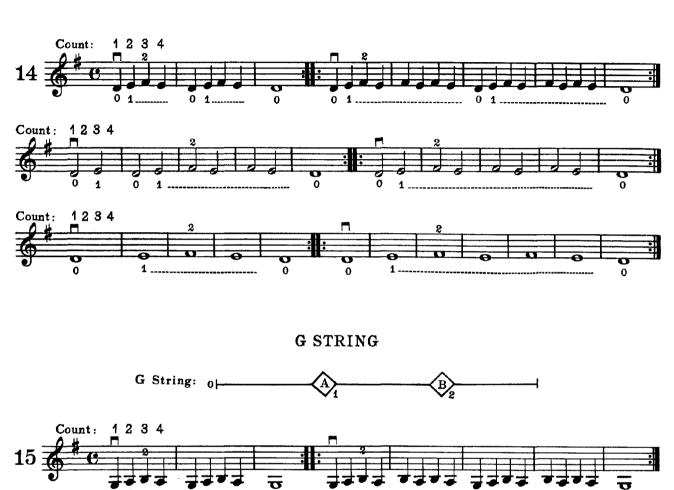
E STRING



Do not press with the bow! Draw it lightly! The 2nd finger is placed alike on the A and E strings.



D STRING



The 2nd finger is placed alike on the D and G strings.

D String: 01

A FUNDAMENTAL RULE for beginners

The fingers must remain upon the strings wherever and whenever possible! Never lift a finger unless obliged to do so.

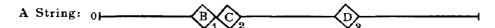


Count:

1234

1234

A STRING 3rd Finger

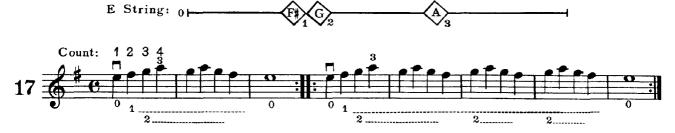


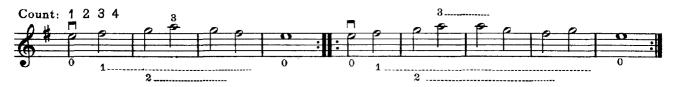






E STRING



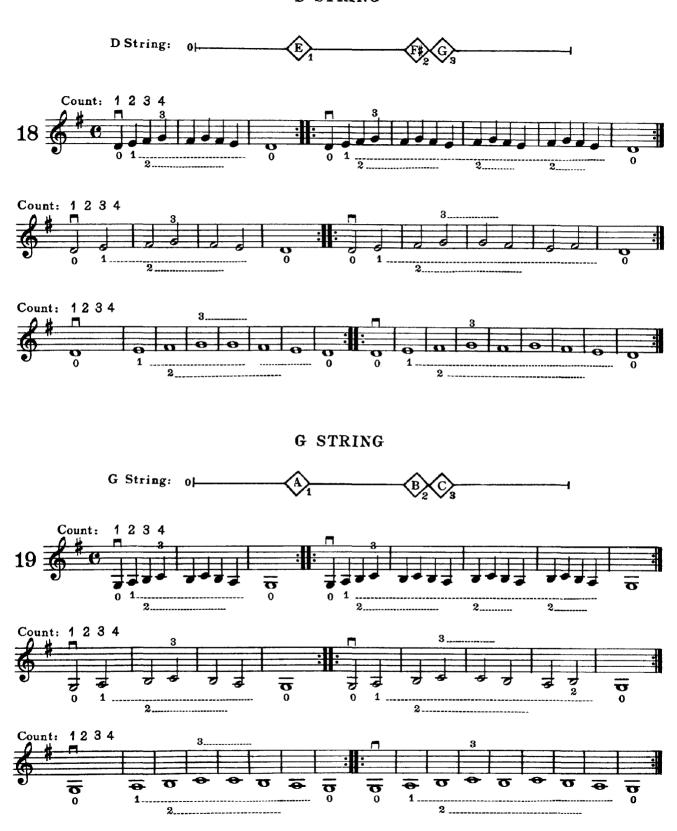




Watch the intonation! Play in tune!
The 3rd finger is placed alike on all four strings.



D STRING

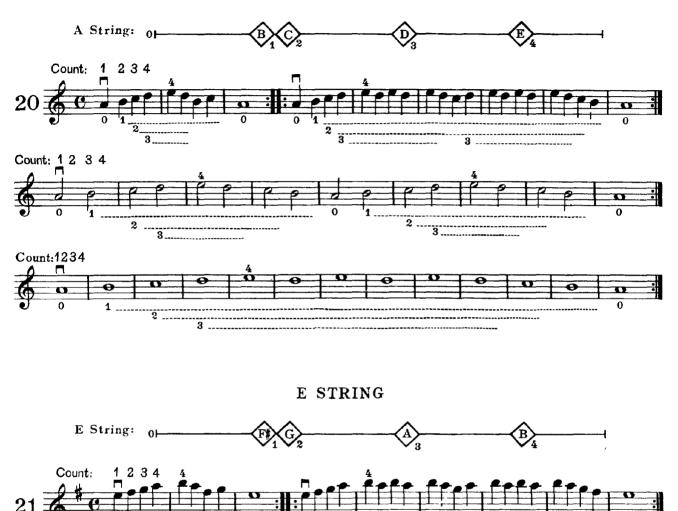


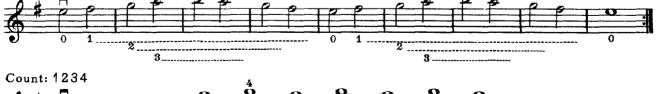
The 3rd finger is placed alike on all four strings. Play in strict rhythm and count!

