

Thank you for purchasing this great violin from Austin Bazaar!

A common issue many violin players face is that the strings do not stay in place after being tuned. Please keep in mind that strings and pegs do tend to slip on a new instrument. The strings need some stretching before they settle in and hold pitch as do the string windings (the part of the string wrapped around the peg) on the pegs. There are a number of things you can do to keep your violin in tune. Here are some helpful hints to help you get the most out of your violin:

1. Make sure that the bridge is installed correctly. All of our violins come with a bridge, but they do not come installed on some of the violins. It should be fairly easy to install, but if you experience any problems, please email us.
2. Use peg drops (available at most music stores). The drops, which range in price from \$4.00 to \$12.00, are very effective and ensure that the wooden pegs do not slip.
3. Rub a little rosin dust from your rosin cake on each peg where it inserts into the peg head. This should only be tried if applying the peg drops does not help. The rosin dust will work if applied properly.
4. Try pulling the strings slightly upwards after tuning to pitch. Doing this can take some of the slack out of the strings and help accelerate the settling-in process for new strings.
5. Be sure to be pushing the wooden pegs in as you tune the strings up to pitch. Doing this ensures that the pegs hold tighter as the tension of the string goes up.

It is important to note that tightening the string too far above its designated pitch may be damaging not only to the string, but more importantly to the instrument itself. Tremendous amounts of pressure can be placed on the bridge, sound post, and sound box, causing the strings to break. If they do break, you can buy strings at any music store and are relatively inexpensive.

Additionally, depending on the weather temperature and humidity level, as well as the amount and type of playing, you may need to re-tune the violin frequently (sometimes as frequently as every 15 minutes to a half an hour). In ideal conditions, this will not be necessary, but do check to see that your violin is still in tune.

Another common issue many violin players face is that some strands of bow hair tend to break off during play. Please remember that this is a very common issue that **all** violin

players face, from the most experienced to the beginner. If this happens you can do the following:

1. Take a pair of nail clippers and cut the broken strand off from the frog (the bottom part where you hold the bow) or the tip (the top part) of the bow, depending on where the strand broke.

Remember to tighten the bow before playing and loosen it after playing. Do not tighten it too much, however, as this may cause the bow to warp.

Most importantly, **give it time!** The strings and pegs need to settle in. You may find that after you receive your violin, it goes out of tune frequently. **Do not get discouraged!** Be patient and keep tuning it. Pretty soon you will find that you do not need to tune it as often. But be careful, if you start tuning the strings too tight, they may break.

ELECTRIC VIOLIN

The electric violin set includes a bridge, but it may not be installed on the violin when you receive it. Follow the directions above to install the bridge and tune the violin. Be sure to tighten the bow and rosin it well before playing (see above).

To play the electric violin using only the headphones (included), it is not necessary to have an amp. Just follow these simple steps to set up your violin:

1. Make sure the 9V battery (included) is connected properly at the back of the violin.
2. Connect the amp cable (included) to the violin. The input jack on the violin is on the right hand side near the bottom of the violin. It is not necessary to connect the input jack to the amp if you want to play the violin with the headphones only. If you do connect the input jack to the amp, be sure to turn off the amp to receive sound in the headphones.
3. Connect the headphones (included) to the violin. The input jack for the headphones is on the left hand side near the bottom of the violin.
4. Turn on the violin (the "on" switch is located on the front left side towards the bottom of the violin).
5. Adjust the volume to the desired level on the violin (the volume knob is the second knob on the front right side near the bottom of the violin).
6. Adjust the volume to the desired level on the headphones (the volume knob is a switch located in the middle of the headphone cable).
7. Adjust the tone to the desired level on the violin (the tone knob is the first knob on the front right side near the bottom of the violin).

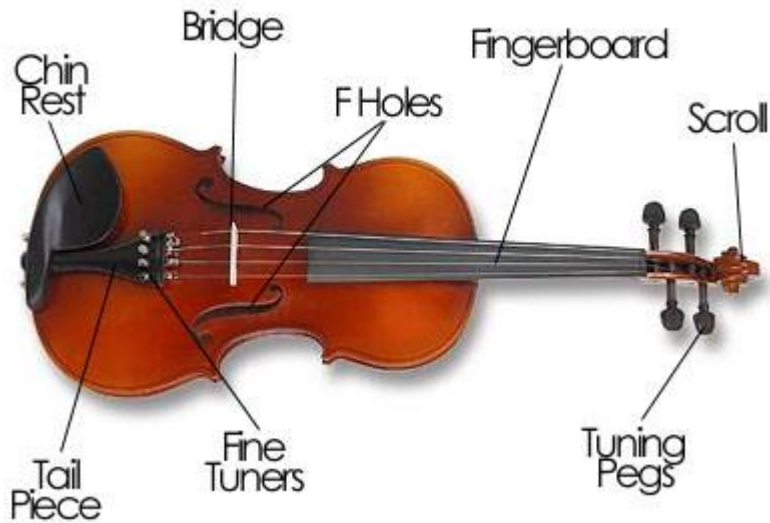
In order for you to be able to play your electric violin without headphones, you will need to have an amp. Once you have an amp, just follow these simple steps to set up your violin.

1. Make sure the 9V battery (included) is connected properly at the back of the violin.
2. Connect the amp cable (included) to the violin and the amp. The input jack on the violin is on the right hand side near the bottom of the violin
3. Turn on the amp
4. Turn on the violin (the “on” switch is located on the front left side towards the bottom of the violin).
5. Adjust the volume to the desired level on both the amp and the violin (the volume knob is the second knob on the front right side near the bottom of the violin).
6. Adjust the tone to the desired level on the amp and violin (the tone knob is the first knob on the front right side near the bottom of the violin).

If you have any problems with your electric or acoustic violin, you can take it to any local music store or your violin instructor. We want you to enjoy playing your violin, but remember that this cannot happen without a little effort on your part.

We sincerely hope that you enjoy your violin!

Anatomy of an Acoustic Violin:



Anatomy of a Violin Bow:

