

kolstein music rental program

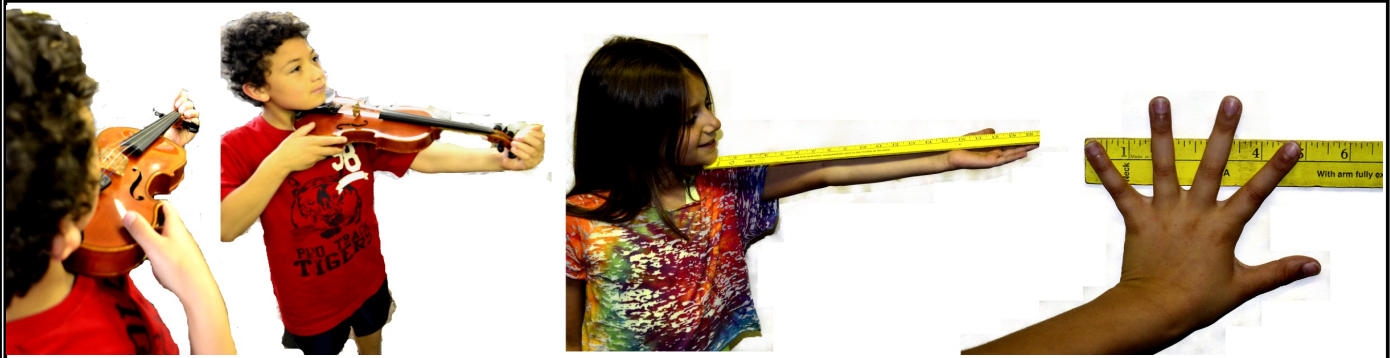
How to Measure for the Correct Size String Instrument

VIOLIN		CHIN TO CENTER OF PALM	LEFT HAND SPAN
Place violin under chin in playing position and extend left hand under scroll. Wrap fingers around scroll and extend the volute base.		Extend the left arm at a 45° angle in front of the child with palm facing up. With a yardstick, measure from the base of the chin to the center of the left palm.	Measure the span between the outstretched pinkie and index fingers.
4/4	(same for 14" viola)	23 ½" (minimum)	5 – 6"
3/4	(same for Jr. / 13" viola)	22"	4½ – 5"
1/2	(same for 1/2 / 12" viola)	20¾"	4 – 5"
1/4	(same for 1/4 / 11" viola)	18-1/4"	3-1/2 - 4"
1/8		16-3/4"	NA
1/10		15-1/4"	NA
1/16		14"	NA



VIOLA	RIGHT ARM LENGTH	LEFT HAND SPAN
Adult sizes below; see above for fractional sizes	Extend the left arm at a 45° angle in front of the child with palm facing down. Measure from the armpit to the end of the middle finger.	Measure the span between the outstretched pinkie and index fingers.
16" +	27" (minimum)	6-1/2"
15-1/2"	26 - 27"	6"
15"	24 - 26"	5-1/2"

Comfort and ease of playing is of prime importance in the selection of a large viola. The student should be able to reach extension fingerings in the 1st position on the C string. Students should progress to the next size as soon as possible to develop the capacity of the left hand to expand horizontally in order to reach note intervals.



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CELLO	RIGHT ARM LENGTH		LEFT HAND SPAN
Seat student on front edge of chair with thighs parallel to floor and feet flat on floor. Edge of upper bout should rest on the sternum. Nut is typically about eyebrow height. C peg is opposite left ear	Extend the left arm at a 45° angle in front of the child with palm facing down. Measure from the armpit to the end of the middle finger.		Measure the span between the outstretched pinkie and index fingers.
	Arm Length	Height	
4/4	24"	60"	6"
3/4	22"	56"	5"
1/2	20"	52"	4"
1/4	18"	48"	3"
1/8	16"	44"	2-1/2" - 3"
1/10	14"	40"	2" - 2-1/2"



BASS	RIGHT ARM LENGTH		LEFT HAND SPAN
With student facing the bass, adjust the end pin so the upper crook of the neck at the nut is eye level. The first knuckles of the right hand should touch the top of the bridge	Extend the left arm at a 45° angle in front of the child with palm facing down. Measure from the armpit to the end of the middle finger.		Measure the span between the outstretched pinkie and index fingers. The left hand should be able to comfortably reach the whole step interval using the index & pinkie fingers in 1st position
	Arm Length	Height	
3/4 (Standard Adult Size)	24"	60" (minimum)	6-1/2"
1/2	22"	56"	5-3/4"
1/4	20"	52"	5"
1/8	18"	48"	4-1/4"

