

# Teachers . . .

Students join our string classes so that they can play melodies as soon as possible. They desire a pleasant social experience playing the most interesting and fascinating of all musical instruments.

- I. Solo Time for Strings puts fun into string playing.
- II. The student is motivated to learn music . . . the solo.
- III. Solo Time teaches reading in conjunction with rote learning.
- IV. The series is creative. The teacher is given room to teach . . . free to use exercises and drills that have a purpose.
- V. Solo Time Book I is flexible. It can be used as a supplement to any first year method book or it can be used in lieu of a method book.
- VI. Book I contains 24 unison solos in the keys of D, G, and C for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The solos were written and selected from a student-interest stand-point and to provide for the progressive technical development of the young student.
- VII. The essentials of string performance, such as finger placement, holding fingers down, crossing strings, slurs, bow division, staccato and louree bowing, etc., are introduced and learned by rote before they are read from the printed page and applied to the solo selections.
- VIII. The rote material, preparation suggestions, and rhythm drills are for the purpose of assisting in the performance of the specific selections as well as for the continued technical development of string playing ability.
- IX. The use of the suggested rhythm drills and rote materials at the beginning of each class session focuses the student's attention to the teacher, the instrument, intonation, counting, rhythm, class ensemble, the all-important bow stroke, and good left and right hand positions.
- X. In addition to the rote exercises, it is suggested that selections five, six, seven, and eight be learned by rote.
- XI. Ensemble parts are provided for several selections.
- XII. The teacher's manual contains many helpful suggestions for successful string class teaching.
- XIII. The printing, engraving, note-size, and art-work contribute to the finest possible publication for our growing school orchestras.
- XIV. Class "Progress Charts," size 10 by 14, on heavy paper are available from the publisher.

# SOLO TIME FOR STRINGS

## BOOK I

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The Solo Time For Strings series. . .

The purpose of Solo Time For Strings is to better prepare our young string students for participation in the school orchestra.

Though written for string class use, the material is equally adaptable for individual instruction.

In unison, each section progresses at the same rate. The viola part has the same challenge as the violin part. The basses are expected to play as well as the cellos.

In that a fine orchestra is dependent upon fine players, Solo Time puts emphasis upon individual accomplishment, progress, and achievement.

# Parents . . .

Membership in the school orchestra program is an exciting new adventure for your child. It is our desire to do all that we can to make this a gratifying and worthwhile experience. However, we will need your help.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD

1. Provide him with as good an instrument as you can reasonably afford.
2. Provide a safe place to keep the instrument.
3. Arrange a regular time for him to practice and see that he sticks to it. Parents need to do this most of all. Daily practice is the element...same time, same place... but daily.
4. Recognize that most students do not practice on their own...they usually have to be reminded.
5. A room with good light and a music stand is necessary.
6. Make certain that brothers and sisters are away from the student during the practice period.
7. Arrange the practice schedule so that it does not conflict with outdoor play, a favorite TV program, or household duties.
8. First year students are encouraged to practice 20 minutes daily, while older students are expected to practice at least three and a half hours a week.
9. Show an interest in his practice, study, and orchestra membership.
10. Be generous in your praise and encouragement.
11. Never make fun of the strange sounds that he may produce.
12. Help him to remember his music and instrument on lesson days.
13. Insist upon faithful attendance at his lessons, rehearsals, and concerts.

Three ingredients...parents-pupils-teachers,  
all working together...are necessary for musical  
success.

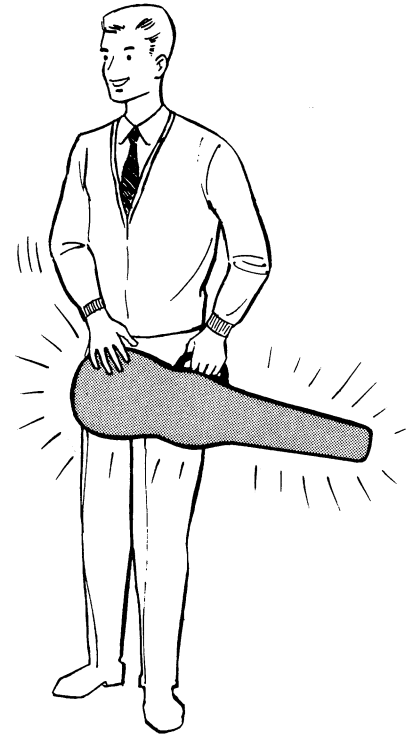


"I get my talent from my mother - she's the one who makes me practice!"  
Courtesy of The Instrumentalist