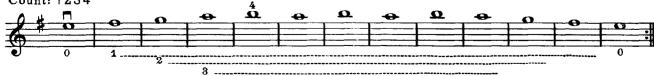


A STRING 4th Finger

The fourth finger as the shortest and weakest of the left hand fingers, demands particular attention and special training in order to impart to it the same strength, stretching power and flexibility, which nature has so freely bestowed upon the other fingers of the left hand.





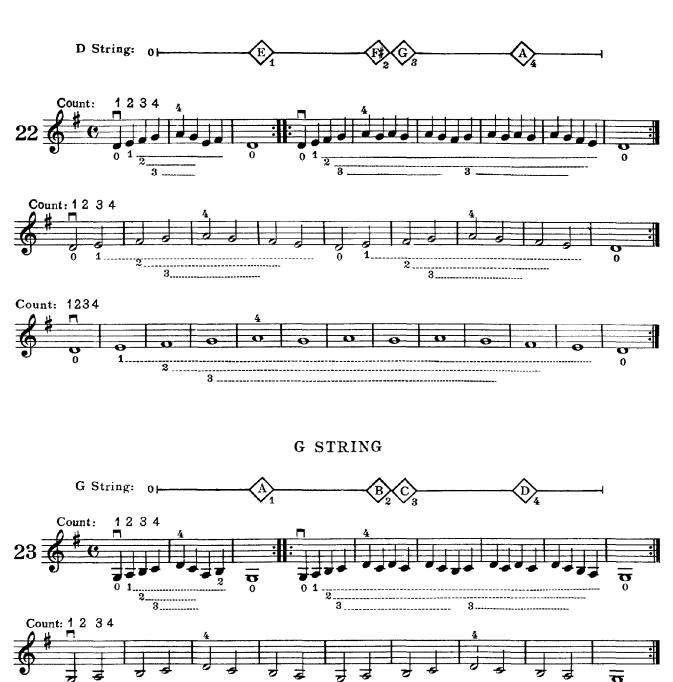


The 4th finger is placed alike on all four strings.



Count: 12

D STRING



The 4th finger is placed alike on all four strings.



Count: 1234

0

1.

EXERCISES FOR CROSSING AND CONNECTING THE FOUR STRINGS





Always anticipate the next note to be played and prepare for it with the necessary finger.



Listen attentively to your own playing! Try to detect the least flaws in your intonation and use your ear incessantly to play in tune.



F NATURAL

F natural on the E String is a half-step from the open string. Bend ist finger well to the left and place it very closely to the nut.



Stretch the 4th finger well up to B.



F NATURAL on the D String

Fnatural is a Half-step from E. Place the 2nd finger close to the 1st finger.

D STRING



First Little Etude ²/₄TIME



The Babbling Brook



*. Keep the 2nd finger on the string.



The secret of all technical skill:

Practise Slowly! L.A.

Second Little Etude ³/₄TIME

In this etude in 3/4 time the down bow is used on the first note of every other measure.



The Ring

Use the same length of bow for the quarter-notes as for half-notes. Draw the bow slowly for the Down-Bow and quickly and lightly for the Up-Bow.



When crossing strings do not raise the finger with which you have just played, until the next finger has been placed in position.

L.A.



The Cricket





FOURTH FINGER OR OPEN STRING



The above three notes may be played either on the open strings, or with the 4th finger on either G, D or A strings.



The rule is: Use the open string for ascending, the fourth finger for descending scales or passages or when the note in question allows of resting on the string.

L. A.



The Scale

A scale is a succession of ascending and descending notes. There are two kinds of scales:

Diatonic and Chromatic

The diatonic scale may be either

MAJOR or MINOR

The Major Scale consists of:

- 2 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step)
- 3 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step



The Major scale can be formed from every tone and derives its name from the first note.

THE MINOR SCALE

The Major scale has its parallel Minor scale, the key-note of which is found one whole and one-half tones (a minor third) lower than the key-note of the Major Scale.

The Minor scale is different in its ascending and descending form:

It consists of:

- 1 Whole-step and 1 Half-step ascending
 4 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step
- 2 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step
- 2 Whole-steps and 1 Half-step descending
- 1 Whole-step

Whole-steps:

Whole-steps:

Half-steps: ½ step

Whole-steps:

1/2 step

1/2 step

In the playing of both the Major and Minor Scale it is necessary to play certain of the important steps somewhat sharper or flatter than others in order to emphasize the character of the scale more decidedly. Therefore mind the following rule:

Play a high third and a high seventh (the leading tone) in the Major Scale.

Play a low third and a high seventh in the Minor Scale.

L.A.



SCALE OF C MAJOR

Half-steps: E-F and B-C





*) Counterpoint by Cherubini

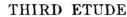


Seymour



EIGHTH NOTES

To be played with supple wrist and with the part of Bow as marked (from A to B)







A Dot placed after a note prolongs its time-value by half.

