

PLAYING WITH THE BOW!!!

1. Place the bow on the A string. Pull the bow from the frog to the tip. Then change directions and go from the tip to the frog. This is called a whole bow.
2. When you move your hand away from the violin, this is called a down bow. When you move your hand towards the violin, this is called an up bow.
3. Make sure your bow grip stays the same. Watch your bow path and bow tilt.
4. When you get to the frog, your wrist should be slightly bent, like you are looking at a wrist watch.
5. Arm weight – Use weight, not pressure. You should feel like you are hanging into the string. Push the sound on an up bow by leaning into the index finger. Pull the sound on a down bow by leaning more towards the pinky.
6. Try to make a constant, rich sound. Do not get softer at the tip. Remember to lean into the index finger at the tip.
7. If it sounds scratchy, pull the bow faster. Make sure you are not too close to the bridge. Remember to play in between the bridge and the fingerboard. At the frog, you may need to lighten the bow some.