# Orchestra Members . . .

## A GOOD ORCHESTRA MEMBER

1. Practices 30 minutes daily.  
( A lesser amount for those who study piano, also)
2. Remembers to bring his instrument and music to school on orchestra days.
3. Is proud of his instrument and is responsible for its care.
  - A. Dusts it daily
  - B. Rosins the bow daily
  - C. Remembers to never touch the bow hair
4. Takes pride in good position and posture.
5. Takes good care of his Solo Book and Workbook.
6. Values his orchestra membership and keeps his classroom work up to date.

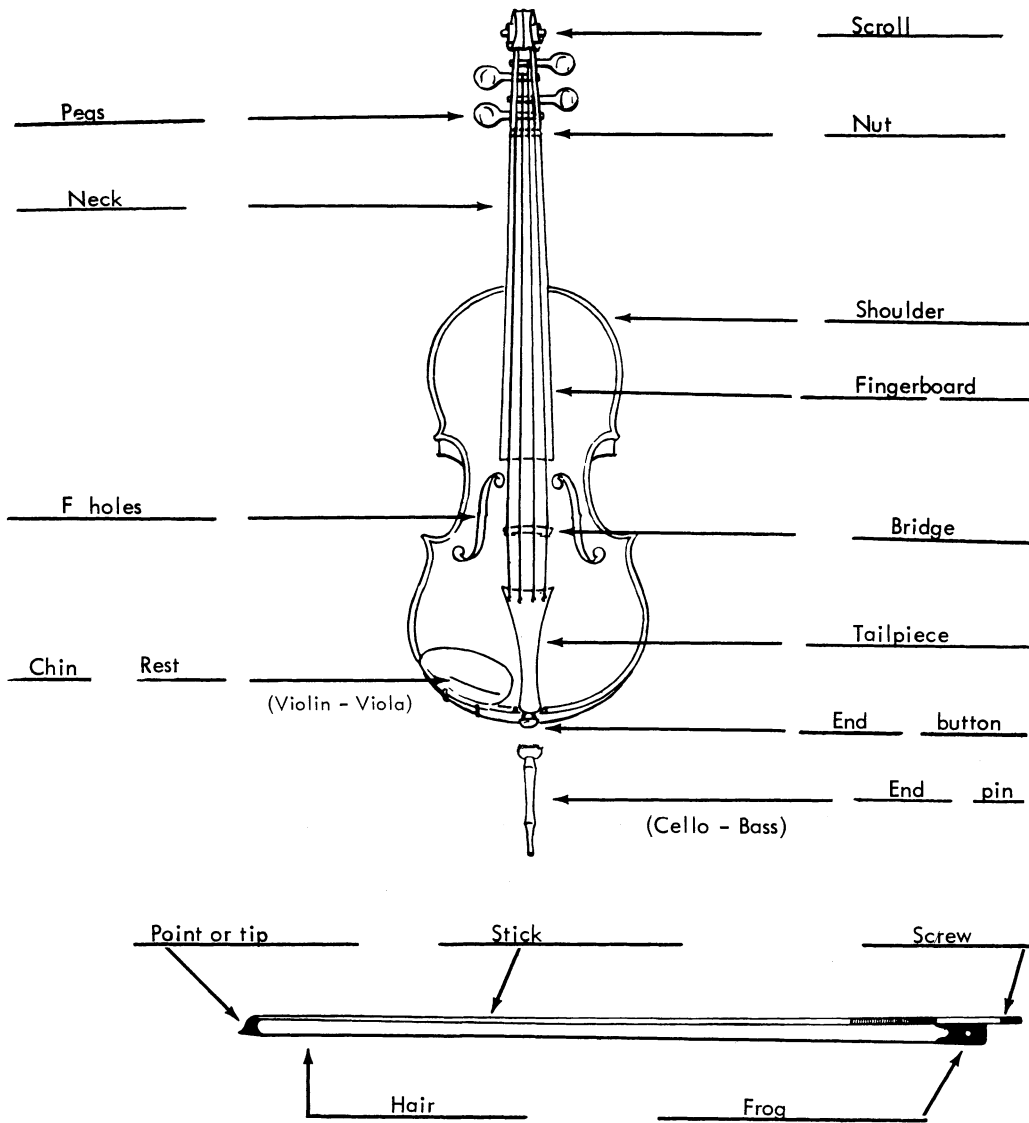


## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Each violinist and violist should have a fully equipped, well-adjusted outfit with adjustable pad, string adjusters, and cake of inexpensive but good rosin. Cello and bass players should also be comparably well-equipped.
2. Each student should practice at least 30 minutes daily.
3. Each student should have an adjustable music stand.
4. The violin and bow should be kept in the case when not in use.
5. The fingers should not touch the bow hair.
6. Loosen the bow hair after playing . . . just enough to take the tension off of the stick.
7. To play, tighten the hair enough to have clearance for the width of a pencil.
8. The bow must be rosined for every practice session.
9. Wipe the rosin dust from the instrument and strings with a soft cloth daily. Carry a 12" X 12" cleaning cloth in the case at all times.