Play the Down-bow slowly, and the Up-bow quickly, using the same length of bow, up and down.

DOTTED NOTES



46

America



LEGATO PLAYING The Slur

Legato means the playing of a number of notes or a passage in a smooth and connected manner, with no break between the notes. The sign for such playing is the so-called slur, a curved line drawn over or under the notes, signifying that they are to be played legato and indicating to the Violinist that they are to be played in one bow.

For this kind of playing particular care must be given to the equal division of the bow, f. i.:-

With 2 notes to one bow:

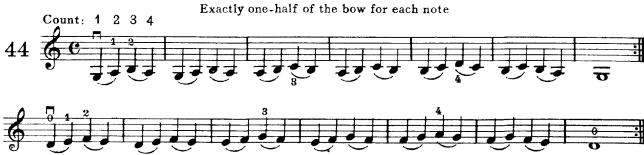
Divide the bow into two parts

With 3 notes to one bow:
Divide the bow into three parts

With 4 notes to one bow:
Divide the bow into four parts

SLURRED NOTES ON ONE STRING 2 notes in one bow

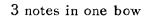




*) Tenuto means sustained, simile or segue means to continue in the same manner



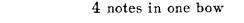






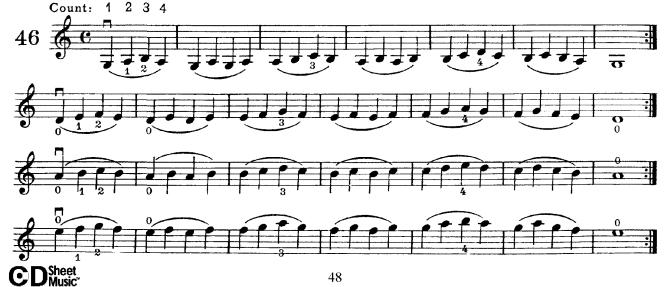
Exactly one-third of the bow for each note







Exactly one-quarter of the bow for each note



The Secret of Perfect String Transfer ONE OF PROFESSOR AUER'S MOST IMPORTANT RULES

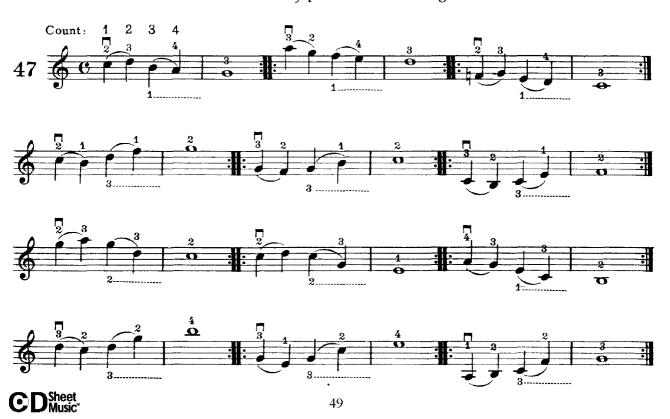
Any bowing is relatively simple as long as the bow is used on one string only. It is when the bow is transferred to a new string that the difficulty arises. It can really be said that the main problem of Bow technique is embedded in the art of a perfect change of strings.

CHANGE OF STRINGS

In order to gain a smooth inaudible String Transfer, Prof. Auer recommended that the finger, just used, should remain on the string until the bow has changed to the new string, that is: A momentary and simultaneous resting of both fingers on two strings.

Prof. Auer claimed (and rightly so) that a perfect String Transfer was impossible without adhering to this important rule.

EXERCISES FOR STRING TRANSFERS with stationery position of two fingers



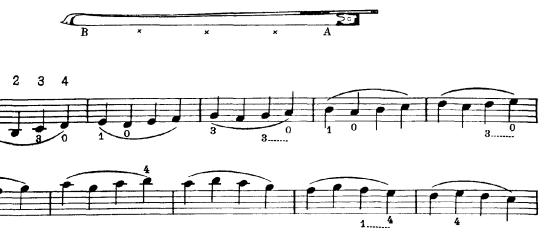
String transfers with 2 notes to each bow



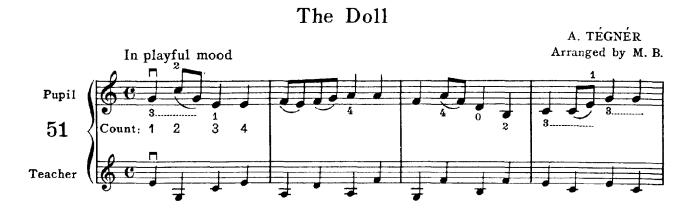
String transfers with 3 notes to each bow



