

X2/7

Book One

# Belwin Course for Strings

## String Builder

A STRING CLASS METHOD  
(for Class or Individual Instruction)  
IN THREE BOOKS

BY  
SAMUEL APPLEBAUM

Published for  
VIOLIN  
VIOLA  
CELLO

BASS  
PIANO ACC.  
TEACHER'S MANUAL

ACCOMPANIMENT CD'S AND CASSETTES NOW AVAILABLE



# THE BELWIN STRING BUILDER

by Samuel Applebaum

CELLO  
Book One

## FOREWORD

The Belwin String Builder is a string class Method in which the Violin, Viola, Cello and Bass play together throughout. Each book, however, is a complete unit and may be used separately for class or individual instruction.

In this Method, the quarter note approach is adopted not only because it is the unit of the beat, but because it encourages freedom of the bow arm at the outset. Starting from No. 15, the open string melodies and those that introduce the first finger serve as an accompaniment to well-known folk songs which are written for the piano. This provides musical purpose to the melodies and stimulates rhythmic interest. A small "p" after the number indicates that there is a piano part for that melody.

After the first finger, F $\sharp$  and C $\sharp$  are introduced. This has proven to be most practicable from the standpoint of tonality and left hand finger placement. From this point on, the student plays the actual melodies. However, on Page 20, F natural and C natural are presented to develop intonation and to more readily prepare the pupil for the school orchestra.

The material in this book is realistically graded so that only a minimum of explanatory material is required. Each melody is interesting and will provide the basis for a fine left hand technic and bow arm.

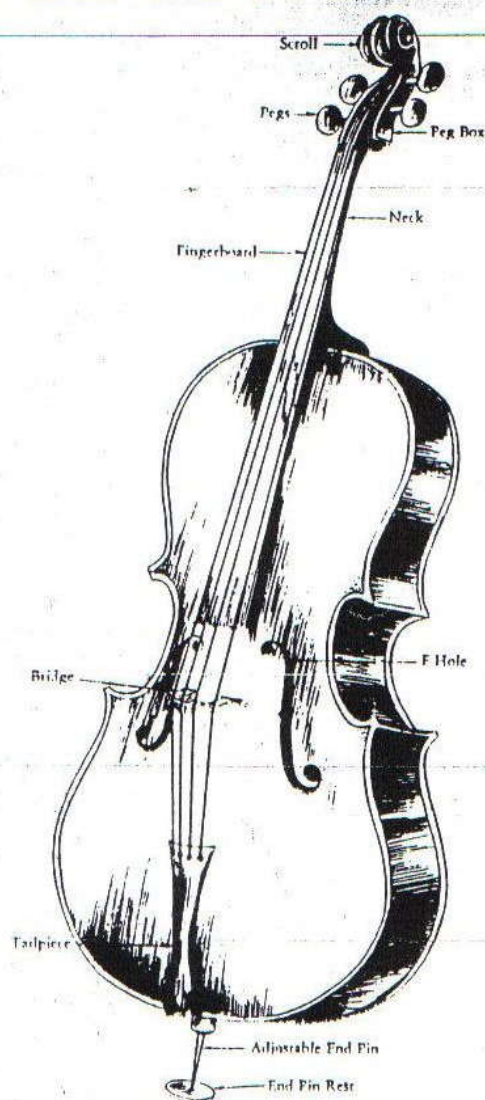
## TECHNICAL PROGRESSION

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# The Cello and the Bow



## To the Student:

This Method Book is the basic text for the BELWIN COURSE FOR STRINGS which is the FIRST carefully planned complete curriculum for string development. To get the most enjoyment from your string instrument activities and to assure a good mastery of musical fundamentals, what you learn in the Method Book should be applied to the playing of Solos, Ensembles, and String Orchestra pieces as your skill increases.

This course includes these Solos, Ensembles, and String Orchestra Pieces. On various pages in this Method Book, these supplementary projects are suggested in accord with your developing musical ability. It is strongly recommended that these numbers be prepared as the various pages are reached.

## Material Correlated with String Builder Book 1

### Solos

1. COME TO THE SEA ..... for Page 15  
Italian Folk Song

2. IN THE SWISS ALPS ..... for Page 21  
by Charles De Beriot

3. MINUET ..... for Page 30  
from Anna Magdalena Bach's Notebook

### Technic Book

EARLY ETUDES FOR STRINGS ..... starting on Page 10

### Program Book

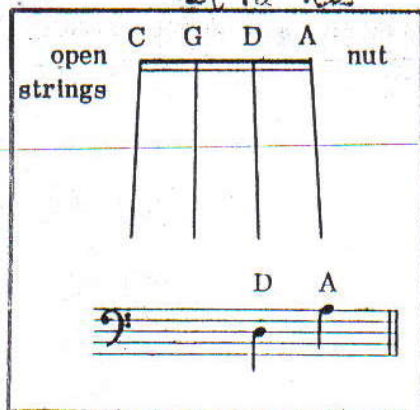
FIRST PROGRAM FOR STRINGS ..... starting on Page 12

### Ensemble Book

DUETS FOR STRINGS ..... starting on Page 15



## THE TWO HIGH STRINGS



Draw the bow straight out. Start each stroke with a slight attack.

□ - means down-bow. Start playing at the frog or the bottom of the bow.

∨ - means up-bow. Start playing at the tip.

The D String *RE*

These are quarter notes. Each note receives one count.

1

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

The A String *LA*

The A is the highest string.

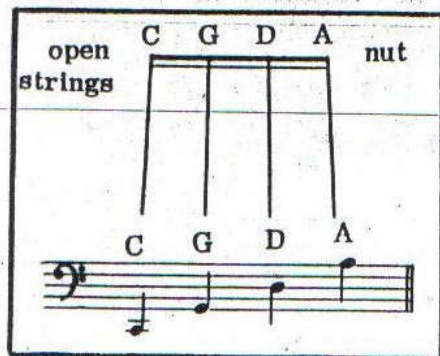
2

## The D and A Strings

3

3^





## THE TWO LOWER STRINGS

### The G String *SOL*



### Three Strings



### Starting on A



### The C String *DO*

The C is the lowest string.



### Each String Twice



### The Other Way





# THE OPEN STRINGS with HALF NOTES

blancas =  
2 tiempos

These are half notes (♩). Each note receives two counts.

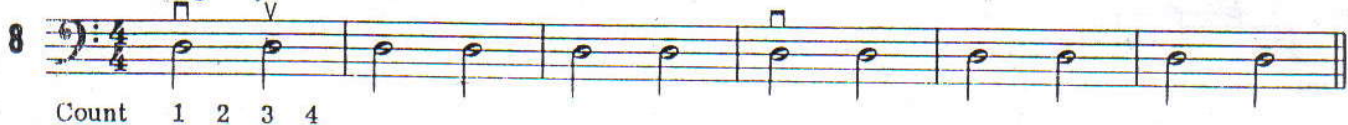
Move the bow a bit slower for the half notes.

These numbers  
are called the  
Time Signature

{ 4 - the top number tells us there are 4 counts to each measure.  
4 - the bottom number tells us a quarter note receives one count.

The bars | divide the staff into measures.

The D String



The A String



The G String



The C String



## Playing with Our Teacher

A down or up-bow is placed in the middle of each line to serve as a starting or stopping measure.



## Play Ball!





# WHOLE NOTES (o)

Each whole note receives 4 counts. Move the bow slowly.

A double bar ends the piece.

11

Count 1 2 3 4

## Two Halves and a Whole

Move the bow a bit faster for the half notes.

12

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

## Our Theme Song - Lightly Row

GERMAN FOLK SONG

13

Student

Teacher

## One Long and Four Shorts

Move the bow faster for the quarter notes.

14

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

## Four Shorts and One Long

## THE WHOLE REST (on the 4th line)

It is called a rest because we do not play. The whole rest receives 4 counts.

## Gaily the Troubadour

Leave the bow on the string during the rest.

THOMAS H. BAYLY

15 p

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

## Mary Had a Little Lamb

TRADITIONAL

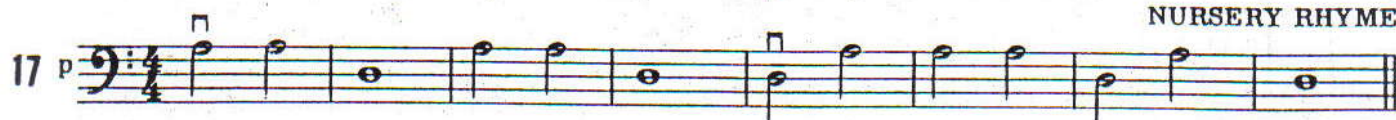
16 p



# MORE MELODIES with OPEN STRINGS

## The Whistle

NURSERY RHYME



## Pierrot

FRENCH FOLK SONG

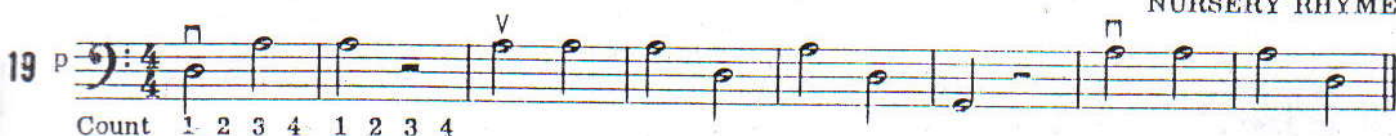


## THE HALF REST (on the 3rd line)

The half rest receives 2 counts.

## Bobbie Shafto

NURSERY RHYME



## Baal Baal Black Sheep

NURSERY RHYME



## Hot Cross Buns

NURSERY RHYME



## LIFTING the BOW

Lift the bow when you see the two slanted lines (//).

## Who is Thumbkin?

FRENCH DANCE SONG



## Merrily We Roll Along

TRADITIONAL



## Old King Cole

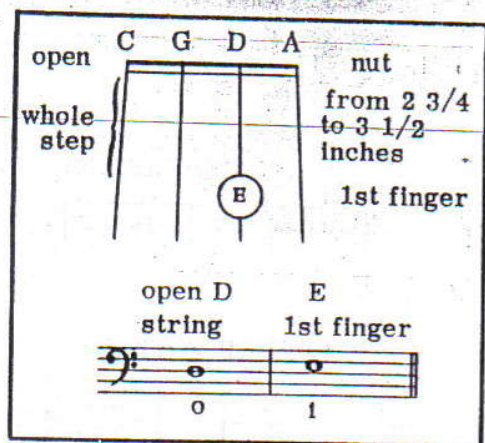
TRADITIONAL



In 22 p, we lift the bow at the end of the phrase in order to start down-bow.

In 24 p, we lift the bow because the phrase ends on an up-bow approaching the frog.





## A NEW TONE

## The First Finger on the D String

(It is called E)

It sounds a whole step higher than the open D string. Place the 1st finger from  $2 \frac{3}{4}$  to  $3 \frac{1}{2}$  inches from the nut depending upon the size of the Cello.

Memorize the sound of the open D and the 1st finger.

25

open string 1st finger

26

In Space

F. MAZAS

Student Teacher

27

Our Theme Song

GERMAN FOLK SONG

28

Etude

A Funny Thing

29

The First Finger Game on D

TRADITIONAL



# MORE MELODIES with the FIRST FINGER on the D STRING

## Giant Steps



## A Falling Star

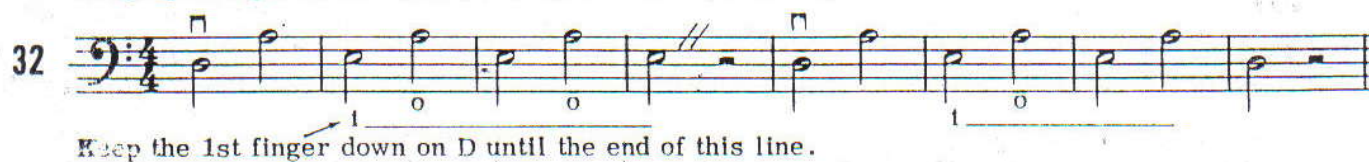


## The Crunchy Cookies



## Our First Stunt

Keeping a finger down while you play another open string.



Keep the 1st finger down on D until the end of this line.

## Playful Puppies



## Bobbie Shafto

NURSERY RHYME

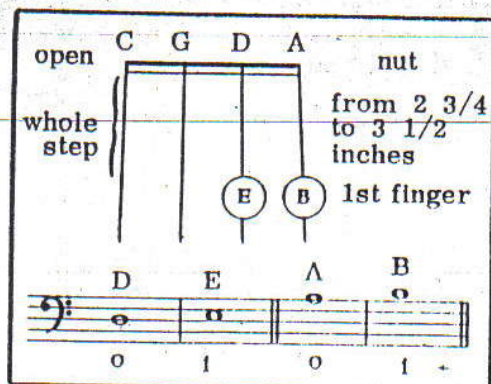


## Skip to My Lou

TRADITIONAL







## A NEW TONE

### The First Finger on the A String

(It is called B)

It sounds a whole step higher than the open string. Place the 1st finger from 2 3/4 to 3 1/2 inches from the nut depending upon the size of the Cello.

Memorize the sound of the open A and the 1st finger.

36

Exercise 36: A series of notes on the A string, alternating between the open string (A) and the first finger (B). The notes are: A, B, A, B, A, B, A, B. The first finger is indicated by a '1' below the notes.

### The Tired Camel

F. MAZAS

37

Exercise 37: A piece of music for the cello, titled 'The Tired Camel' by F. Mazas. It consists of two staves, labeled 'Student' and 'Teacher'. The music is in 4/4 time and features a melody on the A string with various fingerings and bowing techniques indicated by slurs and accents.

### Our Theme Song (on the A string)

GERMAN FOLK SONG

38

Exercise 38: A piece of music titled 'Our Theme Song (on the A string)', identified as a German Folk Song. It is written for the cello in 4/4 time, featuring a melody on the A string with various fingerings and bowing techniques indicated by slurs and accents.

### The First Finger Game on A

TRADITIONAL

39

Exercise 39: A piece of music titled 'The First Finger Game on A', identified as a traditional song. It is written for the cello in 4/4 time, featuring a melody on the A string with various fingerings and bowing techniques indicated by slurs and accents.

### Baa! Baa! Black Sheep

NURSERY RHYME

40

Exercise 40: A piece of music titled 'Baa! Baa! Black Sheep', identified as a nursery rhyme. It is written for the cello in 4/4 time, featuring a melody on the A string with various fingerings and bowing techniques indicated by slurs and accents.

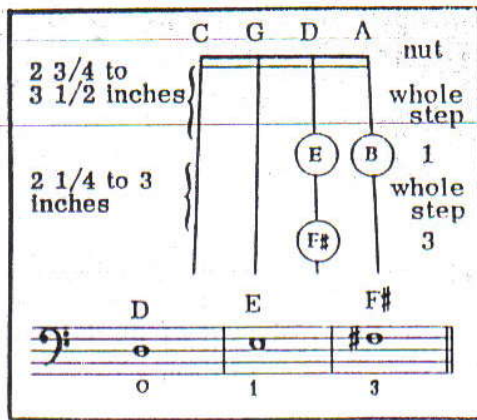
### Now It's Easy

41

Exercise 41: A piece of music titled 'Now It's Easy'. It is written for the cello in 4/4 time, featuring a melody on the A string with various fingerings and bowing techniques indicated by slurs and accents.

The class may now start the "Early Etudes For Strings" by Samuel Applebaum. These interesting etudes with piano accompaniment will help to develop left hand technic and the bow arm.



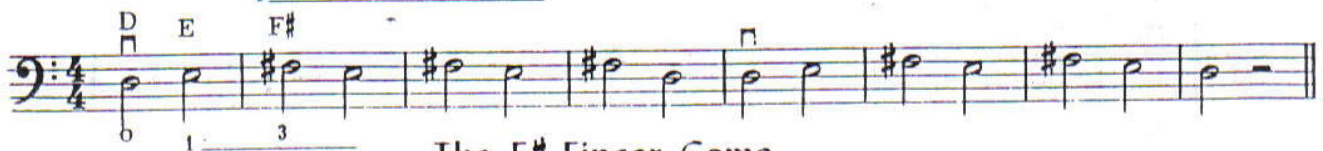
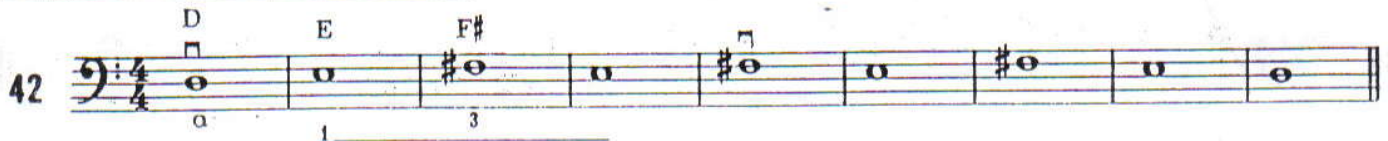


## A HIGHER TONE

### The Third Finger on the D String

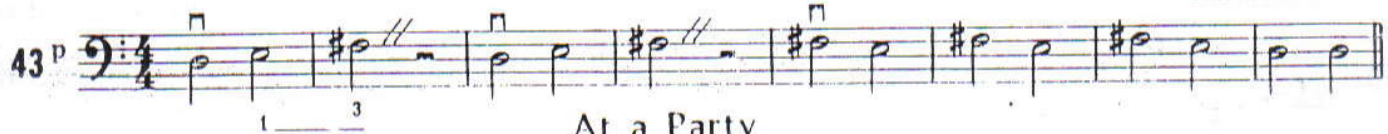
(It is called F#)

When there is a sharp before F, it is called F#. F sharp is a whole step from the 1st finger E. Place the 3rd finger from 2 1/4 to 3 inches from the 1st finger. When you play the 3rd finger the 1st must remain on the string.



### The F# Finger Game

TRADITIONAL



### At a Party

When a note is sharped it remains sharped throughout the measure.



### Mary Had a Little Lamb

Place the 1st finger down before you start.

TRADITIONAL



### Skiping from the Open String to the 3rd Finger

Place the 1st finger down with the 3rd finger.

### Skip a Step

F. WOHLFAHRT



### Cock-a-Doodle-Do!

NURSERY RHYME



ROTE PROJECT: The class may now learn to play the open strings in various rhythms by rote—quarter notes, eights, and triplets. Hum or sing the rhythms before playing. Play above the middle, starting about two inches below the middle of the neck. Only the thumb is used from the elbow.



C G D A nut

whole step  
whole step

D E F# A B C#

0 1 3 0 1 3

## A HIGHER TONE on the A STRING

### The Third Finger on A

(It is called C#)

When there is a sharp before C it is called C sharp. C sharp is a whole step from the 1st finger B. Place the 3rd finger from 2 1/4 to 3 inches from the 1st finger. When you play the 3rd finger the 1st must remain on the string.

48

0 1 3

0 1 3

### Second in Line

FRENCH FOLK SONG

49

0 1 3

### The C# Finger Game

TRADITIONAL

50

0 1 3

### The Finger Mixer

51

0 1 3

### The Family Gathering

52

0 1 3

Student

Teacher

### A Happy Firefly

RUSSIAN DANCE

53

0 1 3

The class will now become a string orchestra. Start the "First Program For Strings" by Samuel Applebaum. This is a collection of 28 well known string orchestra pieces to be used for concerts and assembly programs.



# MORE MELODIES with the FIRST and THIRD FINGERS

## Theme

(New World Symphony)

A. DVORAK



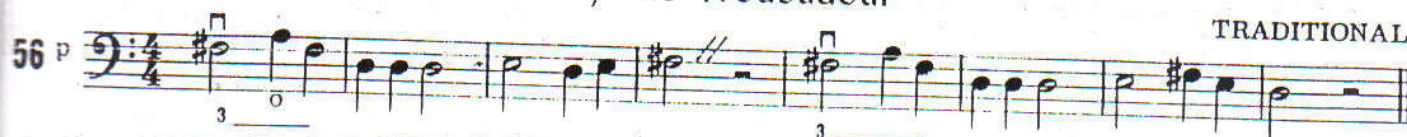
## Merrily We Roll Along

TRADITIONAL



## Gaily the Troubadour

TRADITIONAL

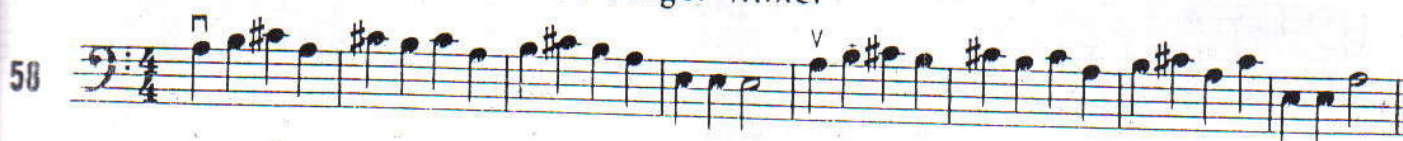


## A Chinese Garden

F. WOHLFAHRT



## A Finger Mixer



## A String Mixer

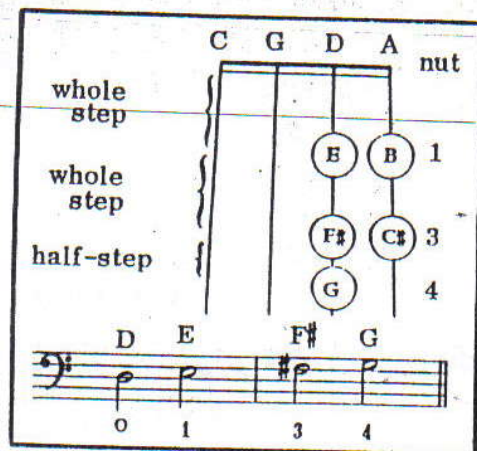


## Au Claire de la Lune

FRENCH FOLK SONG



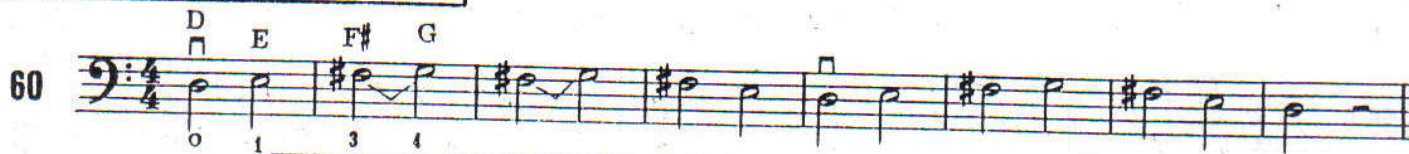




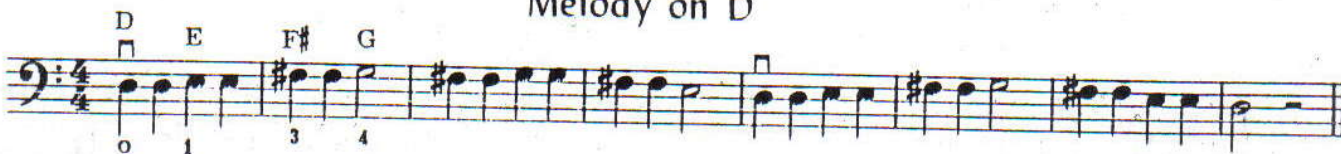
## The Fourth Finger on the D String

(It is called G)

The 4th finger G is a half-step from the 3rd finger F#. Place the 4th finger about 1 or 1 1/4 inches from the 3rd finger. When this mark  $\wedge$  connects two notes, it is a reminder that they are a half-step apart. The 1st and 3rd fingers must remain on the string when you play the 4th finger.



### Melody on D



### Jumping Beans



### Off to School

Leave a slight pause at each comma (,) with the bow remaining on the string.

F. WOHLFAHRT



### Our Theme Song - Lightly Row

GERMAN FOLK SONG

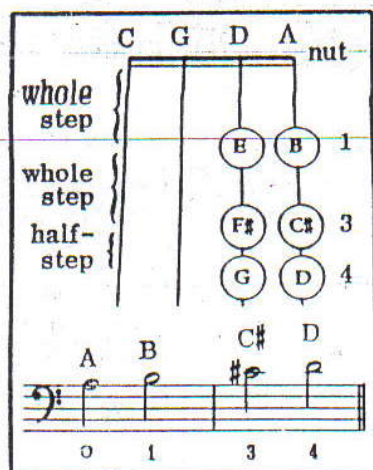


ROTE PROJECT: This tetrachord or 3-4 finger pattern with the 3rd and 4th fingers a half step apart may now be played on all strings in various rhythms. Hum or sing this pattern before playing.



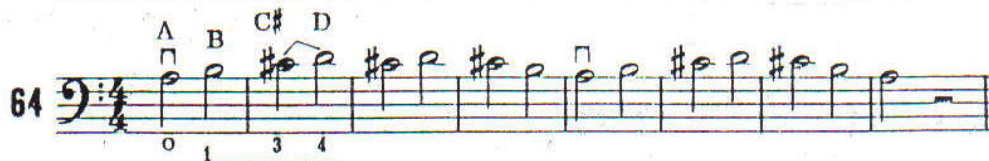
# The Fourth Finger on the A String

(It is called D)



The 4th finger D is a half-step from the 3rd finger C#.

Place the 4th finger about 1 or 1 1/4 inches from the 3rd finger.



## Melody on A

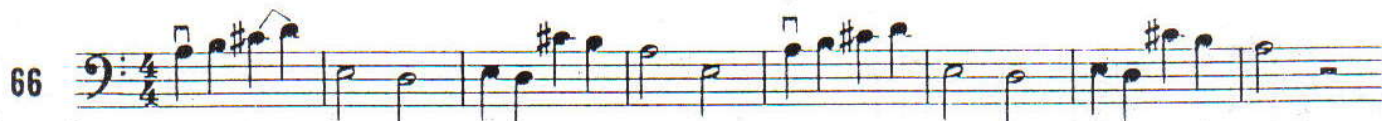


## The Space Ship

F. WOHLFAHRT



## The Pet Shop



## The Cuckoo



## Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

OLD FRENCH SONG



Each student may now play duets with another Violin or with a Viola, Cello, or Bass. In "Duets For Strings" by Samuel Applebaum we have 26 lovely duets. Each student may now play his first Cello solo with piano accompaniment for demonstration programs. It is called "Come To The Sea" - Italian Folk Song.



GERMAN DANCE SONG

## London Bridge is Falling Down

## TRADITIONAL

## Old MacDonald Had a Farm

## TRADITIONAL

## A Thanksgiving Song

## ENGLISH FOLK SONG

## An Octave Apart

When two notes have the same name and are eight notes apart, they are called an octave.

## Sea Shells

F. WOHLFAHRT

ROTE PROJECT: The pupils may now learn the D Major scale. The class should hum or sing the scale before playing.



## PLAYING TWO NOTES in the SAME BOW STROKE

When a curved line (  $\frown$  ) connects two notes that are alike it is called a tie. Both notes are played in the same bow stroke and counted as one note.

## The Tie

75

We play the same melody again. The dot after the half note adds one half of its value. The dotted half note will now receive three counts. Both lines will sound the same.

## The Same Melody

When a curved line connects two or more notes that are different, it is called a slur. Play these notes in the same bow stroke.

