

Care of Violin, Repairs, Maintenance, Tuning, Accessories

A well-cared-for violin can last for a long, long time.

They have many lifetimes and, often, many owners. A child should be taught from the very beginning the following:

1. Tighten, but do not over-tighten the bow. The wood should still maintain a concave curve to the hairs, while not touching the hairs when played. A bow likewise should be loosened after use.
2. Rosin the bow evenly before each use, and be gentle to not break hairs.

Bows will eventually need re-hairing, which can cost \$80-100, as of 2020.

Student bows often cost less than that, and it is often more practical to replace a student bow than have it re-haired.

Never lay a bow or violin on a bed! This is one of the most common ways of breakage.

3. The hairs are from horse's tails, and should never be touched as they absorb the oils from our fingers and become useless.

4. Tuning: violins often have fine tuners which are silver or black and found on the tailpiece. If you know how to tune you can use a pitch pipe, an electric tuner, or a piano. If you over tighten the string it will break.

The best way to tune is by comparing the strings to each other as they are "a perfect fifth" apart. Your teacher can help the student develop that skill.