

## Instructions for Adjusting Scarlatti Violins Before Playing

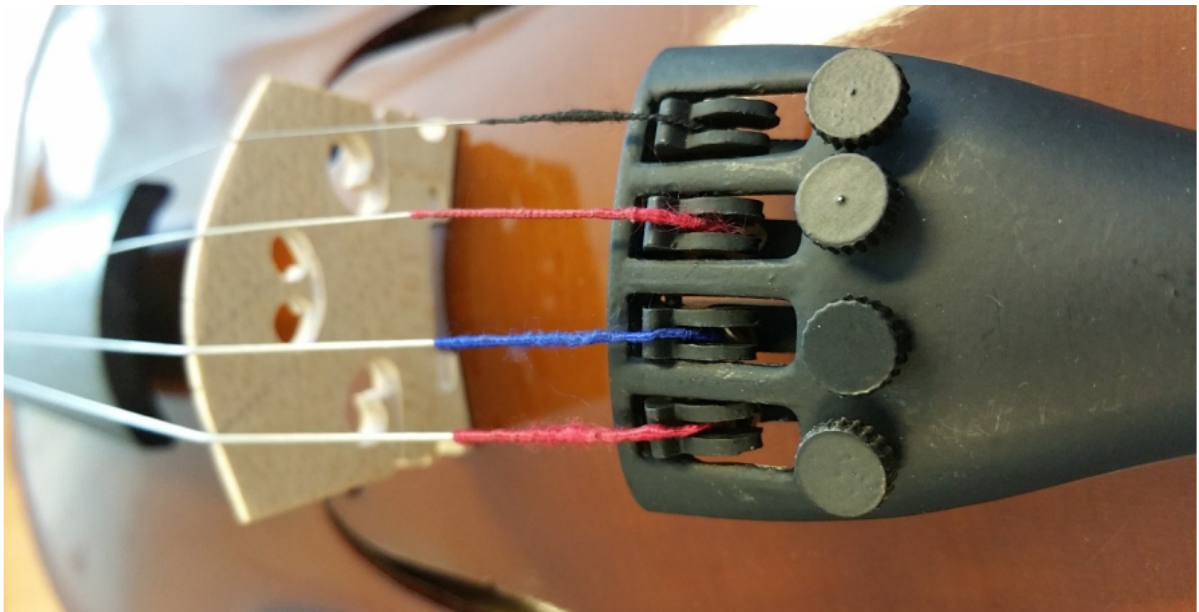
If your violin has just been delivered, then it's likely that some adjustments are needed before it's ready to play. The bridge will need to be mounted, the strings will need tuning, and the bow will need to be resined. Once this is all done, you'll be able to play your Scarlatti violin.

### Mounting the Bridge

The bridge is in the optimal position when placed precisely in the middle of the top plate, and is level with the inner notch of the f-hole.



Place the bridge in such a way that the highest side supports the thickest strings of the violin:



Make sure that the strings fall into the small grooves in the top of the bridge.

## **Applying resin to the bow**

- To use a bow at its best, it needs to be treated with resin.
- It's necessary to apply resin to the hair. Without resin, the bow will simply slide over the strings and create no sound, since no friction is created to vibrate the strings.
- A bow needs to be treated with resin regularly.
- Before applying the resin, it's important that the bow is brought to optimum tension. Once at tension, slowly run the entire length of your bow across the resin block 4 or 5 times.

### **Tip:**

- Run your bow over the resin starting at the tip and running to the frog (this tends to give a better result than the other way around).
- To maximise the lifespan of your resin block, it's important to avoid forming a groove in it. Regularly rotate the block every time you treat your bow.
- When you apply resin to a bow for the first time, you're likely to need more resin than normal. Test the bow after applying the resin as described above to check that it has enough grip on the strings.

### **To finish:**

As with many other instruments (like guitars), it can be more comfortable to set up your violin according to your personal preferences. Since your violin is a standardised model, we recommend seeking the advice of a qualified violin builder if you want to make any more personalised adjustments.