

## RULES SUMMARY

### CARE OF THE BOW

1. Never touch bow hair with hands or to your body.
2. Tighten your bows to the proper tension before playing.
3. Rosin the bow two or three times weekly.
4. Loosen the bow EVERY TIME you put the bow away.
5. NEVER hang the bow on a music stand. Put it in your case when not in use.

### CARE OF THE INSTRUMENT

1. Keep the instrument in a place of moderate temperature and humidity.
2. Do NOT let other people play with your instrument.
3. Wipe off rosin dust and finger marks after each use with a soft cloth (supplied with kit).
4. Never place on chairs unattended. Put it in the case.
5. Be sure the case is fully locked before picking it up.

### SOUNDPOST

1. The soundpost is expertly fitted into the tapered space between the top and back of the interchangeable. It must not be glued in.
2. Check the position of the soundpost periodically and always when changing strings or if bumped or dropped. The top of any stringed instrument under normal string tension is in danger of collapse if the soundpost is down. (Strings of cello exert approximately 80 pounds pressure through the bridge feet to the top of the instrument. As bridge feet are so small, the pressure exerted is found to be approximately 1000 PSI).

### PEG BOX

Wind no more string on the peg than the space between the peg and the rear wall of the peg box allows. Too much string on the peg, when forced, will split the peg box or break the peg. Pushing the tapered peg too far into the peg hole can also split the peg box.

### PEGS

Each peg is individually fitted. No pegs are interchangeable. Not even on the same instrument.

### BRIDGE

1. The bridge is kept in place by string pressure. It is not to be glued to the top of the instrument.
2. The low side of the bridge is under the "E" string on the violin, the "A" string on the viola and cello, and the "G" string on the bass.
3. F-hole notches do not necessarily indicate the correct position of the bridge. Adjust to the correct ratio as shown under "Mensur".
4. You can ruin your strings and the bridge will tilt more rapidly if the grooves are not lubricated, use a very soft lead pencil.
5. Bridges of all instruments must be adjusted periodically, as repeated tuning of strings tends to tilt it. If not adjusted, it may tilt and collapse, with the possibility of serious damage.

### CHIN REST

The size of the chin rest should correspond with the size of the instrument. When attaching, be careful to adjust the chin rest set screws just enough to hold it firmly in place of the instrument. Screws set too tightly can cause the ribs and sides of the instrument to buckle, causing serious damage.

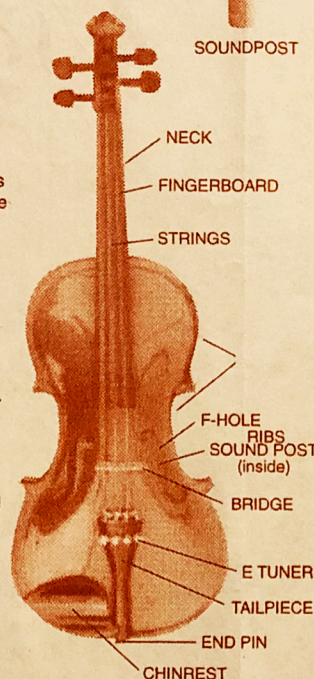
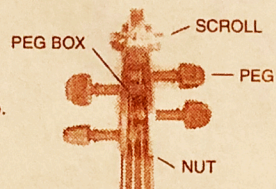
### TUNER

The tuner is used only for tuning metal strings. After a period of use, the tuner adjustment screw should be as far as it will go, often touching and damaging the top of the instrument, or causing buzzing noises or impairing tonal quality by dampening vibrations. Before this occurs, unscrew the tuner as far as possible and re-tune the string with the peg to a slightly flat pitch. Then bring the string to the correct pitch with the tuner adjustment screw.

### TUNING YOUR VIOLIN AND VIOLA

Try to match the sound of each string to the sound of the piano or a tuner (Violin: E, A, D, G; Viola: A, D, G, C) using pegs and tuners as per this instruction. Also, ask your teacher for help, and to verify that you have correctly tuned your instrument.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** You can ruin your strings if grooves in the nut and bridge are not lubricated. To lubricate, use a soft lead pencil. If the grooves in the nut are so small as to pinch the string, take your instrument to your repairman for adjustment.



### REPLACING STRINGS

Fasten the string to the tailpiece and thread the other end through the hole of the appropriate peg. Bring the end forward and over the peg, and then under the string, bringing it over and around through the loop. The loose end will point away from the peg handle (see diagram). Turn the peg so that the string winds over, not under the peg. Wind in a coil moving towards the peg handle. If the right length, when tightened, it will end close to the wall of the peg box when the string is in pitch. This will force the peg to stay in place. While tuning, re-adjust the bridge so that it remains in position.

**IMPORTANT:** Remove only one string at a time when replacing strings. This will keep pressure on the top to prevent the soundpost from falling.

### TAILPIECE

The tailpiece is held in place by the tailgut and the strings. Its correct position is close to the saddle, but not touching it. It is important that the tailpiece be the correct size of the instrument and/or the chinrest.

### SHOULDER REST

The use of the shoulder rest is determined by your particular needs. The shoulder rest should hold the instrument. **BE SURE TO TAKE THE SHOULDER REST OFF** your instrument before putting it back in the case. If left on, closing the case lid could crack the top and/or back seriously, damaging the instrument.

### END PIN

For Cello: Adjust the end pin to a length to correspond with sitting on a straight chair with feet flat on the floor. For Bass: Adjust the end pin so that the bow will be half way between the fingerboard and bridge when you are comfortable.

### BOW STICK AND BOW HAIR

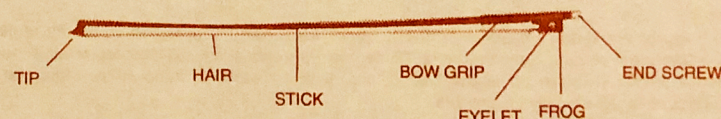
Bow hair is fastened to the tip of the bow stick on the end and to the frog on the other. Tuning the screw moves the frog, sliding it back and forth along the bow, stretching or relaxing the bow hair. The most important quality of the bow stick is its springy elasticity, which is lost if the bow hair tension is not released each time after playing. Also, avoid excessive humidity as it tends to warp the bow and stretch bow hair.

Follow these rules:

- A. Always hold the bow by the frog or the stick. Do not touch the hair.
  - B. Tighten the bow hair before playing to a moderate tension, so that the curve of the stick remains concave, then rosin the bow hair.
  - C. Release the tension of the bow hair each time after playing.
- Loosen your bow before you go !!

If you can not get enough, do not force the screw; send the bow to the repair shop to have the bow hair shortened. Also, if you can not release the tension, send the bow to the repair shop to have the bow hair lengthened. Forcing the screw in either direction may split the bow stick.

Bow hair comes from the tails of horses. It is covered by minute scales which overlap each other. Rosin is retained under the scales of the bow hair. Perspiration, dirt, greasy and oily substances as from fingertips, prevent bow hair from taking and holding the rosin. Synthetic bow hair has like qualities, to lesser a degree. Therefore, for good playability, do not touch your bow hair. If after you rosin the bow, tone production is insufficient, send the bow to the repair shop for cleaning.



### A SEMI-ANNUAL VISIT TO YOUR LOCAL STORE MAKES GOOD SENSE

*An experienced repairman can quickly check your instrument's condition, and an inexpensive, early repair can often eliminate costly major repair or overhauls. Due to the complex and delicate construction of instruments, it is best not to attempt any adjustments or repairs. The instrument should be checked and adjusted only by a competent repairman at least twice a year.*