

# Taking Care of Your String Instrument

1. As a musician, **you** are ultimately responsible for the care of your instrument.
  - a. Always treat your instrument with the utmost respect; it is not a toy and your parents are financially responsible for it.
  - b. Keep your instrument in its case when not in use for class or home practice.
  - c. Do not handle or use someone else's instrument.
  - d. Do not let anyone else handle or use your instrument.
2. Make sure your name is properly displayed on your instrument case, and music folder.
3. Store your instrument so that it is safe, keeping it at room temperature. **DO NOT** leave your instrument in the car on hot or cold days!
4. Do not try to tune your instrument yourself. Your instrument should only be tuned by someone who knows how to tune and can tune it to the correct pitch.
5. Do not touch the bow hairs or try to play with the bow until given permission to do so in strings class. Leave the rosin alone until you are instructed how to use it properly.
6. Handle the instrument and bow gently and always in the correct way.
7. Wipe off the strings and top of instrument with a soft cloth after practicing with the bow.
8. Always loosen your bow after playing.
9. Never use furniture polish on your instrument and do not get anything oily near the strings or the bow. There is a special instrument polish you can purchase for polishing the body of the instrument.