

**VIOLIN  
CONCERT BOOK ONE**

*Fiddle*

# **Adventure**

**CHOOSE YOUR OWN MUSIC ADVENTURE SERIES**



**WITH  
JACIE SITES & SOPHIE STRATTON**



**JAM**



DON'T FORGET TO  
DOWNLOAD THE JAM  
PRACTICE TRACKS

**PERFORM**



**PLAY ALONG  
JAM TRACKS**

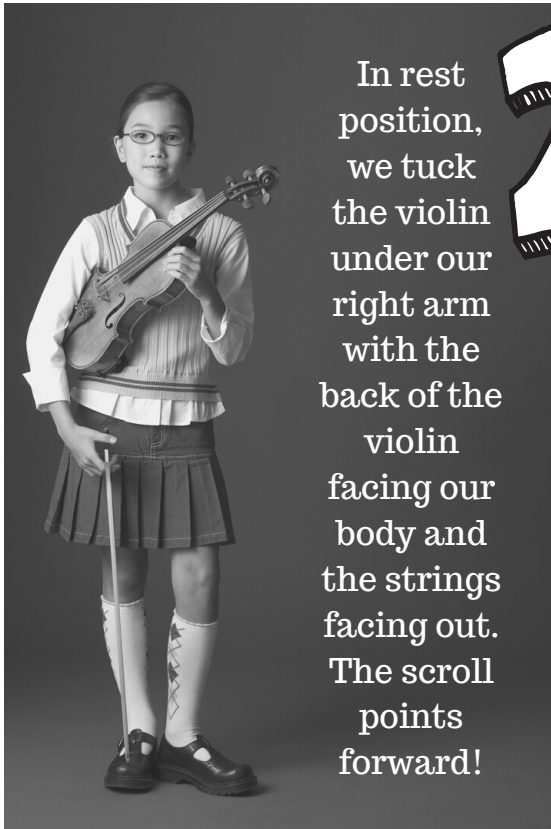
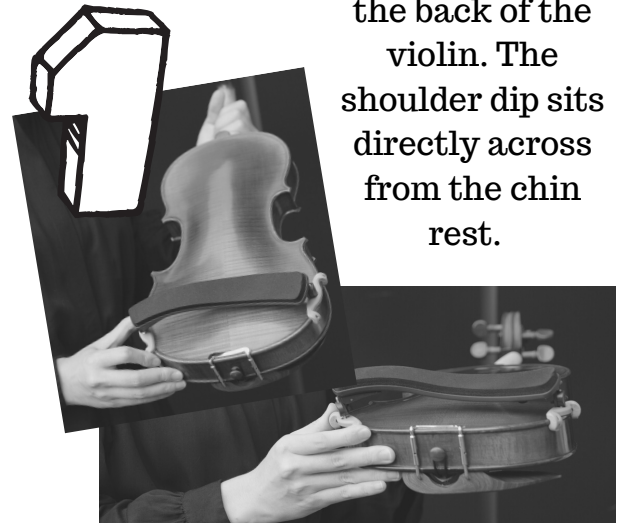
This is some advice and other information



JACIE SITES & SOPHIE STRATTON

# REST POSITION

Attach the shoulder rest to the back of the violin. The shoulder dip sits directly across from the chin rest.



In rest position, we tuck the violin under our right arm with the back of the violin facing our body and the strings facing out. The scroll points forward!

# 2

# PLAYING POSITION



Keeping a hold of the violin on its lower 'right' shoulder in rest position, bring the violin up to your left shoulder and practice holding with only your shoulder and left jaw. Make sure to look straight down the strings!

# 3



Playing position with bow and violin!

\*Hold violin with jaw and shoulder  
\*Wrist is back away from the violin's neck  
\*Bow arm makes a square with the strings.

# 4

## UPSCALE HOEDOWN

# PLUCKING

*Pluck with your right index finger and secure your right thumb on the corner of the fingerboard.*

## OPEN STRINGS



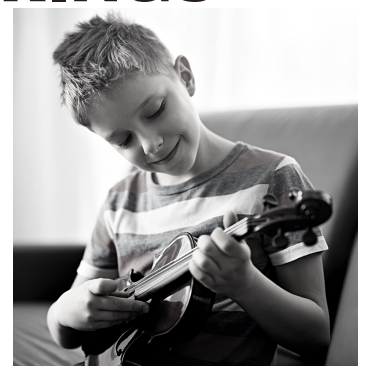
- The smallest string (on your right) as you are holding your fiddle in playing position is the E string. It's your highest sounding string.
- The second highest string (to the left of the E string) is the A string.
- The string to the left of the A string is the D string.
- Your lowest string on the far left is the G string.

