



How to Inspect the Craftsmanship of a Violin

Buy the best violin possible by using this 14 part checklist to inspect the craftsmanship of an instrument and feel confident in knowing what to ask the seller. It is recommended to [view the tutorial video on the Music for Young Violinists YouTube channel](#) and/or [read the accompanying article available on the website](#) for clarification.

- Are the seams glued shut?
- Are there any cracks?
- Is the purfling inlaid or painted on?
- Is the bridge too high and/or not properly fitted to the instrument?
- Is the sound post in the correct location?
- Do the pegs move easily and hold their grip?
- Is the bow stick warped?
- Is there enough hair on the bow?
- Is the hair on the bow dirty?
- Does the violin need new strings?
- Is the chinrest adequate for your playing needs or will it need to be replaced?
- Does the violin come with a case?
- Does the instrument come with any accessories like a shoulder pad, music stand or sheet music materials?
- Who is the maker of the violin, what model is it and when was it made?