

# **PURCHASING A VIOLIN**

**\*\*\*\*\*Make sure you are purchasing the correct size instrument and accessories!!**  
**Before purchasing a violin, ask your child's teacher verify the correct size.\*\*\*\*\***

## **Vendors**

Violins can be purchased alone, or in "outfits," which usually include the violin, bow, and case. Many stores have excellent "rent-to own" policies, and will apply the purchase price to any upgrades or upsizing in the future.

- ♫ **Atlantic Strings**, New Haven Ave., Melbourne [www.atlanticstrings.com](http://www.atlanticstrings.com)
  - KCC model 103 or better please. <http://atlanticstrings.com/product/keith-curtis-clifton-kcc-103-violin-outfit/>
- ♫ **The Horn Section**, Eau Gallie Arts District <http://thehornsection.com/stringsattached/>
- ♫ **Muni Strings**, Winter Park, FL <http://munistrings.com/>
- ♫ **Gliga Violins USA**, Pasadena, CA [www.violinslover.com](http://www.violinslover.com)
  - "Gems 1" model or better please. <http://www.violinslover.com/gems1.php>.
- ♫ **Shar Music**, Ann Arbor, Michigan [www.sharmusic.com](http://www.sharmusic.com)
  - Franz Hoffman "Maestro" model or better please.  
[http://www.sharmusic.com/Instruments/Violin/?page\\_no=1&fq=ATR\\_Brand:Franz\+Hoffmann&ShowProducts=True](http://www.sharmusic.com/Instruments/Violin/?page_no=1&fq=ATR_Brand:Franz\+Hoffmann&ShowProducts=True)
- ♫ **Southwest Strings**, Tucson, AZ [www.swstrings.com](http://www.swstrings.com)
  - Klaus Mueller "Maestro" model or better please.  
<http://www.swstrings.com/product/instruments/violin/GP-320>

***Upgrading to a fine instrument is a process that is more involved.***  
***Please contact me for assistance [pinfield.laura@brevardschools.org](mailto:pinfield.laura@brevardschools.org)***

**Thomastik Vision strings** are the best. You can request this brand for your outfit from any vendor, and pay the difference. Bows and cases can be upgraded in the same way.

## **Again?!**

Students grow, so they need to be sized every six to eight months to determine the correct instrument size. Many music stores will allow you to trade in a smaller instrument purchased at that store for a larger size. (Verify this in advance.) Expect to pay a little for the "up-grade."

## **One more thing...**

Certain **accessories** are essential for all string players. If a string breaks (they wear out), it is good to have extra strings (a set) so it can be replaced without delay. Local music stores such as Atlantic Strings or The Horn Section have these products as well as on-line vendors.

- Strings: Thomastik Vision (specify instrument/size)
- Shoulder Rest: Everest, KUN, Sumi, or Bon Musica (specify instrument/size)
- Rosin: Light for Florida
- Cloth for wiping off rosin (soft cotton or silk)
- Metronome: Seiko Quartz Metronome\*
- Tuner: Korg CA Chromatic Tuner\*
- \*Phone application: Tonal Energy is a combined metronome, tuner, tone analyzer, and recorder. *Metronome apps need amplification in order to be useful!*