



## **Orchestra Supply List**

- 1. Your Instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass)**
  - a. 6th Grade: You must have your instrument by Tuesday, September 1st.**
  - b. 7/8 Grade: Bring your instrument starting Wednesday, August 30th**
  
- 2. Instrument Supplies**
  - a. All instruments: Rosin and cleaning cloth**
  - b. Violin/Viola: Shoulder Rest/Sponge**
  - c. Cello/Bass: Rockstop/Chair Anchor**
  
- 3. Your Method Book**
  - a. 6th Grade: Essential Elements for Strings, Book 1**
  - b. 7th Grade: Essential Elements for Strings, Book 2**
  - c. 8th Grade: Habits of a Successful Middle Level String Musician**
  
- 4. Sharpened Pencils**
  
- 5. A Folder**
  
- 6. Post-Its in the color of your choice**
- 7. Access to our class Canvas Page**



## Instrument Rental Options

- Students enrolled in the Academy at Lincoln Orchestra must have an instrument to use in class.
- *You are strongly encouraged to rent your instrument.* Lincoln has a small number of instruments that can be checked out for the school year, but
- There are several reputable music shops in the area that rent school instruments:
  - [Moore Music Company](#)
    - 615 W. Market St. Greensboro, NC 27401
    - (336) 276-4636
  - [Music & Arts](#)
    - 2609 Lawndale Dr. Greensboro, NC 27408
    - (336) 282-1256
  - [The Music Barn](#)
    - 920 S. Chapman St. Greensboro, NC 27403
    - (336) 272-2118
  - [Artley Violins](#)
    - 213 Burlington Ave. Gibsonville, NC 27249
    - (336) 449-7297
  - [Bass Violin Shop](#)
    - 523 N. Cedar St. Greensboro, NC 27401
    - (336) 272-2877
- If and when you are ready to purchase an instrument, please contact Dr. Blanton for assistance. A string instrument is an investment that should be made with the guidance of a teacher.
- If you are not in a position to purchase or rent, Lincoln has some instruments which can be checked out. Please contact Dr. Blanton to reserve a school instrument:
  - [blantoc@gcsnc.com](mailto:blantoc@gcsnc.com)
  - (336) 543-0693 (call or text)



## Instrument Care and FAQs

- ***How do I properly store my instrument?***
  - When you are not playing or practicing, your instrument should be safely put away in your case. Your instrument is very sensitive to changes in temperature and humidity: it should never be left in a car, a garage, or anywhere that the temperature and humidity cannot be controlled.
  
- ***How do I clean my instrument?***
  - Your instrument should be wiped down with a ***clean, dry, soft cloth*** after you play. The rosin we use on our bows can build up on your strings, fingerboard, and instrument. Any residue on your hands and fingers can also impact your instrument. Wash (and dry!) you hands before you play.
  
- ***What accessories do I need for my instrument?***
  - Violins & Violas: rosin, shoulder rest, cleaning cloth
  - Cellos & Basses: rosin, rock stop/chair anchor, cleaning cloth
  
- ***Why do I need to rosin my bow?***
  - Rosin adds the grit we need to make friction between the bow hairs and the strings. One application of rosin will work for about two hours of playing, so we generally need to rosin every day or every other day.
  
- ***I saw a pink and green violin on Amazon: is it any good?***
  - Generally speaking, no. The paint used on those instruments negatively affects the sound quality, and the bridge, fingerboard, and chinrest are usually not set up correctly. When you are ready to buy an instrument, please contact Dr. Blanton for guidance.
  
- ***But I'm left-handed: can I still learn to play?***
  - Absolutely. You will still learn by holding your instrument in your left hand and your bow in your right hand.
  
- ***Do I need short nails to play my instrument?***
  - You need short nails to play your instrument ***well***. To play in tune and with a good tone, your fingernails should stay on the short side.

## CARE OF STRING INSTRUMENTS

Your string instruments have some special requirements in order for them to work properly.

- *Instruments should never be left unattended, and should only be handled by orchestra students and/or teachers.*
- Your instrument needs to be tuned in orchestra every day; until you have learned how to tune your instrument, *do not touch or turn the tuning pegs or fine tuners.*



- The wooden bridge on your instrument holds up the strings; *be very careful to not touch the bridge, and treat your instrument and case gently so that the bridge does not move.*



- *Bow must be tightened to play and loosened when not playing* or the bow hair will stretch out and be unusable.
- *Bow hair should never be touched with your skin;* the oils on your hands help keep you healthy and safe from germs, but they ruin bow hair. Please do not touch!
- Your instruments are made of wood and are very sensitive to extreme temperatures; *never leave your instruments anywhere too hot or too cold* (in a car, outside, etc.)

***String instruments are fragile.*** Even small bumps to the instrument or case can make it un-playable. Accidents can happen that destroy instruments, and while they are not intentional, the choices you make around expensive instruments can have disastrous consequences. ***Please understand that if you are involved in the damage of a school-owned instrument, it is likely that you or your family will be responsible financially. Great care must always be taken when handling musical instruments.***