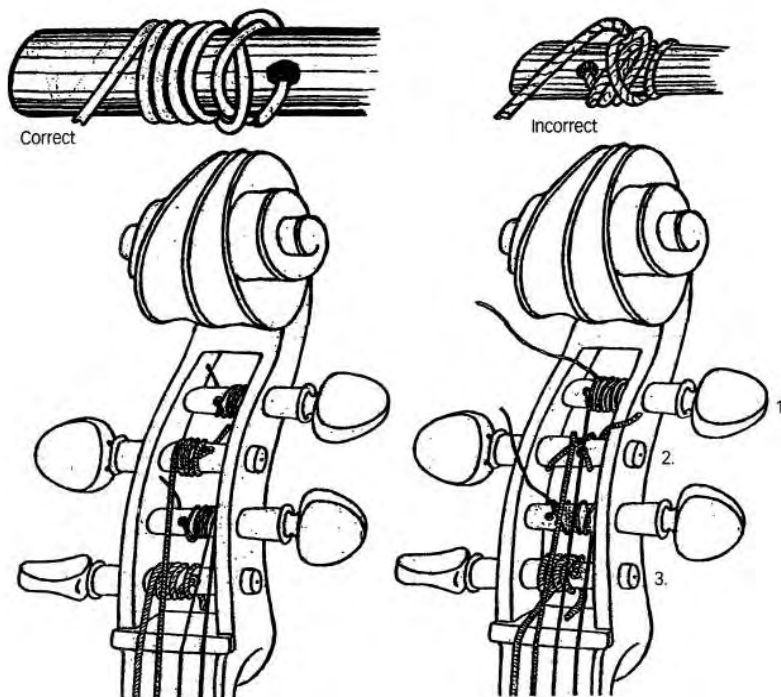


## USEFUL HINTS FOR INSTALLING NEW STRINGS



Please tighten the string from the little hole inside the peg but avoid more than 2 cross overs (see illustration).

**Avoid the following mistakes:**

1. Do not start the winding from the side of the peg hole (string may slip, string tends to detune)
2. Do not cross the string more than twice, but try and wind the string neatly around next to each winding (otherwise could cause serious instrument damage and danger of detuning)
3. Winding up against the normal turn (danger of breakage on the upper saddle).

The string will also detune or become damaged if it is wound up in multiple layers and if it is squeezed in next to the peg box. It is absolutely essential to compare the free vibration length (duel) of the string with the details on the packaging. A length tolerance/deviation of +/- 3 % is acceptable. If the tolerance level is greater, then the increasing tension can cause strings to tear, on smaller instruments it can lead to decreasing tension and a bad sound and additionally the strongest string can break when it is fully wound. In principle, all modern strings (not gut) are to be tuned from the lower part as the tuning from the top could lead to an over strain (permanent damage to the upper sounds).

**Please also make sure that the edges are rounded off on the following places:**

1. On the string hole on the peg
2. On the string notches on the upper saddle,
3. At the fine tuner.

If these points are not followed the strings may tear without any material/or manufacturing faults.

Prior to fitting your new strings, may we suggest that you check that there are no sharp edges on the top nut, especially if you have experienced strings breaking over the nut. With a soft pencil (6B is best), lightly rub the grooves of both the top nut and the bridge, as the graphite in the pencil acts as a lubricant, and the strings slide easier with less friction. When changing a set of strings, only change one string at a time, to prevent the bridge moving, or soundpost falling over. When tuning the instrument start with the (bottom) string first, then the 2<sup>nd</sup> string, then the 3<sup>rd</sup> string, then lastly the top string. After you have done this you will need to repeat the process as necessary, until the instrument settles. Please take care never to over-tune (over-tighten) the strings, as this will cause premature breakage of the strings. I am sure that your teacher will be happy to give you any help if you have any difficulty, however, we are only a phone call away if you need us.

This is one of a series of Instruction sheets prepared by JPB Music to help players gain a better understanding. We write these to assist, but if you are still unsure, please either phone for more advice, or ask your teacher for help.

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