## The Slur

76 

## Smooth Sailing

F. WOHLFAHRT

77

Student

Teacher

## Long, Long Ago

THOMAS H. BAYLY

78 P 

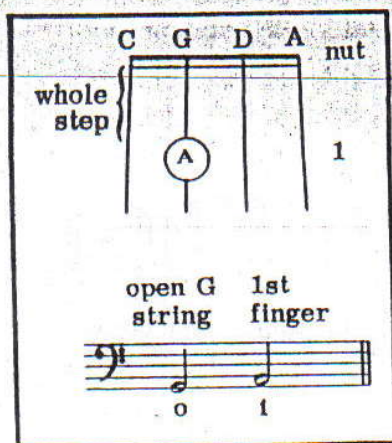
## Jingle Bells

J. PIERPONT

79 *p*

3 0 1 0



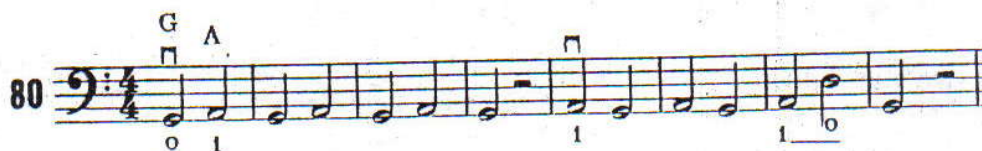


## A NEW LOW TONE

### The First Finger on the G String

(It is called A)

It sounds a whole step higher than the open G string.



## THE QUARTER REST

This is a quarter rest (♩). It receives one count.



## Thoughts of Christmas

TRADITIONAL

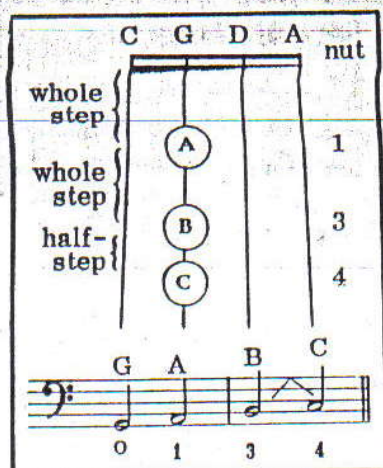


## Good Morning!

OLD MELODY



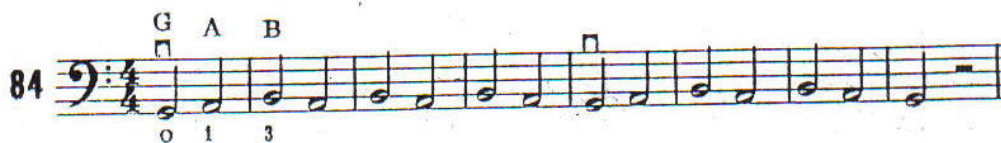




## The Third Finger on the G String

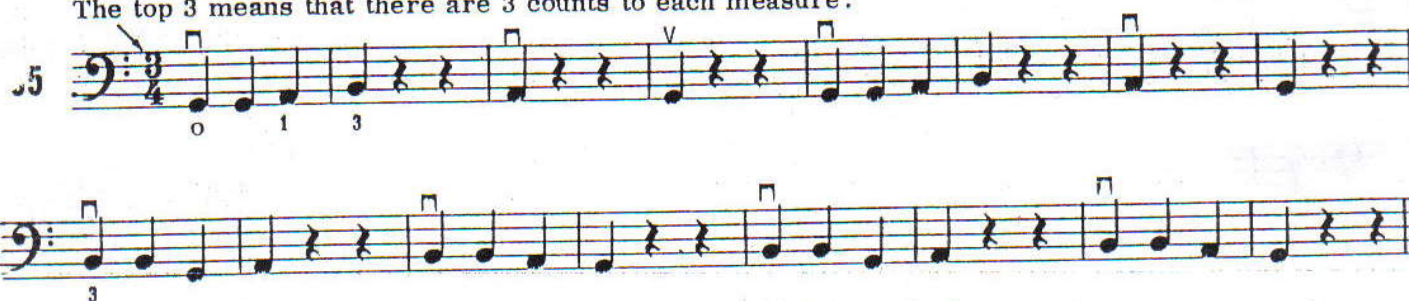
(It is called B)

It is a whole step from the 1st finger A.



## The Tap Dancer

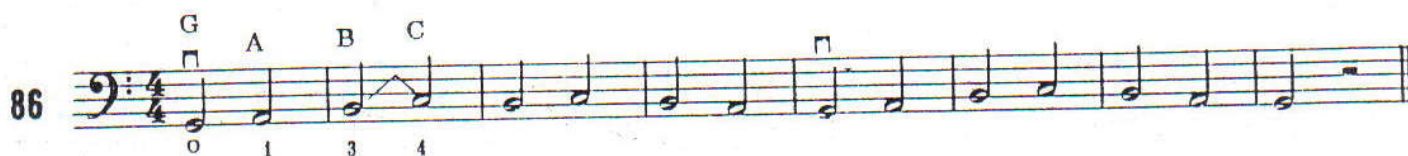
The top 3 means that there are 3 counts to each measure.



## The Fourth Finger on the G String

(It is called C)

It is a half-step from the 3rd finger B. Place the 4th finger about 1 1/4 inches from the 3rd finger.

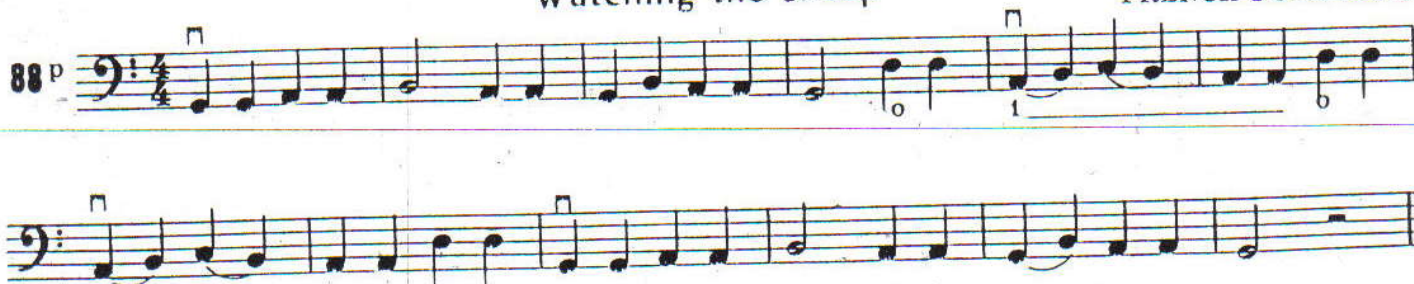


## Under the Sea



## Watching the Sheep

FRENCH FOLK SONG





whole step

half-step

whole step

C G D A nut

1 2 4

D E F G A B C D

0 1 2 4 0 1 2 4

## When Do We Use the Second Finger?

When the next note above the 1st finger is a half-step away, we use the 2nd finger. We now use the 2nd finger to play F on the D string and C on the A string. Both notes are a half-step from the 1st finger. Place the 2nd finger about 1 or 1 1/4 inches from the 1st finger.

