

Strings 2 Bowings Handout - Viola

Play all of these excercises with the metronome set to 80.

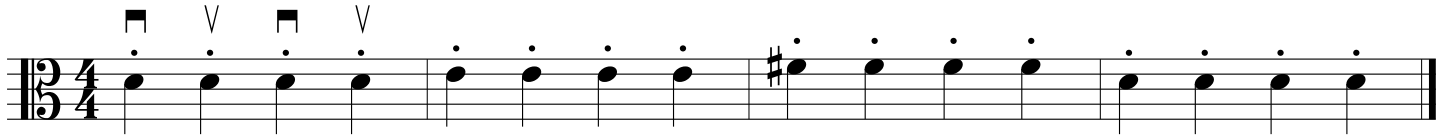
1. Very smooth sounds, no breaks, no stops. Middle of bow. (called Détaché)



2. Repeat each section many times. Always start in the middle of the bow. The bow has to stay straight!
Moving towards the tip: open the elbow. Moving towards the frog: bend the wrist. No crooked bows!



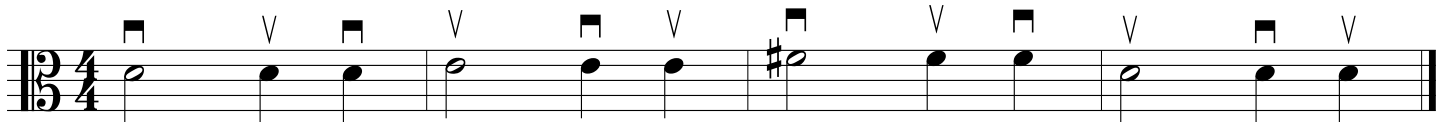
3. Stop bows. Short bows, keep your bow on the string, sounds very crisp. Starts with a "pop." (called Staccato)



4. Twice in the same direction. Stop in between each note. (called Hooked Bows)



5. Use big WHOLE bows on the longer notes, short HALF (or less) bows on the shorter notes.



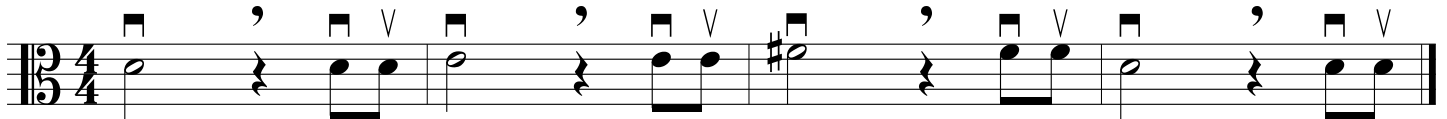
6. Draw a smile in the air with the bow. Bounce the bow off the string. Crisp sounding. (called Spiccato)



7. Dig in to the string to get a small "pop" when starting the note. Full value quarter notes. (called Martelé)



8. Control how much bow you use. The half notes are full bows.
The 8th notes should be very small bow strokes, close to the frog.



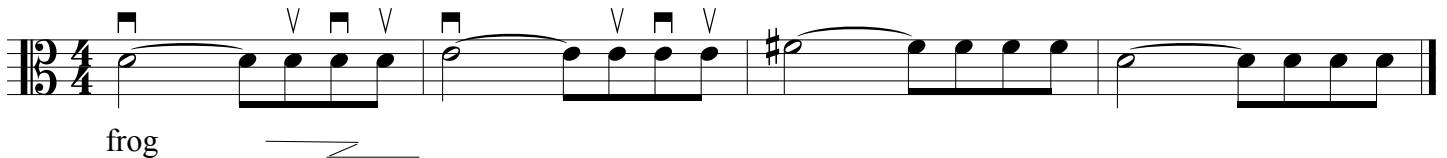
9. Control your volume. The big down bow should have the same sound as the short up bow.



10. Use a full bow stroke on the first note. Reset near the frog for the pickup. Count 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &!



11. Zig-zag stroke: Use a slow, heavy down bow on the long note, then give more bow distance to the ups than the downs so you can return to the frog by the end of the 8th notes.



12. Use a true 2/3 to 1/3 ratio of the bow. Divide the bow length very specifically! Count 8th notes.