## CHORD PROGRESSION

D D A A | D D G G  
D D G G | A A D D

## PLUCK THE STRINGS

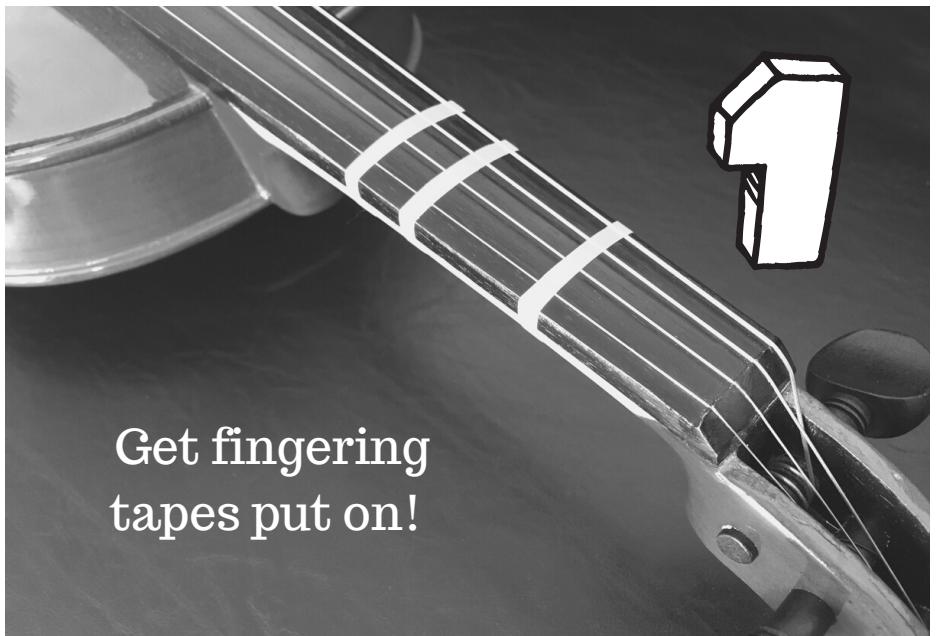
**Pluck each string using your right index finger over the fingerboard, along with the music, using the chord progression above. Keep practicing until you have the entire progression memorized, you can play it perfectly without missing any strings while looking at your fiddle! After you pluck the progression perfectly, try bowing with a straight bow stroke!**



# LEFT HAND



2. Wrist away from violin neck!
3. Straight line from thumb to palm to elbow...NO WRINKLES or TWISTS!!!
4. Thumb straight up, pad touches violin neck, tip NEVER touches fingerboard.
5. Fingers on the tips & tapes CENTERED on the strings. Always in a tall box shape.





# PRACTICE ESSENTIALS FOR BEGINNERS

## DEEP LISTENING

Listen to your recording DAILY! This is the key to learning and improving your fiddle skills rapidly! The more you listen the more fluent you will become. Listening is best done at night as you are falling asleep, in the background while doing other tasks such as chores and travel AND directly before practicing or learning a tune!

1. Listen to a tune at least 100 times before beginning to learn the tune | the best way to accomplish this task is to create a playlist with the tune on repeat and listen throughout the day/week before you plan to learn the tune. You know you have listened enough when you can hum the melody to the tune COMPLETELY!
2. Check your listening and practice by accompanying the tune (jam along with the recording) then practice playing the simple melody (practicing along with the recording).
3. Once you have the tune and the accompaniment memorized practice "fiddling" your tunes by varying the rhythms and embellishing the melody BEFORE working on more advanced versions of the tune

## JAM ALONG WITH RECORDING

Listen to the recording first and hum or sing along with the tune

- Practice accompanying the tune with the chord progression
- Once the progression is memorized try the simple melody
- Embellish the simple melody
- Practice different rhythmic accompaniment chops
- Move from the practice track to the full speed track
- Work on the intermediate level melody and harmony
  - If too difficult move to the next simple tune
  - If too simple move to the advanced level break

## FIDDLE WITH IT!

### Beginning Students

Learn the simple melody and accompaniment

Vary the rhythms and embellish with slides and double strings

### Intermediate Students

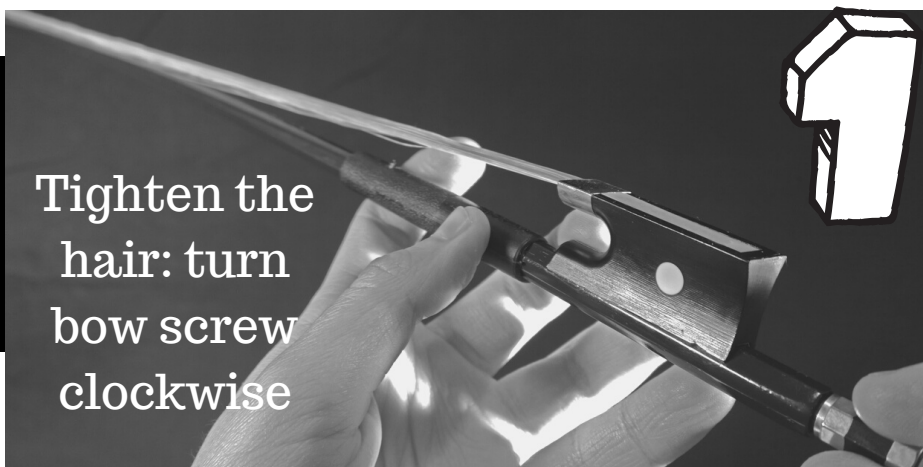
Try more advanced chops and chords

Vary the melody and harmony with grace notes, double stops and slurs

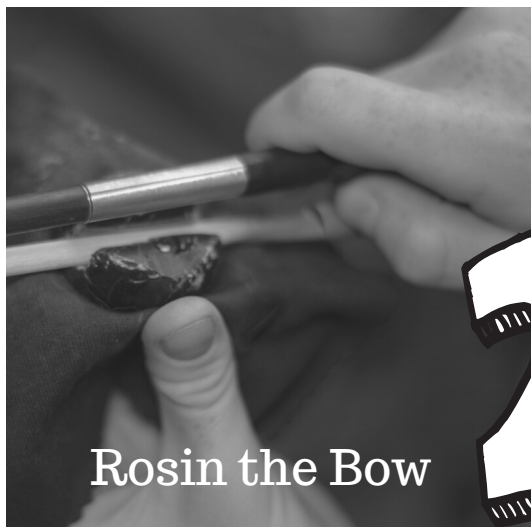
### Advanced Students

Create your own variations over the chord structure

# THE BOW HOLD



Tighten the hair: turn bow screw clockwise



Rosin the Bow



Make sure the 2nd and 3rd fingers set over the stick covering the 'eye' of the frog. Pinky on the stick and index finger curled around the grip.



