



Using a Straight Bow

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Violin

Why?

-It sounds the best!

Stance

- Start with a great violin stance and bow hold with curved fingers
- Set your *bow* on the string midway between the *bridge* and the *fingerboard*
- Always keep the *bow* contact point in the middle

Short Stopped Bow Strokes

- Try playing an A major scale
- Start with short staccato or stopped bow strokes
 - This gives you control and time to check the placement

Bow Arm

- Keep the bow arm opening and closing from the elbow
- Try to keep the shoulder relaxed. When it moves or swings, the *bow* will be crooked and the tone will be affected.

Always Check!

- Stop every couple of notes to check:
- Good curved fingers on the bow hold
 - Elbow height for the string: keep the elbow at the same level as your wrist

Longer Bow Strokes

- Always check that everything is straight
- First, try longer stopped bow strokes
- Then, try longer and legato strokes

Watch the Tip of the Bow

- The bottom of the *bow* is heavier and easier to control
- When getting to the tip of the *bow*, add a little more pressure to keep it straight