String transfers with 4 notes to each bow









CDSheet Music

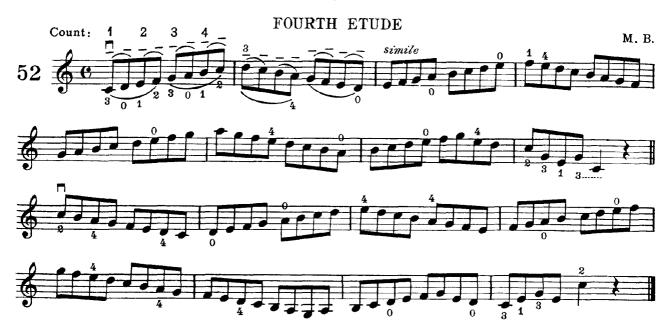
VARIETIES OF BOWING

Practise: a) Separate bows

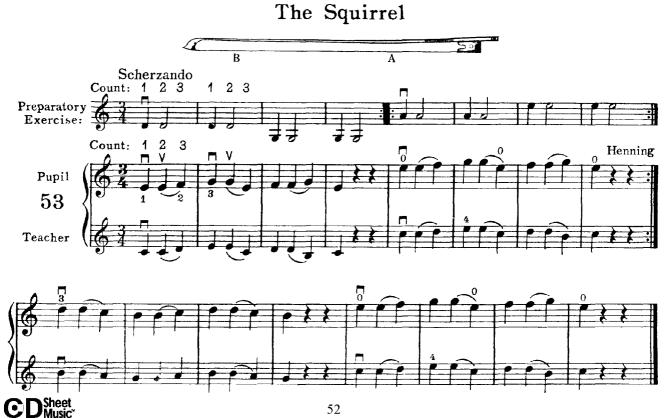
b) 2 notes in a bow

c) 4 notes in a bow

Always use the open string wherever the fourth finger is not marked.



In the following exercises the down-bow should be played quickly and the up-bow slowly, using this part of the bow: A-B, B-A



Correct Finger-action Across the Strings

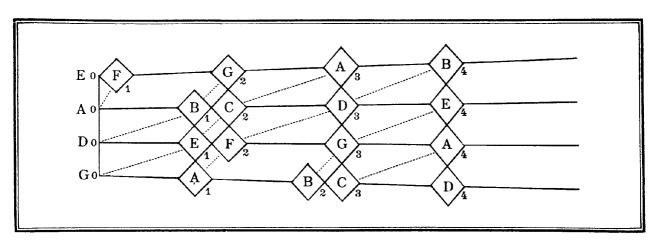
To learn how a correct finger-action across the strings is carried out, is of equal importance to knowing how a smooth and correct string transfer is to be carried out with the bow.

A correct Finger-action when crossing the strings calls for a *sideway movement* of the fingers. This sideway movement should be carried out with ease and freedom by the fingers, independent of the hand.

Do not move the Hand! Move only the Fingers!

We have another movement of the hand: The lengthwise movement, which is considered in Part III.

It is also important to learn not only the exact position of each note on the 4 strings, but also how the different notes on the different strings correspond to each other across the strings as well as their correct fingering.



EXPLANATION

The above diagram clearly shows the position of each and every note on the 4 strings, as well as their relationship to each other and the appropriate fingering for them across the strings.



RELATIVE DISTANCES

between notes on neighboring strings, as indicated with dotted lines on the diagram, are as follows:-

with dotted lines on the diagram, are as follows:-On G and D Strings: On D and A Strings: On A and E Strings: G - E = a whole step D-B- whole step A - F = half step A - F = a half step E - C - half step B- G= half step B - G = a half step F- D- whole step C- A= whole step C - A = a whole step G- E- whole step D- B= whole step











EXERCISES FOR B and F

The interval from B to F is a so-called *diminished fifth*, and as these two notes are not exactly opposite to each other on the violin fingerboard, their production with the same finger brings about a peculiar difficulty and necessitates particular care.

To play these notes, the finger must always be lifted after each note, and reset upon the neighboring string either higher or lower, as called for by the new note.

Practise the following exercises very slowly and carefully and remember to place the finger first before drawing the bow.

Part II, page 125, contains a marvellous fingering for diminished fifths. But a beginner should at first study this ordinary fingering.



FIFTH ETUDE 6/8 TIME



*) The 2nd finger should be raised and reset as explained as above.



SCALE OF A MINOR

Half steps: B-C and G#-A when ascending F-E and C - B when descending

Two secrets of how to gain perfect intonation:

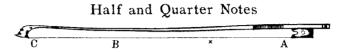
- (1) Play the half-steps as closely together as possible
- (2) Play a high leading tone- (the seventh tone)



BROKEN CHORDS



NOTES OF DIFFERENT TIME-VALUE in one Bow



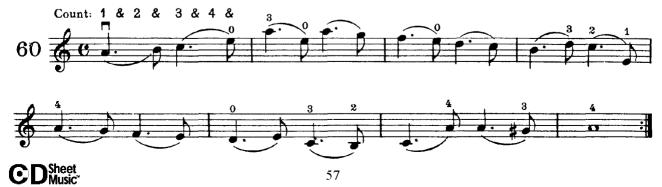
For Down-bow: Use $\frac{2}{3}$ of the bow for the half note (A-B). Use $\frac{1}{3}$ of the bow for the quarter note (B-C) and reverse for Up-bow.



Dotted Quarter and Eighth Notes



For Down-bow: Use $\frac{3}{4}$ of the bow for the dotted quarter note (A-B). Use $\frac{1}{4}$ of the bow for the eighth note (B-C) Reverse for Up-bow.