♮ - This is a natural sign which means that the note is not sharpened or flattened.

89

### Nelly Bly

90 P

### Cradle Song

91 P

### The Half Step March

92

ROTE PROJECT: The class will now enjoy playing the 1 2 finger pattern with a half step between the 1st and 2nd fingers. Play on all strings in various rhythms.



## PLAYING THREE NOTES in the SAME BOW STROKE - The C String

Use one third of the bow for each of the slurred notes.

93

1 3 3 4 1

1 2 2 4 1

## Thoughts of You

GERMAN FOLK SONG

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the song 'The Rose Tree'. The first staff is for the vocal part, marked '4 P' and '4' (quarter note). It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The second staff is for the piano accompaniment, marked '3' (third). It begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a melody in the right hand, including a sharp sign (F#) and a double bar line at the end.

## Blow That Man Down

This note is called an "up-beat". The count is subtracted from the last measure.

## SEA CHANTEY

95 *p* 

## PLAYING on the C STRING

The 1st finger on the C string is called D and is a whole step from the open string. The 3rd finger is called E and is a whole step from the 1st finger D. The 4th finger is called F and is a half-step from the 3rd finger E.

96

The musical score for exercise 96 consists of two staves of music in bass clef. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains a sequence of notes: C (quarter), D (quarter), E (quarter), F (quarter), G (quarter), A (quarter), B (quarter), C (quarter), D (quarter), E (quarter), F (quarter), G (quarter), A (quarter), B (quarter), C (quarter). The second staff is in 4/4 time and contains a sequence of notes: C (quarter), D (quarter), E (quarter), F (quarter), G (quarter), A (quarter), B (quarter), C (quarter), D (quarter), E (quarter), F (quarter), G (quarter), A (quarter), B (quarter), C (quarter). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 3, 4, and 5. Letter names C, D, E, and F are written above the notes. The exercise is numbered 96 in the top left corner.

Each student will now be ready to play the next Cello solo with piano accompaniment. It is "In The Swiss Alps" by Charles De Beriot.



## MELODIES that are REPEATED

97 

### Monkey in his Cage

98

1 2 3

# Dream Waltz

The dots mean to repeat. You are to repeat the sections between the two sets of dots.

99

3

1

## Pony Ride

(Duet for Two Students)

F. WOHLFAHRT

100

Student

Student

F. WOHLFAHRT

A musical score for the song 'The Rose Tree'. It consists of two staves, both in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written on the top staff, and the accompaniment is on the bottom staff. The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The accompaniment starts with a quarter rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

**ROTE PROJECT:** The  $\hat{1} \hat{2}$  finger pattern with the 1st and 2nd fingers a half step apart, and the  $\hat{2} \hat{3}$  finger pattern with the 2nd and 3rd fingers a half step apart, may now be practiced three notes in a bow.




# MELODIES STRESSING the THIRD and FOURTH FINGERS

101 

## A Wise Old Owl

GERMAN FOLK SONG

102 p 

103 

## The Lonesome Cowboy

TRADITIONAL

104 p 

## Happy Go Lucky

(Melody with Octaves)

When there is only one set of dots go back to the beginning.

105 

ROTE PROJECT: The scales of G and D Major may now be tried in the following rhythms. The notes marked with a dot and dash are played *Détaché Lancé* - a slight pause between each note without the *martelé* accent.





# MELODIES STRESSING the SECOND and THIRD FINGERS

106

## Above the Clouds

C. HOHMAN.

107

## The Criss-Cross Fingering

108

## Caterpillar

RUSSIAN FOLK SONG

109 p

ROTE PROJECT: Play the 1 2 finger pattern starting with the note E (1st finger on D) and ending with the open A string. Practice in various bowings and rhythms to conform with the other string parts.



## PLAYING BEAUTIFUL MELODIES with DYNAMICS



## Playing in the Snow

*f* - means to play loudly - from the Italian word "forte".

FRENCH FOLK SONG

110 *p*

## The Clock Tower

*p* - means to play softly - from the Italian word "piano".

A.R. REINAGLE

111 *p*

## Good King Wenceslas

*rit.* or *ritardando* means gradually slower.

TRADITIONAL CAROL

112 *p*

## Old Hundredth

LOUIS BOURGEOIS

113 *p*

## My Pet Pony

GERMAN FOLK SONG

114 *p*



## STRENGTHENING the FOURTH FINGER - LEFT HAND PIZZICATO

The notes marked with crosses (+) are to be plucked with the 4th finger of the left hand.

## The Fourth Does the Picking

115 

## Chop Sticks

116 

TRADITIONAL



## A Maypole Dance

Lift the bow before you pluck the string.

ENGLISH SINGING GAME

117 

## Smooth Slurring

118 



## Snowflakes

FRENCH FOLK SONG

119 



# RIGHT HAND PIZZICATO (pizz.)

Pluck the string with the 1st finger of the right hand.