10. Keep the instrument away from heat, radiators, excessively hot sun, excessive cold or quick changes in temperature.
11. When repairs are needed, have your teacher suggest a qualified repairman.
12. A new violin outfit is generally much better than an old outfit. However, good adjustment . . . such as properly fitted pegs and a well-fitted bridge . . . are most important for all instruments.

# THE INSTRUMENT AND BOW

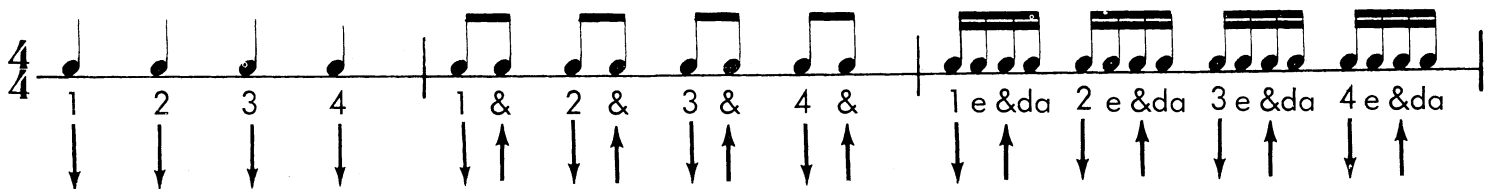
Learn the parts of the instrument and bow.



## LEARN: COUNTING TIME

A system of counting time is most essential to develop reading ability. An ability to play a piece of music at first sight is a goal for which every young musician should strive. Through improvement in reading ability, most of your practice and attention may be devoted to good intonation, good bowing, and playing expressively.

Tapping the foot is a definite aid in learning various rhythm patterns. The diagram below shows the relationship of the foot to a rhythm pattern.

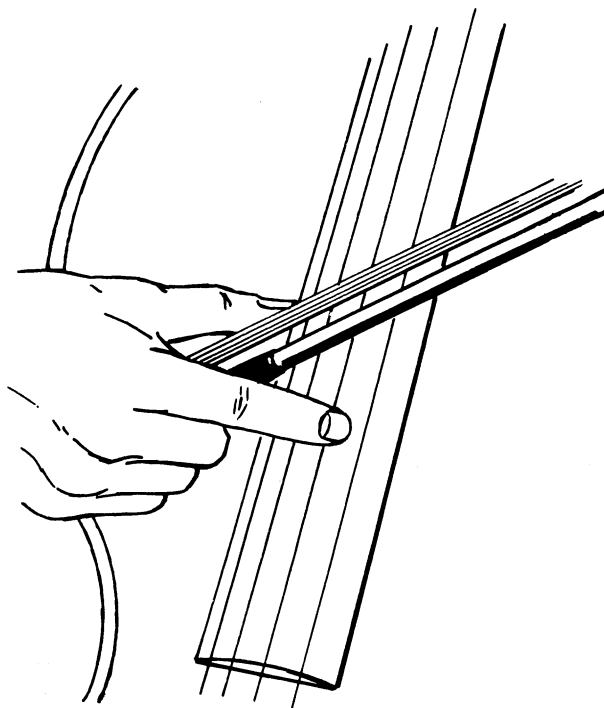


Practice the above by tapping the foot and counting aloud. Pay attention to the position of the foot as each note is counted. Tap your foot "down" on the "beat" and "up" on the "and." You may also clap the hands to indicate the rhythm as you tap the foot and count aloud.