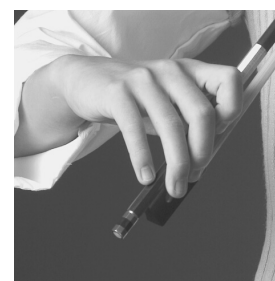
Try using the bow hold on the violin



# BOWING MOTIONS

## BOW PARALLEL WITH THE BRIDGE

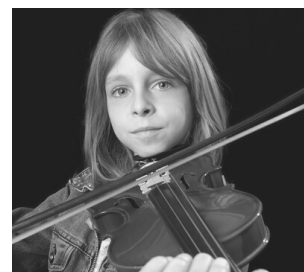
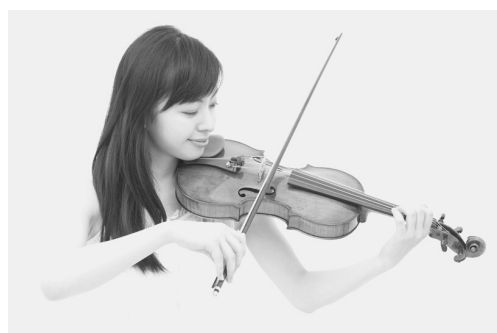
Make sure the bow is parallel with the bridge, not too tight, and with the stick tilted slightly towards scroll of the violin. Keep your right thumb bent 'out' with the left edge of the thumb tip gently touching the INSIDE grip of the bow. NEVER let the thumb drift through the bow to the other side and DO NOT place the thumb inside the frog. If you need a better grip place the thumb under the frog on the silver piece that connects the frog to the hair.



CORRECT

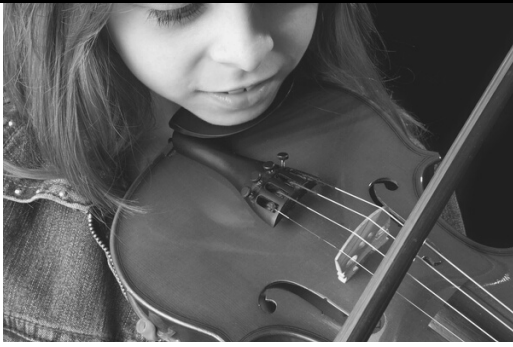


INCORRECT



Keep your bow smoothly flowing over the f-shaped holes half way between the bridge and the fingerboard. Keep your elbow back as far as your shoulder and open and close from your elbow to make the bowing motion. Keep the shoulder still as you bow up towards the sky and down towards the ground.





## UPSCALE HOEDOWN

# BOWING

## OPEN STRINGS

---

When bowing your open strings, rest your bow hand with a relaxed forearm and elbow on the correct string.

With the stick tilted up toward the ceiling, open your elbow while keeping your elbow low and your shoulder and elbow as relaxed as possible.

When you move your bow to the RIGHT that is a DOWN bow. When you move to the LEFT that is an up bow.

Keep pressure between the thumb and the index finger so the stick depresses towards the hair, pull fast and don't let the bow drift across the contact point. Keep the bow CENTERED between the bridge and where the fingerboard ends. This is called the highway. Keep your bow strokes straight by keeping your bow in the middle of the highway while pulling to the right or pushing to the left. Set your bow on the string right under your index finger, and pull down bow first. Follow the notes/strings below!

---

## BOW THESE STRINGS

---



---

## DRONE ON TWO STRINGS

---

Once you can play single open strings with a strong tone:

- Bow weight (stick is depressed down to the hair)
- Bow Speed (pulling from the frog to the tip quickly)
- Contact Point (keeping your bow straight and in the same spot on the highway)

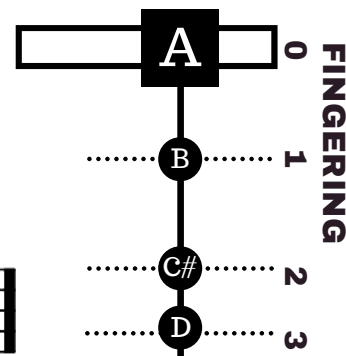
Then try two string drones:

- Rest your bow so it sits equally on two strings (one string plus its neighbor) (A+D, D+G, G+C). \*The name of each drone is the name of its lowest string\*
- Playing full bows, keep channeling your relaxed arm weight through your bow hold into the strings and keep the bow straight when it's moving.

