



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.

- 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?