## Right Hand Pizzicato

120



## MELODIES on ALL STRINGS

## Yankee Doodle

TRADITIONAL

125 *p* *f* *f* *p*

## The Bean Stalk

OLD DANCE

126 *pizz. p*

## Vesper Hymn

RUSSIAN AIR

127 *arco f* *3* *3*

## Faith of Our Fathers

HENRY F. HEMY

128 *p* *f* *rit.*

## The Cobbler

RUSSIAN FOLK SONG

129 *f* *p* *f*



## BUILDING a MAJOR SCALE

If we play eight notes going up a step at a time so that the 8th note is an octave above the 1st note, we have a scale.

If there is a half-step between the 3rd and 4th notes and a half-step between the 7th and 8th notes, we have a Major scale. Let's divide the scale into two halves. Each half is called a tetrachord.

### The First Half of the Scale (in different rhythms)

Notice the half-step between the 3rd and 4th notes.

130

### The Second Half of the Same Scale (in the same rhythms)

The 2nd half will start a whole step above the 1st half. (Half-step between the 3rd and 4th notes.)

131

### Putting the Two Halves Together

(This scale is called C Major because it starts on C)

Notice the half-steps between the 3rd and 4th notes and the 7th and 8th notes.

132

### The C Major Scale - Up and Down

133

### An Overnight Hike

This is written in C Major.

F. WOHLFAHR

134

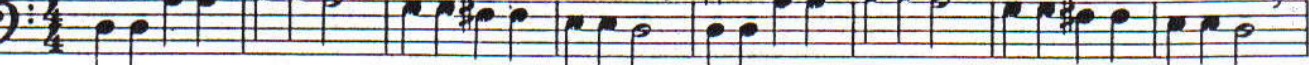


## EIGHTH NOTES

Eighth notes are played twice as fast as quarter notes. Two eighth notes receive one count and are equal to one quarter note.

### Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star (As we played it earlier in the book)

OLD FRENCH SONG

135      
*f* *p*  
  
*f* *p* *f* *rit.*

### Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star (in 8th notes)

Each note is repeated in eighth notes and played twice as fast as quarter notes.

136      
*f*  
  
  


### Lightly Row (in 8th notes)

GERMAN FOLK SONG

137      
*f*  
  
  
  


For the third Cello solo with piano accompaniment to be used for demonstrations, we have an old favorite - "Minuet" from Anna Magdalena Bach's Notebook.



## EIGHTH NOTES COMBINED with QUARTER NOTES

138

*f*

## The Game Starts

139

Student

*f*

Student

## The Spooks

140

*pizz. p*

4 4

0 0

## In the Cave

141

Student

*f*

Student



## LIVELY MELODIES with EIGHTH NOTES



## The Magician

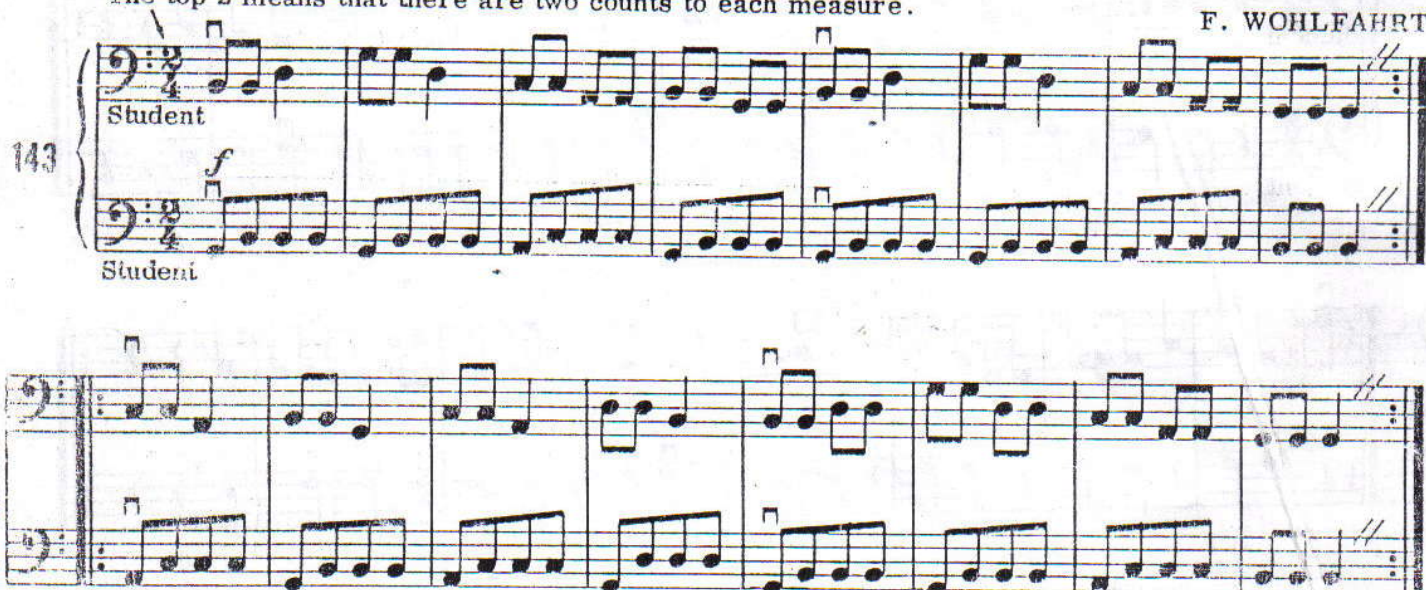


## Polka

A Polka is a lively Bohemian dance with two counts to each measure.

The top 2 means that there are two counts to each measure.

F. WOHLFAHRT



## Bow to Your Partner

SWEDISH FOLK GAME