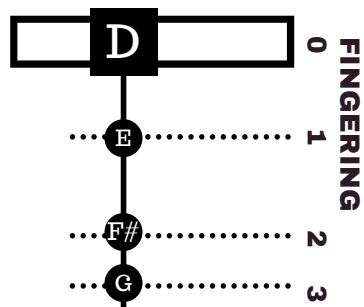
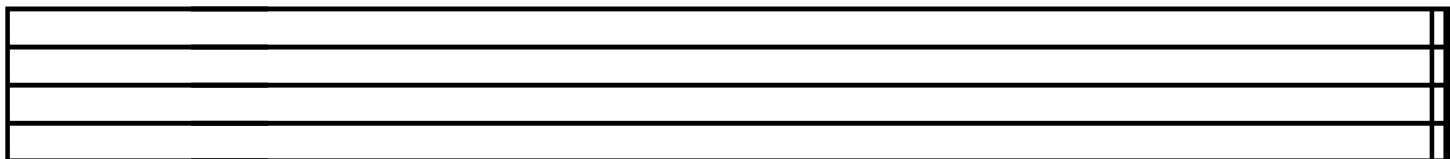
# THE A STRING

0 1 2 3

A B C# D



**COPY THE CLEF, KEY SIGNATURE, SCALE, NOTES & FINGERINGS**

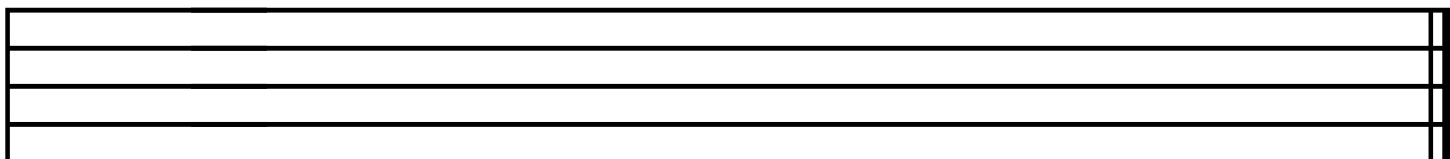


# THE D STRING

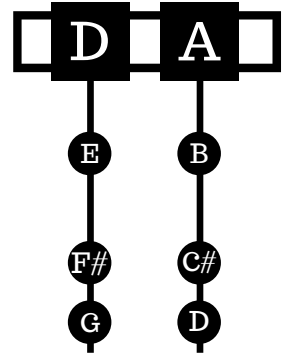
0 1 2 3

D E F# G

**COPY THE KEY SIGNATURE, SCALE, NOTES & FINGERINGS**



# KEY OF D



The Key of D has 2 Sharps: F# and C#

Do 1 2 3 A0 1 2 3

D E F# G A B C# D

WRITE THE KEY SIGNATURE, SCALE, NOTES & FINGERINGS:

---



---



---



---

Play the D major scale with the following rhythms:

**2 HALF NOTES**  
LONG DOWN - LONG UP



**4 EIGHTHS | 2 QUARTER NOTES**  
PEP-PER-O-NI PI-ZZA



**4 QUARTER NOTES**  
AL-I-GAT-OR



**8 EIGHTH NOTES**  
GRAND-MA-RIDES-A  
MO-TOR-CY-CLE



**2 QUARTER NOTES | 1 HALF-NOTE**  
FI-DDLE BOW



**QUARTER 2 EIGHTHS+  
QUARTER 2 EIGHTHS**  
DOWN TA-TER UP TA-TER



Write your own rhythms:



# HOEDOWN

## UPSCALE



KEY  
D



TIME  
10 MIN



TIMES  
20

*Embellish with an octave by hitting the open string below on the last note!*

Do — — — D1 — — —

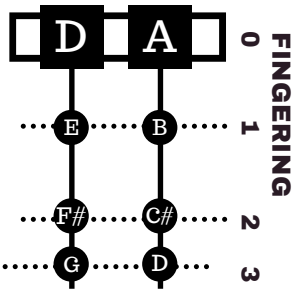
D2 — — — D3 — — —

A0 — — — A1 — — —

A2 — — — A3 — — —

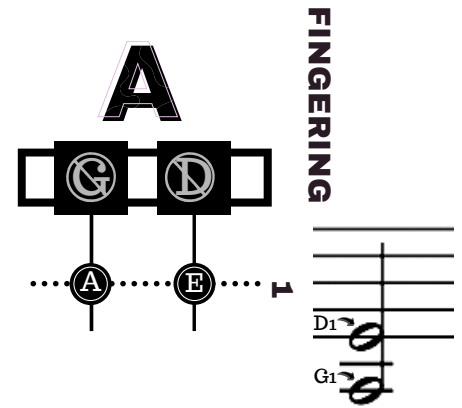
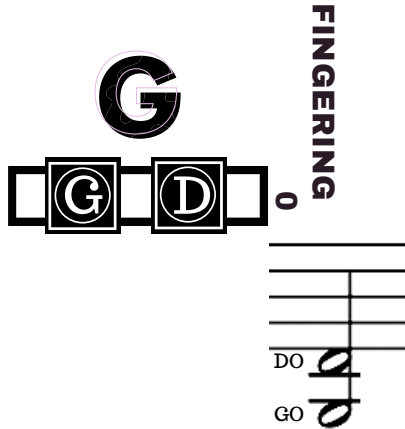
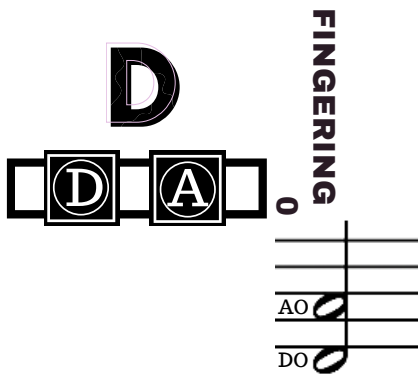
*Practice naming the notes. Write the fingerings below the notes and memorize this tune to play it 'by heart' with the recording before beginning the next tune! Say "up-scale hoe-down" with each new finger or open string to stay on the beat. Practice this melody along with the recording 20 times.*