## Pizzicato

Rest the right thumb against the edge of the fingerboard.

Pluck the string sideways with the first finger.

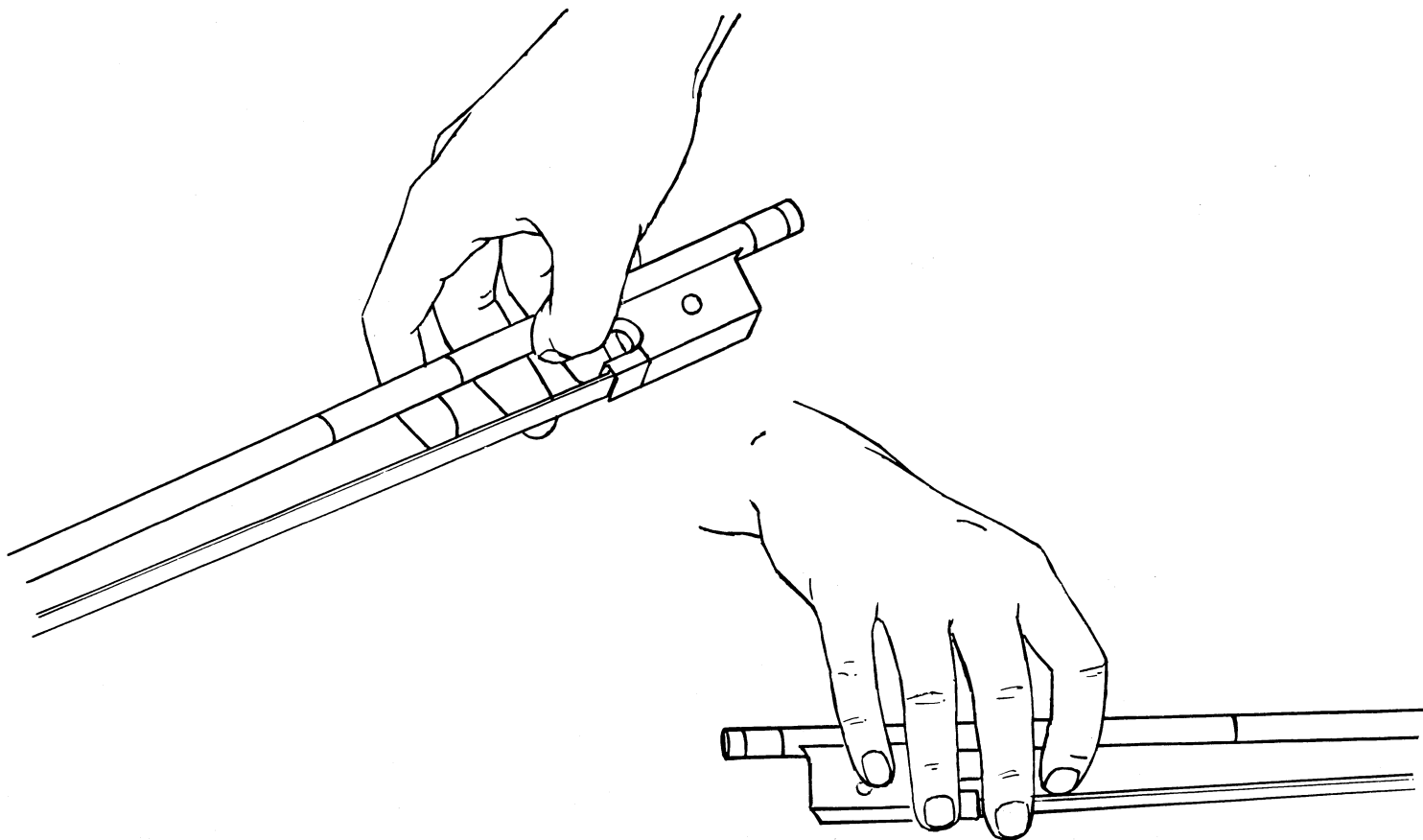


## # 1

Place the tip of the slightly curved thumb on the stick near the frog.

