

Level 1 Violin Method Book Comparison

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Topic	All for Strings (pages)	Essential Elements (pages)	Violin Basics (multi-page Units)	Fiddle Time Joggers (1st song with each skill)
Open strings pizz.	14-17	4-5	Unit 1	#1-3
Opens strings bowing	14-17	16-17	Unit 2	#4-10
Down-up bow directions	15	13	Unit 3	#4
Bow lifts/circles	20	17	Unit 3	#5
LH pizz	n/a	n/a	Unit 3	n/a
Qtr + half notes	15	4, 22	Unit 4	#6
Octave harmonics	n/a	n/a	Unit 5	n/a
Holds	18	n/a	Unit 6	#9
Tremolo	n/a	n/a	Unit 6	#25
1 st fingers E and B	18, 24	6, 10	Unit 6	#11
2 nd fingers F#, C#	19, 24	6, 10	Unit 7	#21
3 rd fingers G, D	21, 25	6, 10	Unit 8	#32
7 string levels	n/a	n/a	Unit 4	n/a
Double stops	n/a	n/a	Unit 8	#36
E string notes 0-3	43	39	Unit 9	Throughout
Eighth notes	36	20	Unit 9	#28
4 th finger	n/a	23	Unit 9	#35
G string notes	33	26	Unit 10	Throughout
4 th finger on E string	n/a	39	Unit 11	#45
$\frac{3}{4}$ time signature, dotted half note	28	28	Unit 11	#8
Ties	31	29	Unit 11	#22
D major scale	25	11	Unit 12	#38
Two-note slurs	30-31	29	Unit 14	#37
A major scale	n/a	n/a	Unit 13	#35
Arpeggios	32	37	Unit 13	n/a
3-note slurs	31	n/a	Unit 14	n/a
Low 2 nd finger	39, 41, 43	32	Unit 15	n/a
G major scale, arpeggio	41	31, 40	Unit 15	n/a
E minor	n/a	n/a	Unit 16	n/a
Staccato	n/a	40	Unit 16	n/a
Spiccato	n/a	n/a	Unit 16	n/a
Dotted-quarter-eighth rhythm	n/a	n/a	Unit 17	n/a
Hooked bowing	n/a	41	n/a	n/a
Other comments:	Notes are set small and close together, can be hard for younger students to read without enlarging. No 4 th fingers. Teaching of slurs is well-sequenced.	No <i>arco</i> playing until pg. 16. Slur instruction is negligible, E string notes not introduced until the Low 2 section. Clear, open typefaces.	Sequencing closely matches Fiddle Time Joggers. Excellent set-up exercises. Some concepts included that are not part of other books. Many examples per concept.	Student-preferred selection of diverse repertoire with playalong audio. A variety of bowing concepts are introduced while students are still playing on open strings.