The Key of D has  
2 Sharps:  
F# and C#



# CHOPS IN D

## SIMPLE CHORDS



## CHORD PROGRESSION

Play the chords  
in this order:

D	D	G	G		D	D	A	A
D	D	G	G		A	A	D	D

Repeat the chord progression with each set of rhythms.  
When you reach the end of the progression, just repeat and  
choose a new rhythm each time.

## CHOP RHYTHMS

DOWN   UP	DOWN   LIFT	LIFT   DOWN	DRONE (LONG)	DOWN   TA-TER	TA-TER   TA-TER

# HOEDOWN

# DOWNTOWN



KEY  
D

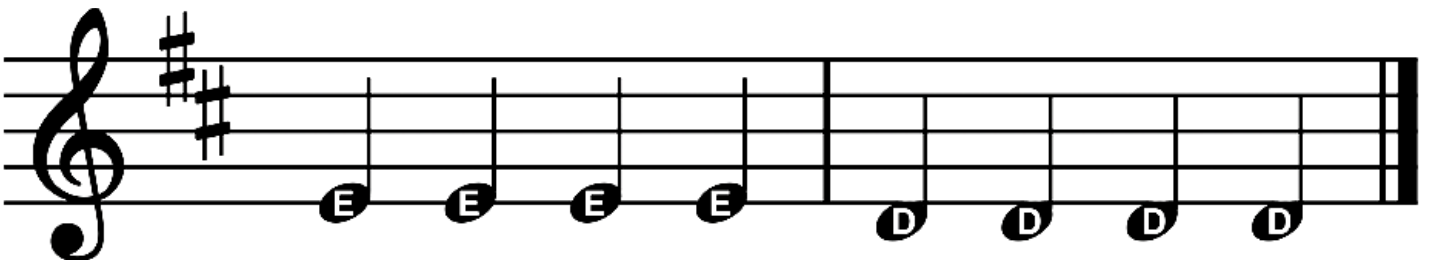
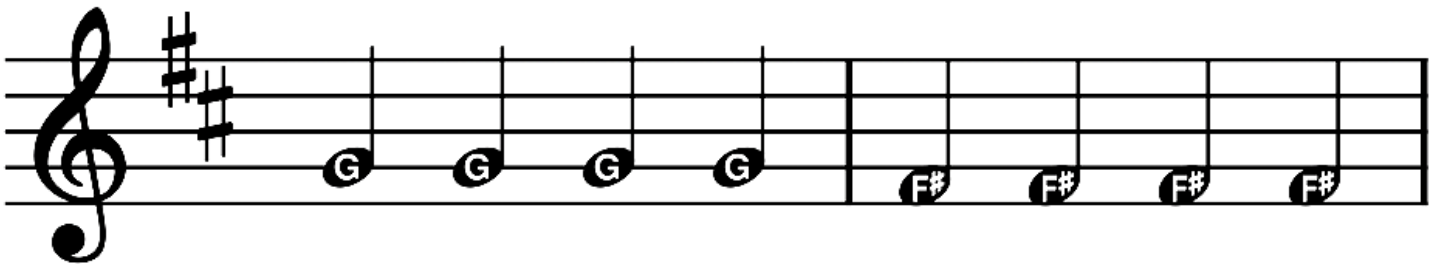
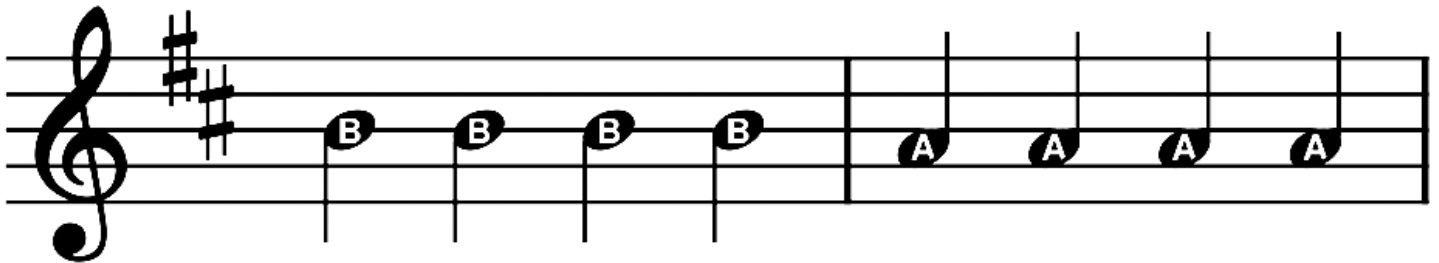
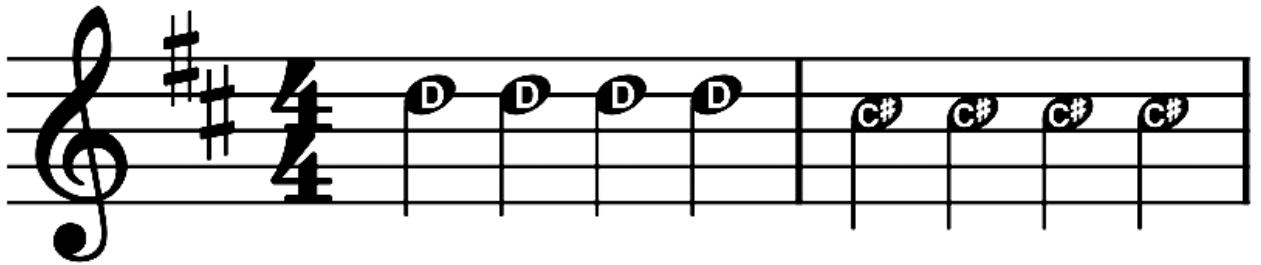


