

Violin Sizing Instructions

How to Choose the Correct Violin Size

To find the violin size that fits you, follow these instructions:

- 1) Extend your left arm out to the side, then move it forward a little bit. Your palm should face up and your elbow should be straight, not bent.
- 2) Using a tape measure or yardstick, measure the distance between the base of the left side of your neck and the middle of your palm. Write down the number.
- 3) On the chart below, find the range that includes your measurement.
- 4) Find the violin size in the chart that matches your measurement.

If you can, try different sizes of violin in a music shop.

- 5) When you are trying violins in a shop, hold the violin against the left side of your neck with your left arm extended straight, palm up, as described above.
- 6) Wrap your fingers around the scroll. The scroll should fit into your palm, and your fingers should just be able to touch the pegbox.
- 7) If you are unable to touch the pegbox with your fingertips, then you may need the next smaller size violin.
- 8) If your elbow is bent quite a bit with your hand around the scroll, then the violin is too small, and you should choose a bigger one.

Helpful Tips:

- A violin that is too large will be uncomfortable to play, which could discourage you from learning well and allow you to form bad habits.
- If you are in between sizes, it would be better to choose the smaller size.

Find your violin size using this chart:

Measurement (inches)	Violin Size
Less than 14-1/4	1/32
14-1/2 to 16	1/16
16 to 17-3/4	1/10
17-3/4 to 19	1/8
19 to 20-3/4	1/4
20-3/4 to 22	1/2
22 to 23-1/2	3/4
23-1/2 and over	4/4 Full size violin

The size of the violin bow must match the size of the violin.