THE RHYTHMIC PULSE

which beats throughout this tune is: 4 1 2 3, 4 1 2 3

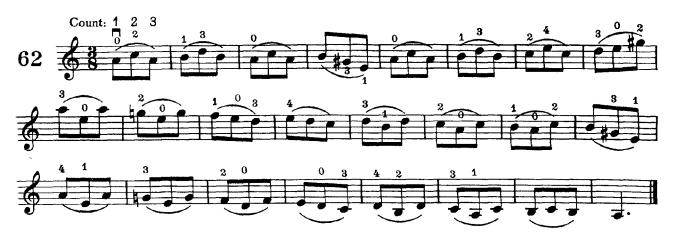
It should be clearly understood that the rhythmic pulse is not 4,1234, but 4123. Before playing, count 4123-aloud-throughout the whole tune and see how exactly this rhythmic pulse fits to the very last measure.

Old French Song



SIXTH ETUDE

Use whole bow with supple wrist. Mind correct inward bend of your left arm.... (See IU. 14)



SCALE OF G MAJOR

Half steps: B-C and F#-G

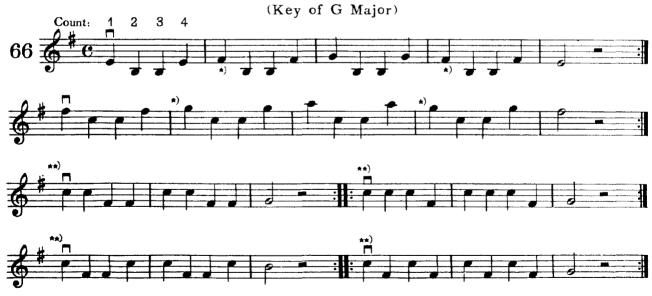


BROKEN CHORDS





EXERCISES FOR CROSSING THE STRINGS

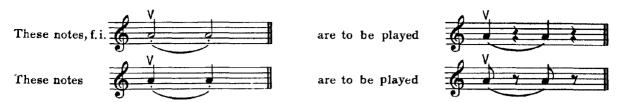


- *) The second finger must be placed upon both strings simultaneously.
- **) Diminished Fifths like these (F# to C) also referred to at times as false vis a vis, occur very frequently and particular attention must always be given to perfect intonation. The fingers must be lifted and reset as explained on page 57.



DETACHED NOTES IN ONE BOW

Dots under slurred notes signify, that these notes should sound detached within one stroke.

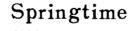


To obtain this effect a momentary halt must be made between the two notes; but the how must not be taken away from the string; it must simply be stopped and then started again.

Each note must be produced clearly and evenly.

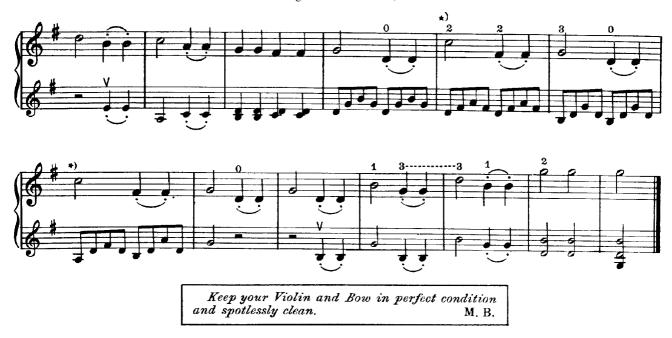
WHOLE BOW













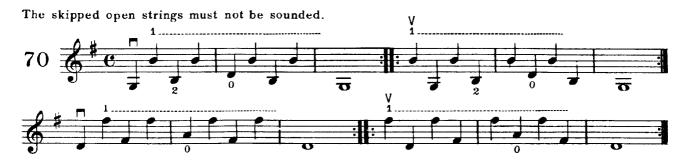
*) The second finger to be lifted and reset as explained on the preceeding page.



SKIPS ACROSS ONE OR TWO STRINGS

In skipping across one or two unused strings always hold the bow firmly in the hand and guide it across the strings with a loose wrist.

L.A.



Dolly's Little Minuet



*) 1 First Ending 2 Second Ending. In repeating, the First Ending is omitted and the piece comes to a close with the Second Ending.

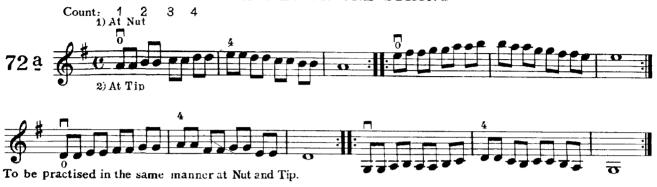


EXERCISES FOR CHANGE OF BOW

at the Nut and Tip, developing flexibility of the Wrist.

The following exercises are to be practised very near to nut or tip, with short, soft strokes of the bow. Only the Wrist is to be moved and the entire upper and lower arm must be held absolutely quiet.

EXERCISES ON ONE STRING



EXERCISES ACROSS TWO STRINGS



This style of "Bowing" is only to be used for exercising purposes, such as the above.



DYNAMIC SIGNS

Dynamic Signs are used for indicating the varying and contrasting degrees of loudness or intensity in musical tones.

The most necessary of these for the young player are two indications, expressed through means of Italian words: Forte and Piano.

Forte (abbreviated f) meaning loud

Piano (abbreviated p) meaning softly

Forte is produced on the violin through slightly increased pressure upon the bow and by playing nearer to the bridge. For Piano, the pressure upon the bow must be diminished and the playing done somewhat nearer to the fingerboard. Also see Part VI, pages 518, 519.