TIME  
10 MIN



TIMES  
15

*Embellish with a perfect 5th by hitting the open string above on the last note!*



# CHOPS

## SIMPLE CHORDS

**D**

FINGERING

**G**

FINGERING

**A**

FINGERING

## CHORD PROGRESSION

D	D	A	A		G	G	D	D
G	G	D	D		A	A	D	D

Chops are the same as drones and chords, but played with a rhythm instead of a continuous bow!

## CHOP INFO

DOWN | UP      DOWN | LIFT      LIFT | DOWN      DRONE (LONG)      DOWN | TA-TER      TA-TER | TA-TER

# HOEDOWN

## LITTLE FIDDLE



KEY OF  
**D**



LISTEN  
**20 MIN**



TIMES  
**15**

Practice naming the notes, write the fingerings below the notes AND memorize this tune playing it by 'heart' with the recording before beginning a new tune! Say "lit-the fid-dle" with each new finger or open string to stay on the beat.

### EACH NOTE GETS 4 BOWS

F# F# F# F# G G G G  
D2 — — — D3 — — —

F# F# F# F# E E E E  
D2 — — — D1 — — —

F# F# F# F# G G G G  
D2 — — — D3 — — —

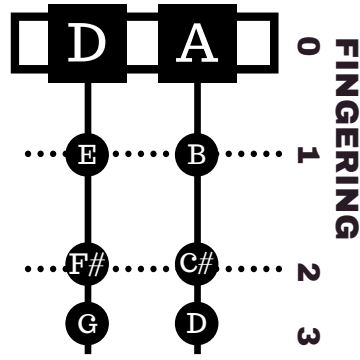
A A A A D D D D  
A0 — — — D0 — — —



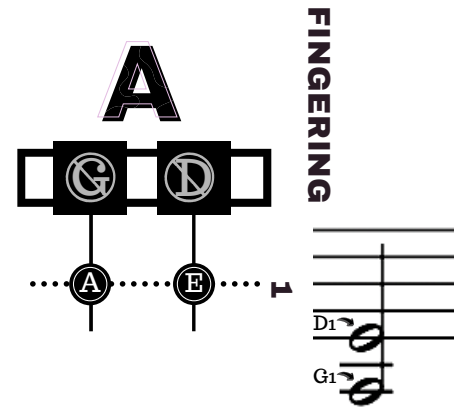
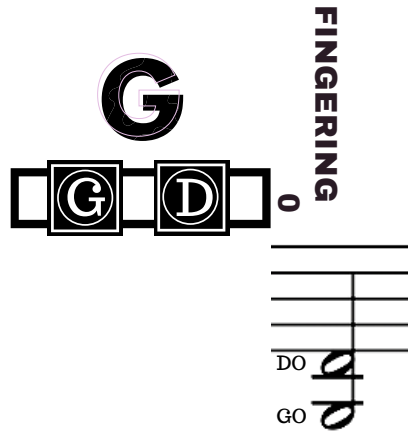
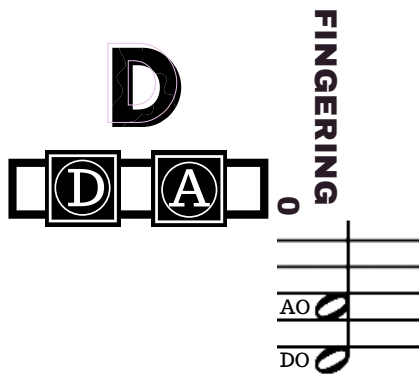
# LITTLE FIDDLE HOEDOWN

## CHOPS

The Key of D has  
2 Sharps:  
F# and C#



### SIMPLE CHORDS



### CHORD PROGRESSION

D	D	G	G	I	D	D	A	A
D	D	G	G	I	A	A	D	D

**Circle the 1st & 5th note AND name each CHOP** **5TH CHOPS**

**D**

D E F G A B C  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

G A B C D E F  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

A B C D E F G  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7

# HOEDOWN

## BOIL THE CABBAGE



KEY  
D



TIME  
20 MIN



TIMES  
10

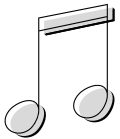
### LYRICS

Boil the Cab-bage down, down  
Turn the bis-cuits brown, brown  
The on-ly tune that I can play is  
Boil the cabbage down, down

### CHOPS

**D D G G | D D A A**

**D D G G | D A D D**



**2 EIGHTH  
NOTES**  
double bow  
"fid-dle"

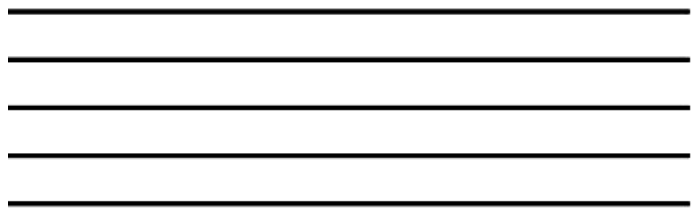
### SAME NOTES & DIFFERENT NOTES

Color all the notes that are the different on the top and bottom lines blue.



