

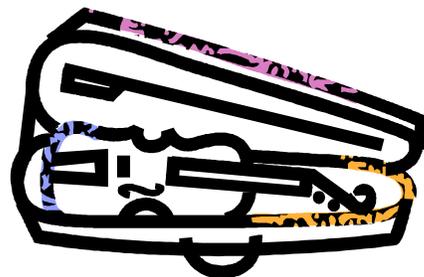
String Instrument CARE and MAINTENANCE

INSTRUMENT CARE

- ♪ Never leave the instrument or bow where someone might accidentally sit or step on it.
- ♪ Keep your instrument out of extreme temperatures and conditions. **Never leave the instrument in the car for long periods of time.**
- ♪ Keep your instrument case neat and tidy. Avoid loose items in the case that might rattle or bang against the instrument.
- ♪ **Be extra careful and protective of the bridge**, it is held on by string pressure alone.
- ♪ Only use a soft cloth and instrument polish from a music store to clean your instrument.
- ♪ Do NOT use your instrument to lean on when writing. If you do, you will leave an impression in the wood.
- ♪ **Do NOT try to tune the instrument yourself using the pegs unless you have learned in private lessons!** Only use the fine tuners, and only when Mrs. Rosenberg has taught you how (probably in Januaray). Only bass players will use the pegs, which unlike the other string instruments are on gears.
- ♪ Do not try to fix the instrument yourself if it breaks.

BOW CARE

- ♪ **Do not handle the bow hairs!** Because of the oils in your hands, touching it often can damage the hairs.
- ♪ **Be careful not to over-tighten the bow hairs.** The bow should not be tightened so much so that the stick is straight or bending outwards. If the bow is tightened to such an extreme, the hairs will stretch or even fall out.
- ♪ **Always loosen the bow hair when you are finished playing the instrument**, “Righty Tightly, Lefty Loosey.”



(OVER)

VIOLIN/VIOLA CARE

- ♪ Case should be flat when opening it and make sure it is right side up.
- ♪ Most shoulder rests can fit in your case (usually at the top by the scroll, try turning the “feet” of the shoulder rest sideways for a better fit). If you cannot fit it in, ask Mrs. Rosenberg for help.
- ♪ Shoulder sponges should be placed on top over the scroll, **do not leave it on the instrument** (but you can leave the rubber band).
- ♪ When putting on a shoulder rest/sponge, put your instrument between your thighs so that the bridge is not touching you.

CELLO/BASS CARE

- ♪ Cello players - always put the end-pin back in the instrument when not in use. Bass players, you may leave it out if you are putting it back on the racks, but you must put the end-pin in when packing it up.
- ♪ When walking with the instrument, lift it up, it shouldn't touch the floor
- ♪ NEVER lean a cello or bass against a wall or chair. If you set it down, do so on its SIDE gently.
- ♪ **Cellos and basses often come in soft cases; you must be extra careful** when walking with the instrument down hallways and through doorways.
- ♪ When packing up a cello or bass, the bow goes in last (when unpacking, take the bow out first). **The bridge should be facing the side with the bow pouch.**