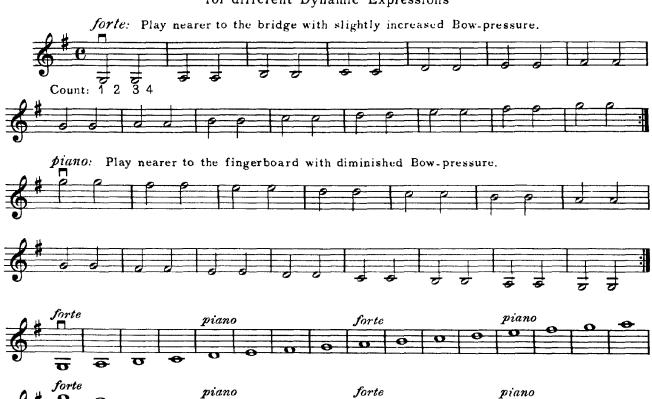
For playing piano be sure to remember that the fingers of the left hand must never play softly. Piano passages in particular require unusually strong and powerful setting of the fingers, but the bow, must be drawn delicately and very smoothly.

L.A.

If produced in this way the tone of the instrument, even in the softest piano will speak clearly and carry to the greatest distance. Expert mastery of these radically different dynamic actions of both hands is a rare achievement and constitutes one of the most advanced problems of the high school of violin playing. See Part VI, page 453.

Never overlook the dynamic signs but follow them exactly M.B.

EXERCISES for different Dynamic Expressions





- *) Duet or Duo, a composition for two instruments, or for two voices.

 **) The little line () signifies that the note should be played with a long sustained stroke of the bow.

SCALE OF E MINOR

Half-steps: F#-G and D#-E when ascending

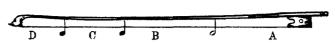
C-B and G-F when descending



BOWING VARIETIES

For gaining experience in different bowing combinations.

Use whole bow



Give one half length to the half note and the remaining length to the two quarter notes.





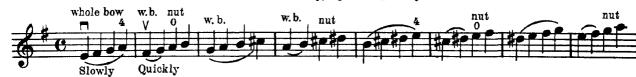
Whole bow giving one-quarter length to each of the quarter notes.

4th VARIATION



5th VARIATION

Down-bow slowly, Up-bow quickly





6th VARIATION

Up-bow quickly, Down-bow slowly





Always remember that the bow should be held firmly with a loose wrist and not with loose fingers and a stiff wrist. Do not move the fingers, only the wrist.

L.A.

This instruction "to hold the bow firmly" must not be misunderstood.

It does not mean a stiff and immovable grip upon the bow, which calls for rigid muscular tension from wrist to shoulder, but simply that it should rest securely within the fingers, that the player has complete control of it at all times, and that the loose, flexible movement of the wrist will never be interfered with.



Black Roses

Both sad and gay

Be careful to observe the exact time value of the rests as they occur in this piece; be sure to count correctly.



THE D MAJOR TRIAD (In varied form)



EXERCISE IN THE KEY OF D MAJOR

ments: - Always to play in tune.



TEMPO MARKS

As all pieces are not played in the same tempo, certain words and terms (mostly of Italian origin) are provided with which the pace or speed of a movement is indicated and with the aid of which the absolute time-value of the notes is established.

In a general way there are four principal groups of tempo-marks in use, descriptive of:

- (1) Slow tempo
- (2) Quick tempo
- (3) Accelerating of speed
- (4) Slackening of speed

The principal tempo marks necessary for present requirements of a beginner are included in the following fist:-

Adagio slow Andante moderately slow Andantino a little quicker than andante Moderato at a moderate rate of speed Allegretto moderately fast, lively Allegro lively, brisk Presto rapid; very quickly Ritardando Rallentando growing slower and slower Ritenuto àtempo return to the original tempo Tempo primo Also see Part IV, page 347

Never overlook the tempo marks, but follow them exactly!
M.B.



Rustic Dance

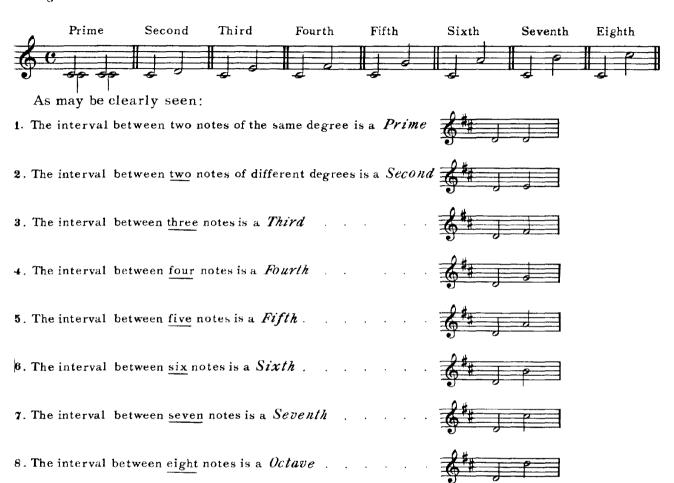


*) Lindeman: Norwegian Folksongs.



Intervals

The difference in pitch between two tones is called an interval. For a beginner it is sufficient to learn the following intervals:



It cannot be stressed too much how important is the study of intervals for the violinist to be.

