

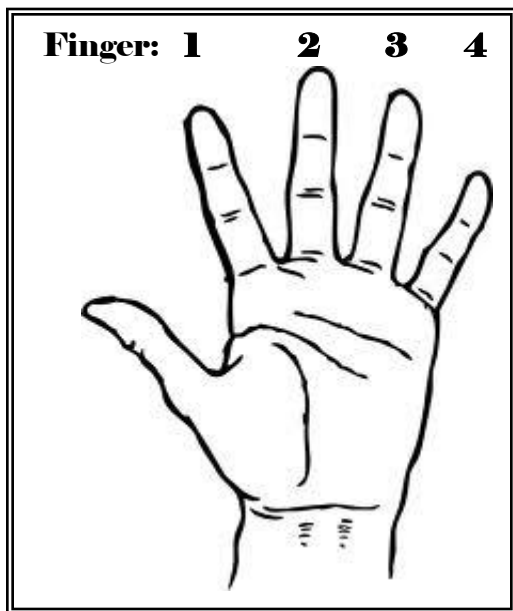
BEDWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ORCHESTRA SUPPLEMENT 1

(VIOLA EDITION)

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Purpose: To provide students and parents a description of specific viola skills.

Remember for playing position: Nose – Bridge – Scroll (should all be in a straight line!)



Plucking a string is called “Pizzicato”

Finger Patterns for the Left Hand

2-3 Pattern (where fingers 2 and 3 are touching)

1-2 Pattern (where fingers 1 and 2 are touching)

Scales – a fundamental part of any musical training!

D Scale – Starting on the “open” D String (open means that you pluck or bow the string without pressing any left hand finger down on the fingerboard), you should play using the 2-3 pattern:

Open D, 1, 2, 3, Open A, 1, 2, 3.

G Scale – Starting on the “open” G String you should play using the 2-3 pattern:

Open G, 1, 2, 3, Open D, 1, 2, 3.

CHALLENGE: Can you play each scale BACKWARDS?

HOMEWORK:

It is important that beginning orchestra students practice 3-4 times each week for approximately 10-minutes for each practice session (not including set-up and clean-up). Please do not lump all of the practice into one marathon session each week. Short and frequent sessions are best. Each session should include:

1. Review proper playing position (use the CD-ROM that came with your book weekly for the next few months)
2. Check “Nose – Bridge – Scroll”
3. Review placing fingers on the fingerboard in a 2-3 pattern and a 1-2 pattern.
- Try it on all of the strings!
4. D Scale Ascending and Descending (up and down)
5. G Scale Ascending and Descending (up and down)
6. C Scale Ascending and Descending (up and down)
7. Essential Elements 2000 (method book) exercises.

a. *Always write in counting for each example (1, 2, 3, 4) and count out loud!*