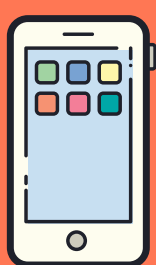




AT-HOME INSTRUMENT TUNING GUIDE

Tips to accurately help your child tune their instrument



GET A TUNING APP

- There are several good free (or very cheap) tuning apps: Tonal Energy, Cadenza, insTuner, Cleartune, Practice +
- Check the settings before you start - set for your specific instrument if possible and ensure that A = 440



FACE THE INSTRUMENT

- Violin and viola are best tuned sitting down, with the instrument in your lap, facing you.
- Cello should be standing up on the floor; you can sit or stand facing it.
- Bass should be tuned standing up; you should stand too.
- One hand will pluck the string as you go, one hand will turn the peg or fine tuner.



START WITH THE FINE TUNERS (EXCEPT BASS)

- Fine tuners are the little screws toward the bottom of the instrument, and make small adjustments. Turn to the right, pitch goes up. Turn to the left, pitch goes down.
- Often times, this is all you need to get the string in tune!
- If you run out of room in either direction, reset the fine tuner in the middle-ish, and use the peg.



GO SLOWLY!

- Regardless of instrument, fine tuner, or peg, GO SLOWLY! Speed is what breaks strings - turn too fast, and the string will snap in half.
- Turn the peg DOWN first, then SLOWLY turn up to bring the string to pitch.
- **Think about the peg being like a clock. Turn on a few MINUTES at a time. Slow, small increments.**



PUSH IN ON THOSE PEGS!

- Pegs are held in with pressure. As you turn, PUSH IN more than you rotate. That will help the peg stick.
- Pegs are sometimes a little stuck - remember to turn the peg down first. It will budge, but may take a little effort.
- Push in, push in, push in!



CHECK, DOUBLE CHECK, ADJUST AGAIN

- You can always use a combination of pegs and fine tuners.
- When you get the string close, check the others. Come back to each string, as they may have moved slightly and need a little more tuning!

Still Stuck? Quit while you're ahead, and email me!