The ability to recognize an interval when it occurs, the so called Interval Recognition should be especially cultivated as it greatly helps developing the violin pupil's musical sense and also enables to memorize better and more easily.

When practising remember that you must do so slowly and slowly and again slowly! in order that you may have sufficient time to consider and think about each note and each bow before actually playing.

L.A.



SECONDS



THIRDS



FOURTHS



FIFTHS



SIXTHS



SEVENTHS



OCTAVES



*) Lying exactly opposite to each other on adjacent strings, perfect fifths are always taken with the same finger; excepting of course when they occur on the open strings.

The finger stopping these intervals should always be placed simultaneously upon the two strings.



The Big Crow

Norwegian Folk Song



Particular care to be taken with the bowing in this piece. In some of the measures f.i.*) the Down-Bow is to be played rather slowly and the Up-Bow much quicker; then again this is reversed at **) where the Down-Bow must be played quickly and the Up-Bow much slower.

EXERCISES FOR CROSSING THE STRINGS



- *) The first finger placed simultaneously upon both strings and held down until end of dotted line.
- **) Alternate raising and re-setting of the second finger as previously explained on pages 59 and 64.



Minuet



- *) First finger placed on both strings simultaneously.
- **) Place first finger on (D#) one-half tone lower than E and then glide up to E without raising the finger.

BOWING EXERCISES

across two strings for wrist development

To be practised with this length of the bow.



*) See author's Preface, page 7.



SCALE OF B MINOR

Half-steps: C#-D and A#-B when ascending G-F# and D-C# when descending



VARIED TRIAD IN B MINOR



An Important Rule: Use the Bow sparingly at the start of long sustained notes; as a rule beginners will always draw the Bow too quickly at the start and then find that there is hardly any Bow left with which to end the tone. M.B.

The Orient A Swedish Folksong



SIXTEENTH NOTES

Comparison of the Sixteenth Note with other Notes met with thus far:



Devote special attention to the Up-Bow, as from nature it is weaker than the Down Bow. Therefore, in order to strengthen it and impart to it the freedom and swing of the down-bow, the notes should be played more heavily and with extra strength.

Use the wrist



Correct use of the lower right arm will impart breadth and strength to your general tone production. See Prof. Auer's remark, Part III, page 182.



SEVENTH ETUDE



There is Music in the air, There is Music everywhere



- *) The third finger having moved beyond its usual position for the preceding A# must be drawn back again before placing it on this D.
- **) Move the first finger back one-half step for the A# and forward again to B, without raising the finger.

Never practise when you are tired. L.A.

You must be wide awake and use all your faculties when practising.

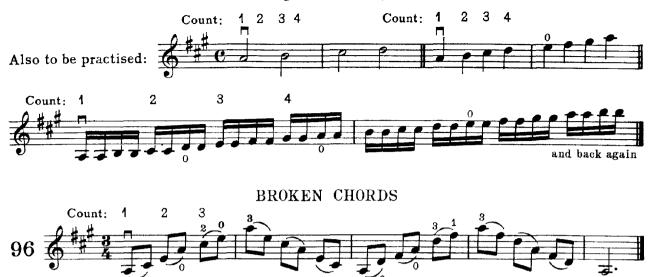


Seven Women Oriental Song



SCALE OF A MAJOR Half-steps: C#-D and G# - A





Carry Me Back To Old Virginny (Plantation Song)

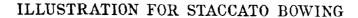


Staccato Bowing

Staccato- an Italian word- indicates that the notes should be played short and separated from each other by soundless rests.

Staccato is marked by small dots over or under the notes and is produced on the violin by a short bow stroke and then a sudden stop of the bow. During this pause the bow should remain silently on the string, whereby the vibrations of the string are stopped, the tone abruptly broken off and the short staccato effect obtained.

Too short a stroke should not be used and the wrist should be loose and very flexible.





STACCATO EXERCISE No. 2



Watch the intonation and listen to your own playing as attentively as possible. M.B.

COMBINATION of legato and staccato bowing



1st VARIATION

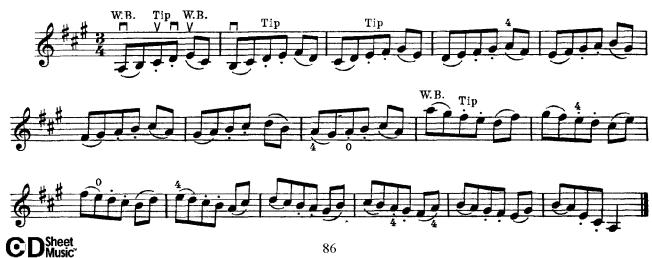
Down-Bow slowly, Up-Bow quickly. Use same length of the Bow up and down



2nd VARIATION Down-Bow quickly, Up-Bow slowly



3rd VARIATION Staccato at the point of the bow





*) Observe raising and resetting of the 3rd finger.

CDSheet Music

not contrarily hold the bow loosely and play with a stiff wrist.

