



Instrument Rental Services

At Princeton Violins, we are committed to providing the best value and service in string instrument rentals for all ages and levels of players.

“Prodigy” Outfit is available for violin, viola, and cello. The handsome, flamed maple back of Prodigy instruments is an indicator of better quality workmanship, which is reflected in the overall sound. Professional setup further ensures well-fitting parts, elevates the instrument’s potential, and makes Prodigy level instruments suitable for beginning and advancing players alike.

“Junior” & “Student” Outfits for cello are an economical alternative for beginning and intermediate players since typical cost would be at least two to three times of a violin made with comparable wood and detail of craftsmanship. Our Junior & Student cellos still sport excellent sound (due to the larger resonating body vs. the much smaller violin) and playability (due to setup). Although plainer in appearance, they receive the same level of luthier setup and attention as more advanced instruments.

	Monthly Rental	Insurance	Deposit	Purchase Price
Violin				
Prodigy	\$30	\$3	\$100	\$800 to \$1,200
Viola				
Prodigy	\$35	\$4	\$100	\$800 to \$1,400
Cello				
Junior	\$45	\$6	\$200	\$1,900
Student	\$60	\$8	\$200	\$2,900
Prodigy	\$80	\$10	\$200	\$3,900
All Instruments				
Artist Loan	** Please Inquire **			

Fine and rare instruments from distinguished European makers are available. Please inquire about these antique instruments.

All outfits include: instrument, bow, case, rosin. The cello case for Junior & Student Outfits is a soft carrying bag (additional \$10 per month for hard case).

Deposit & First Month Your first payment consists of the initial deposit and prorated rental charge for the first partial month. The deposit is fully refundable at the end of the rental term provided suitable condition has been maintained and all payments are current.

Rental Term Monthly fees are charged to credit/debit cards on the 1st of every month. There are no charges or interruptions for size changes. You may cancel and return the outfit at any time – effective the next billing cycle. Accounts prepaid for 12 months receive a 5% discount.

Insurance In case of damage or destruction (excludes replacement of strings and bow hair), you will be responsible for only the \$30 deductible (per incident) instead of typical repair or replacement costs. Loss due to fire, water/liquid, or theft is not covered by Princeton Violins.

Purchase Credit A portion of monthly rental fees (excludes insurance and taxes) may be applied to the purchase of the same level or more advanced instrument:

- During first 6 months of rental term: 100%
- 7th to 11th full month: 50% of rental fees since beginning of rental term
- After 12th month's payment: 50% of rental fees for the last 12 months

Purchased instruments may be further traded in for size changes and upgrades with 100% credit.

Strings

We favor German Pirastro brand strings for their warm sound and durability. As consumable parts, worn or broken strings are the responsibility of the renter. Labor fees are waived with in-shop string purchases. Please inform us if your teacher has requests for specific strings or upgraded types of bows.

Bow Repair

For fractional size instruments (children), rehairing is typically unnecessary for normal wear and tear. Rehairing cost may be required in case of excessive hair loss or damage.

“My child is a beginner. Does the sound matter? Do we need setup? Do we need service?”

Learning to play violin, viola, or cello can be challenging! A beginning instrument should support a beginner's efforts, but one that sounds unpleasant, doesn't stay in tune, or has ill-fitting parts will more likely be a frustrating obstacle. Please consider giving your child the best chance to develop skills, instead of waiting for him/her to enjoy something s/he doesn't know how to do well yet.

Sound

Choice of strings is one of the main ways to enhance the sound of an instrument.

- ✓ It is straightforward for an experienced string player or teacher to change the generic steel strings typical of a general retailer or music supply store's instrument, but you can avoid this hassle by choosing a Princeton Violins instrument with quality strings already preselected (typical cost \$40-80 for a set of violin strings).

Setup

Professional setup refers to the finer adjustments of certain parts that affect how easily or cleanly notes can be played.

Areas of the instrument addressed include:

- Shape and position of bridge (particularly its “feet” and “arch”) and sound post, which transmit string vibrations to the instrument's resonating body
- Accurate curvature of the fingerboard, both side-ways and long-ways, and curing any physical blemishes
- Fit and lubrication of pegs and tuners for stable tuning

- ✓ Many suppliers of “violin-shaped objects” are not able to devote time and expertise to checking these mechanical details, but Princeton Violins believes that students deserve a quality setup to support their continued success and enjoyment of playing.

If your very young child uses an instrument for posture work or only plays open strings without touching the fingerboard, then many aspects of setup are irrelevant. However, we hope you would not be caught unawares when s/he quickly outgrows the limitations of a poorly constructed or poorly adjusted instrument! Please seek your teacher's guidance on this matter.

Service

- ✓ A violin, viola, or cello is not only a mechanical and acoustic device but also an artist's tool and a craftsman's handiwork. By trusting Princeton Violins with your rental needs, you gain a valuable partner and consultant in all matters of string instrument studies, maintenance, and ownership. The professional perspective of a performer, maker, restorer, collector, and educator assures that you can receive personalized advice for your family's goals and needs.