

# STRING INSTRUMENTS

To play a string instrument, your left hand presses down on the strings to change the pitch while your right hand moves the bow or plucks the strings.



You play the violin by tucking it between your chin and shoulder. The violin is the smallest and highest pitched member of the string family. The sound of the violin is high, bright and sweet. There are more violins in the orchestra than any other instrument.



The viola is held the same way as the violin, but it is bigger and lower in pitch than the violin. The sound of the viola is also deeper and warmer than the violin.



The cello makes a wide range of beautiful sounds, from warm low notes to rich high notes. To play it, you sit in a chair with the body of the cello between your knees. The cello rests on the ground, supported by a metal peg.



The double bass is the biggest and lowest pitched string instrument. The deep, low sounds of the double bass are often used to help hold the orchestra together. You play the double bass standing up or sitting on a stool. The bass rests on the ground, supported by a metal peg.