### PRACTICE DRAWING

1 quarter & 2 eighth notes below



\*Color all of the double bow 2 eighth note pairs red



# HOEDOWN

# SHORTNIN' BREAD



KEY  
D



TIME  
15 MIN



TIMES  
15

## LYRICS

Mo-mma's lit-tle ba-by loves  
Short-nin' Short-nin'  
Mo-mma's lit-tle ba-by loves  
Short-nin' Bread

## CHOPS

**D D D D | D D A D**

**D D D D | D D A D**

## EIGHTH NOTES

Each eighth note gets 1/2 of a quarter note count. This means you can fit two eighths into a quarter note. Do a double bow for each repeated set of eighth notes.

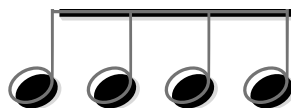
## SAME NOTES & DIFFERENT NOTES

Color all the notes that are the same on the top and bottom lines blue.



**2 EIGHTH NOTES**  
double bow  
"fid-dle"

Color all of the double bow 2 eighth note pairs red



**4 EIGHTH NOTES**  
2 double bows  
"lit-tle fid-dle"

\*Color all of the 2 double bows red and 4 eighth note pairs yellow



# CHOICE TUNE

# LAZY DOG BLUES



KEY  
D



TIME  
5 MIN



TIMES  
20

## LYRICS

La-zy dog, la-zy dog  
Don't you know my La-zy dog  
Yes I love my  
La-zy, la-zy dog

## CHOPS

**D D G D | A A D A**

**A A A7 A7 | D D D D**

## ADD THE BOWINGS

Alternating between down bow and up bow finish writing in the bowings above each note.

## TIE

A tie is when two notes are connected by a curved line. The tie means to add the two note values together. The last two notes in this piece are tied together.

4 + 4 =



Move your bow slowly and evenly as you bow slowly for 8 counts on the last note!

## DOWN BOW



Bow to the  
RIGHT

## UP BOW



Bow to the  
LEFT

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody with bowing directions: down bows (represented by downward-pointing arrows) and up bows (represented by upward-pointing arrows) are placed above the notes. The second staff shows the same melody, but with a tie connecting the final two notes, indicating they should be played as a single 8-count duration.

# HOEDOWN

# CAIRO



KEY  
D



TIME  
30 MIN



TIMES  
20

## LYRICS

Go-in' down to Cai-ro, Good-bye, Mag-pie

Go-in' down to Cai-ro, Good-bye, Li-za Jane

Wash your boots and make them shine Good-bye, Mag-pie

Wash your the boots and make them shine Good-bye Li-za Jane

## CHOPS

**D D D D | D D A A | D D D D | D A D D :|**

**D A D G | D D A A | D A D G | D A D D :|**

## REPEAT SIGN

Repeat everything between the Signs

## BOW LIFT



Lift and Reset the bow counter-clock wise near the frog

# HOEDOWN

# CINDY



KEY  
D



TIME  
20 MIN



TIMES  
20

## LYRICS

You ought to see my Cin-dy, She lives way down South  
She's so sweet the hon-ey bees all swarm a-round her mouth  
Get a long home Cin-dy, Cin-dy, Get a-long home  
Get a long home Cin-dy, Cin-dy I'll mar-ry you some day

**D D D D | D D A A | D D G G | D A D D**  
**G G G G | D D D D | G G G G | D A D D**



5



9



13



# HOEDOWN

# ANGELINA BAKER



KEY  
D



TIME  
15 MIN



TIMES  
15

## LYRICS

Ang-e-lin-a Bak-er, Ang-e-line I know  
 Should have mar-ried Ang-e-line just twen-ty years a-go  
 Ang-e-lin-a Ba-ker, age of for-ty three  
 Gave her all my candy and she still won't mar-ry me

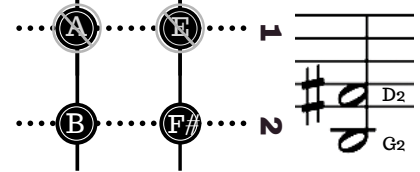
## CHOPS

**D D D D | D D Bm Bm**

**D D G G | D A D D**

# Bm

FINGERING



# HOEDOWN

# OLD DAN TUCKER



KEY  
D



TIME  
15 MIN



TIMES  
30

## LYRICS

Old Dan Tuck-er was a fine old man, he washed his face in a fry-ing pan  
Combed his hair with a wa-gon wheel and died with a tooth-pick in his heel.  
Get out the way, old Dan Tuc-ker, you're to late to get your sup-per  
Get out the way, old Dan Tuc-ker, you're to late to get your sup-per

**CHOPS**    **D D D D | D D A D | D D D D | D D A D**  
              **D D G G | A A A D | D D G G | A A A D**

3

5

7





## CHOICE TUNE

# RUBBER DOLLY

## CHORDS

G G G G | D D D D | A A A A | D D D D  
G G G G | D D D D | A A A A | D D D D

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff begins with a 'V' above the first measure. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests, with some notes tied across measures. Measure numbers 6, 10, and 14 are indicated at the start of their respective staves.