The second finger should be opposite the thumb.

The first finger rests on the stick at the first joint.



## # 2

The little finger rests on the side of the frog.

## THE INSTRUMENT AND BOW



# 1

The left foot is forward; the body weight is on the right foot.

The bass leans toward the player. The player leans slightly toward the bass.

The end-pin should be adjusted so that the nut is in line with the left eye.

Left elbow is slightly below the level of the hand. Left wrist is almost in a straight line with the forearm.



# 2

The edge of the right bout should rest against the player's left groin.

Bend the left knee to support the bass.

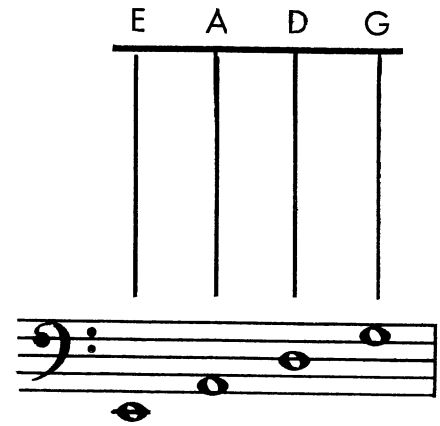
The left arm has been lowered in this picture to show that the left thumb is behind the neck opposite the second finger.

# THE OPEN STRINGS

## DAILY DRILL # 1 Rote & Reading

Learn:

1. ▣ - Down bow
2. ▽ - Up bow
3. ∙ - Lift the bow
4. Pizzicato (Pizz.) - Pluck the string
5. Arco - Use the bow



Count, sing, and play. Learn lines 1, 2, 3, and 4 Pizzicato, then Arco.



①

②

③

④

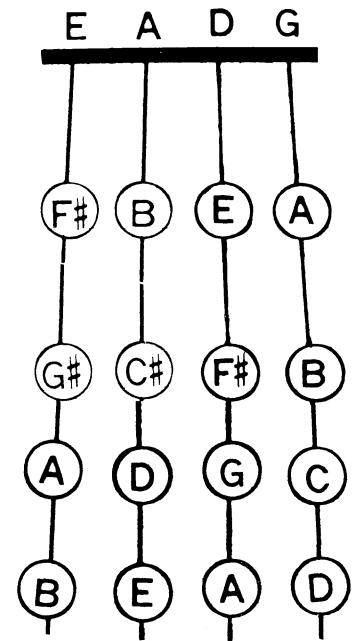
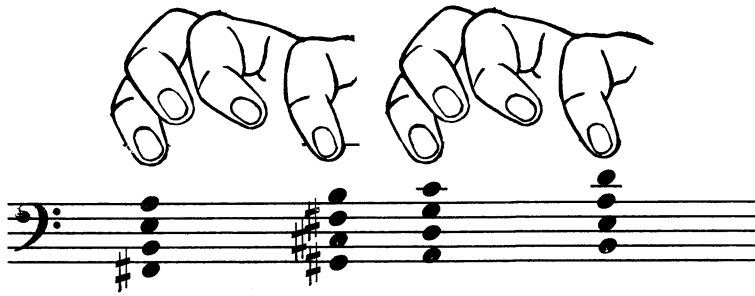
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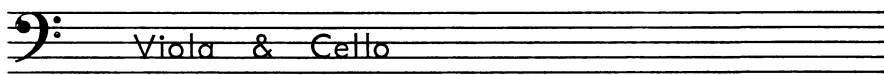
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# USING OUR FINGERS



