

Strings 1 Bowings Handout - Viola

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

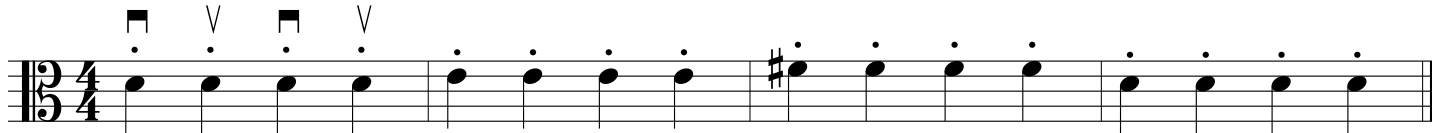
1. Very smooth sounds, no breaks, no stops. Middle of bow. (called Détaché)



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!



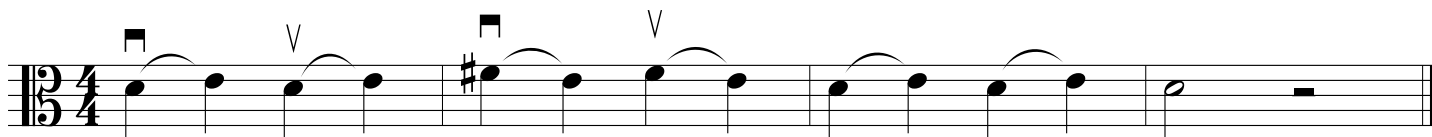
3. Stop bows. Short bows, keep your bow on the string, sounds very crisp. Starts with a "pop." (called Staccato)



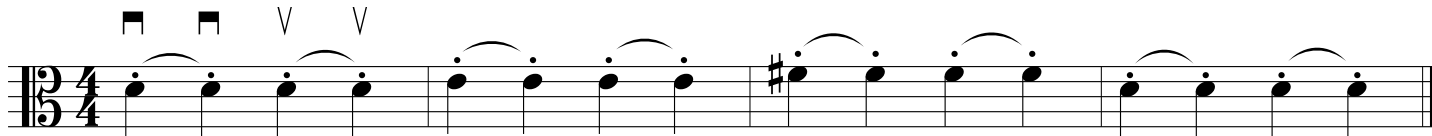
4. Double Stops. Listen for the sound of two notes. Do the two notes have equal strength and sound?



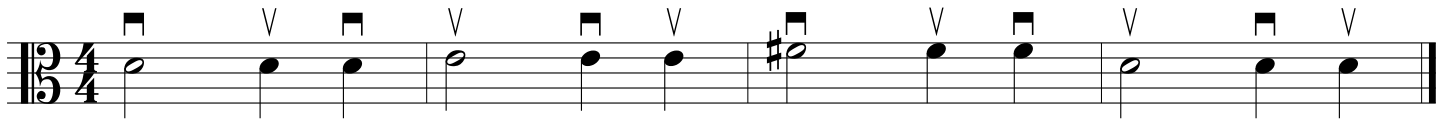
5. A curved line connecting DIFFERENT notes. Move the bow in the same direction. (called a Slur)



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



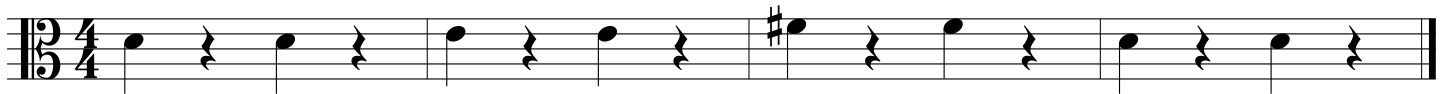
7. Use big WHOLE bows on the longer notes, short HALF (or less) bows on the shorter notes.



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



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

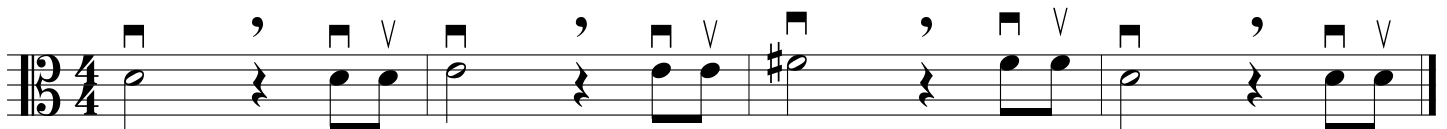


10. Lift and reset the bow at the frog. Put it down gently so you don't slam and bounce! Make a small circle.



11. 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.



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



heavy

light