*Make sure to count (3, 4, 1) on the tied notes or to simplify (1, 2, 3) make sure to hold the long notes over the beat. Check to see if you are holding the notes long enough by playing along with the recording and tapping your foot on the beat as you play.*

CHOICE TUNE

# CRAWDAD SONG

## CHORDS

D D D D | D D D D | D D D D | A A A A  
D D D D | G G G G | D D A A | D D D D



*Make sure you count out the full measure of rest at the end of the each of the first two phrases. Check to hear if you got the counting correct by playing along with the recording.*



## CHOICE TUNE

# OH! SUSANA

## CHORDS

D D D D | D D A A | D D D D | A A D D  
G G G G | D D A A | D D D D | A A D D

6

10

14

*Be careful to begin this tune with an up bow slur for the two pick-up notes. This keeps your bow down bow on the first main beat of the tune. The accompaniment doesn't begin until the third note of this tune.*

CHOICE TUNE | JIG

# CHARLIE'S JIG

## CHORDS

D D | D D | D D | A A | D D | G G | A A | D D:|



Make sure to count to six in each measure. Count out (1, 2, 3) on the first dotted quarter and (4, 5, 6) on the second dotted quarter at the end of each line.

# KERRY POLKA

## CHORDS

G G | G G | E M C | D D | G G | G G | C D | D G :||  
G G | C C | G G | D D | G G | C C | G D | D G :||



*Remember to slur the last two notes of the third measure of each line up bow. Lift your bow at the end of each part to begin again down bow.*

# RED RIVER VALLEY



## CHORDS

G G | G G | G G | G G | G G | G G | D D | D7 D7  
G G | G G | C C | A M A M | G G | D D | G C | G G



Remember to lift your bow to play 3 down bows in a row, near the frog, at the beginning of this song. Mark the counting for all tied notes and practice counting out loud and while playing with the recording.



# WALTZ

## ARRAN BOAT SONG

EM | EM | D | D | C | EM | D | EM :||  
EM | C | G | D | EM | C | G | A  
EM | C | G | D | C | EM | D | EM



# CHOICE TUNE | JIG

## PEG LEG JIG

||: EM EM | EM D | EM EM | EM G  
EM EM | EM D | EM D | D EM :||  
||: BM BM | BM A | BM BM | BM D  
BM BM | BM A | BM A | A BM :||



5



9



13



# HOEDOWN | REEL

## GRUMPY PIRATE REEL

||: EM EM | EM EM | D D | D D  
EM EM | EM EM | D D | EM EM :||



HOEDOWN

# FANCY BOIL

## CHORDS

D D G G | D D A A | D D G G | A A D D :|



HOEDOWN

FANCY BOIL

CHORDS

D D G G | D D A A | D D G G | A A D D :|

5

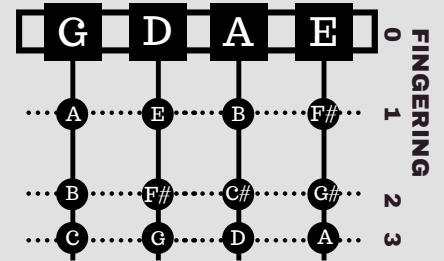
9

13

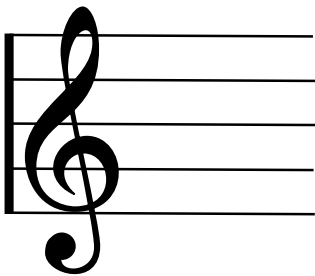
17

# CHOP CHORD INDEX

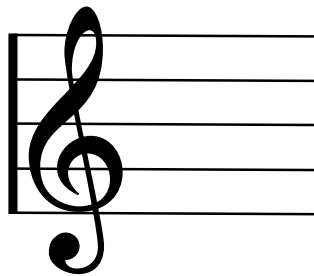
Every chord in this book uses this fingering:  
WRITE THE FINGERING ON THE STAVES BELOW



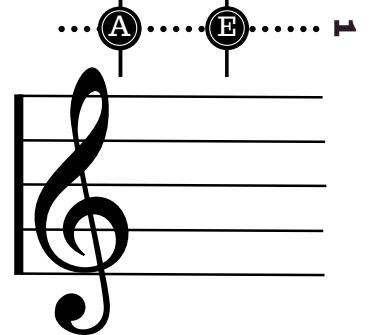
## D



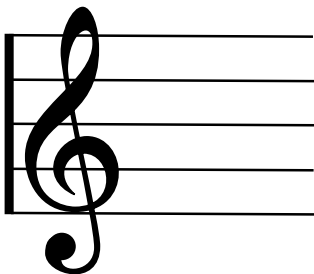
## G



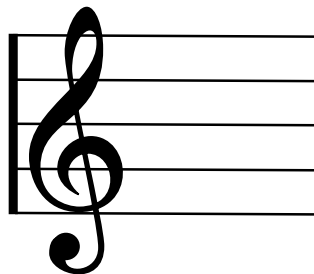
## A



## Am



## Em



## Bm