## ROTE . . . DAILY DRILL # 2



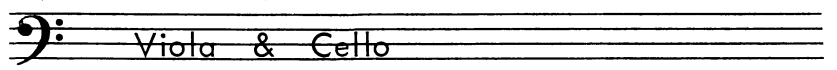
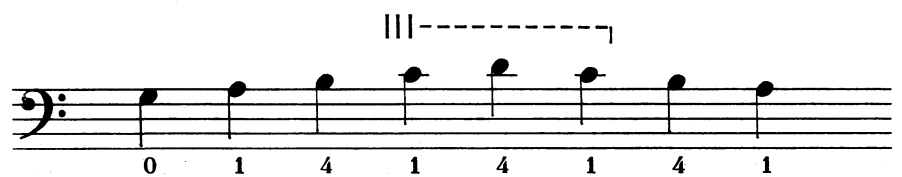
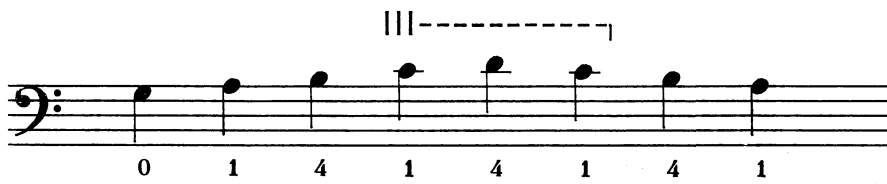
Play each note. . .

4 times at first

then 3 times

2 times

once



ROTE and/or READING

## At Pierrot's Door

4 G: 0 0 0 1 | 4 - 1 - | 0 4 1 1 | 0 - - - | 0 0 0 1 | 4 - 1 - | 0 4 1 1 | 0 - - - ||  
4 D:

## Mary Had A Little Lamb

4 G: 4 1 0 1 | 4 4 4 - | 1 1 1 - | 4 <sup>1 1</sup> - | 4 1 0 1 | 4 4 4 4 | 1 1 4 1 | 0 - - - ||  
4 D:

## Jingle Bells

4 G: 4 4 4 - | 4 4 4 - | 4 <sup>1</sup> 0 1 | 4 - - - | 0 0 0 0 | 0 4 4 4 | 4 1 1 4 | 1 - <sup>1</sup> - |  
4 D:

4 G: 4 4 4 - | 4 4 4 - | 4 <sup>1</sup> 0 1 | 4 - - - | 0 0 0 0 | 0 4 4 4 | 1 1 0 1 | 0 - - - ||  
4 D:

## Jolly Old Saint Nicholas

4 G: 4 4 4 4 | 1 1 1 - | 0 0 0 0 | 4 - - - | 1 1 1 1 | 0 0 0 - | 4 0 1 4 | 1 - - - |  
4 D:

4 G: 4 4 4 4 | 1 1 1 - | 0 0 0 0 | 4 - - - | 1 1 1 1 | 0 0 0 - | 1 0 1 4 | 0 - - - ||  
4 D:

## Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

4 G: 1 1 | 4 4 1 - | 0 0 4 4 | 1 1 0 - | 0 0 1 1 | 4 4 1 - | 0 0 4 4 | 1 1 0 - |  
4 D:

4 G: 1 1 0 0 | 4 4 1 - | 1 1 0 0 | 4 4 1 - | 0 0 1 1 | 4 4 1 - | 0 0 4 4 | 1 1 0 - ||  
4 D:

## Lightly Row

4 G: 1 4 4 - | 0 1 1 - | 0 1 4 0 | 1 1 1 - | 1 4 4 - | 0 1 1 - | 0 4 1 1 | 4 - - - |  
4 D:

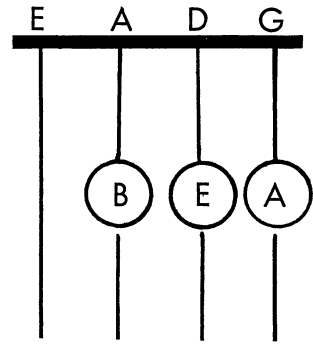
4 G: 1 1 1 1 | 1 4 <sup>0</sup> - | 4 4 4 4 | 4 <sup>0 1</sup> - | 1 4 4 - | 0 1 1 - | 0 4 1 1 | 0 - - - ||  
4 D:

You may now be assigned pages 1 through 13 in the "Workbook for Strings" Book 1 by Forest R. Etling.

# MY FIRST SOLO

LEARN:

G A D E A B



Count, sing, and play.

LEARN:

The whole note receives 4 beats.

The quarter note receives 1 beat.

The half note receives 2 beats.

The quarter rest receives 1 beat.

Pages 1 through 13 in the "Workbook for Strings" should be completed.

# THREE MELODIES

## O COME, LITTLE CHILDREN

Melody

Harmony

8

## MY DEAR NATIVE LAND

7

## THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR

9