

Violin Book Expectations

Each student is unique, and will be taught as an individual at the pace that works best for them. The skills listed below should be met by the end of each book, and are necessary to play the pieces in the next book level. If you have questions or concerns, please bring them to your private instructor.

Pre-Twinkle (15-30 minute lessons)

- Demonstrate the correct way to hold the violin and bow
- Play all twinkle rhythms with open strings and fingered notes
- Know the parts of the violin/bow
- Know the musical alphabet
- "Monkey song"/scale/demonstrate ability to use fingers 1-3

Book 1 (30 minute lessons)

- G and A 2 octave scale
- D 1 octave scale
- Know the names of the tapes/notes on the instrument
- Thumb inside bow
- Use 4th finger when appropriate
- Basic dynamics
- Ability to learn by ear
- Play all songs in book 1 from memory
- Demonstrate appropriate technique, posture, intonation, tone, and phrasing for this level

Book 2 (30 minute lessons)

- G, D, A, Bb 2 octave scale
- Begin shifting to 3rd position
- Basic note reading (notes on the staff, quarter, half, and eighth note rhythms)
- Play all songs in book 2 from memory
- Demonstrate appropriate technique, posture, intonation, tone, and phrasing for this level

Book 3 (45 minute lessons)

- Tune their instrument with fine tuners
- G and Bb 3 octave scales
- Comfortable playing in 3rd position
- Reading music at the level they are playing
- Basic double stops/chords
- Begin vibrato exercises
- Play all the songs in book 3 from memory
- Demonstrate appropriate technique, posture, intonation, tone, and phrasing for this level

Book 4 (45 minute lessons)

- G, A, Bb, C and D 3 octave scales
- Comfortable reading and playing in 1-4th position
- Basic off the string strokes
- Continued development of double stops/chords
- Add little bits of vibrato to pieces
- Able to learn supplemental music/etudes
- Play all the songs in book 4 from memory
- Demonstrate appropriate technique, posture, intonation, tone, and phrasing for this level

Book 5+ (45+ minute lessons)

- Tune their instrument with pegs
- All major 3 octave scales
- Comfortable reading and playing in most/all positions
- Vibrato
- Continued development of advanced bow strokes
- Demonstrate appropriate technique, posture, intonation, tone, and phrasing for this level