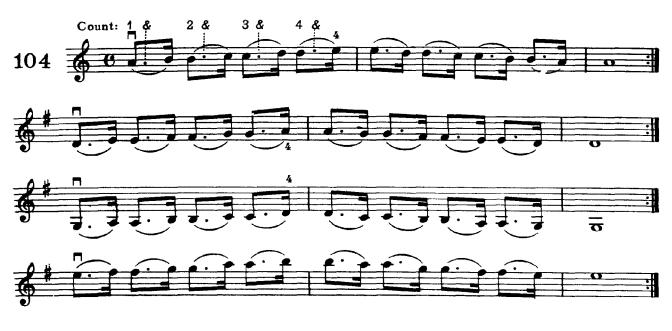
SCALE OF F# MINOR

Half-steps: G#-A and E#-F# when ascending D-C# and A-G# when descending



DOTTED EIGHTHS

Legato



EIGHTH ETUDE



*)E#(leading-note) is one-half-step lower than the F#. Move 1st finger back to E# and glide up to F# without raising the finger.

Always practise with careful attention to every detail. Violin playing is a very complicated matter and requires your every thought and complete concentration!

L.A.

(Also see Part VI, page 525).



DOTTED EIGHTHS Staccato



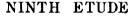
are to be played:

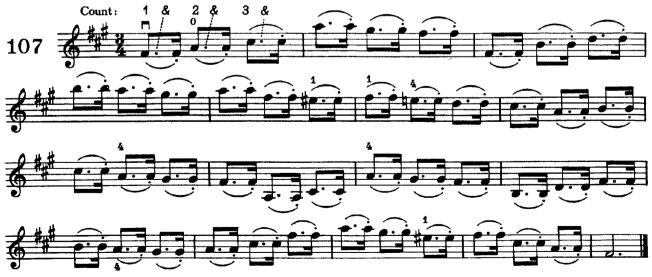


Observe a momentary rest between the two notes. Do not lift the bow from the string and mark the staccato note well.



To be practised in a similar way on all strings.





Remember the necessary up-right attitude of your left hand and correct position of the arm and wrist. See illustration 1 page 13.

M. B.



The Boy and the Girl



BROKEN CHORDS



*) See Prof. Auer's remark on next page.



Every individual note of a scale is of equal importance! Therefore bear each note in mind as you play it and make sure of its perfect production.

L. A.

This rule holds good only when practising slowly.

M. B.

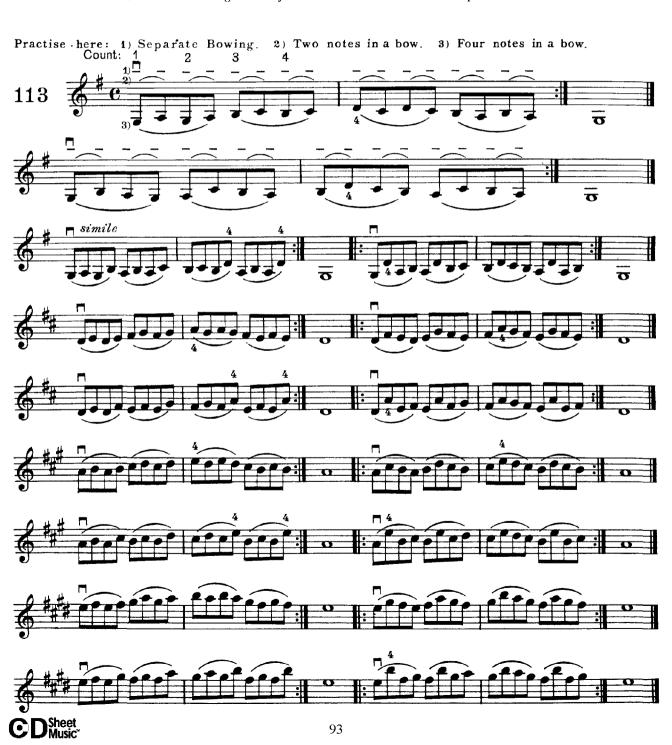






Correct Principles for the Practise of FINGER EXERCISES

- 1. Strong Finger-pressure
- 2. Soft Bow-pressure
- 3. Practise piano
- 4. Practise slowly
- 5. Move the fingers only. The hand must remain quiet.

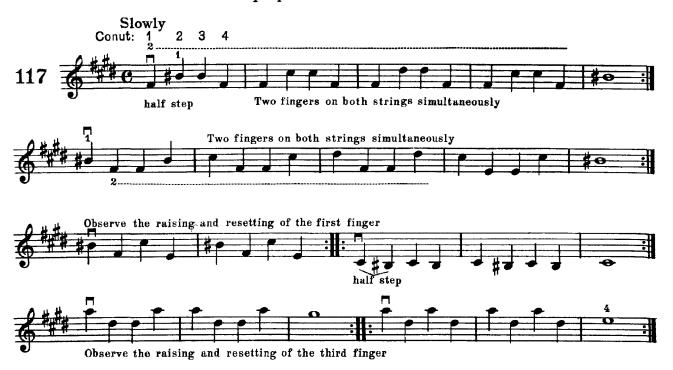


Old Pilgrims Song

Beautiful is the Earth



CROSSING THE STRING and preparation for the Etude



TENTH AND LAST ETUDE

for development of supple wrist movements.



Dear Old Mother



SHARP SCALES taken up thus far:

G Major	1#	E Minor
D Major	2#	B Minor
A Major	3#	F# Minor
E Major	4#	C# Minor

It is very easy for violin players to remember the order of these Major Scales, owing to the fact that they are named in the same order as the four strings of the Violin.

In their ascending succession they are a perfect fifth apart.

