

WHAT OTHER SUPPLIES DO I NEED?

ROSIN

A kind of hard brick that, when rubbed on a bow, leaves a sticky residue. It helps to grip the strings. Rosin is provided by the school, but you might have to share it with others.

CLEANING CLOTH

A soft cloth for wiping rosin dust off of your instrument.

A SPONGE OR SHOULDER REST

A sponge or shoulder rest are necessary to hold a violin or viola in place. Sponges are provided by the school, but shoulder rests are not.

CELLO "DONUT" OR ENDPIN HOLDER

Cello players need to use a "donut" (not a read donut – a round thing that sits on the floor), or an endpin holder to keep the endpin from sliding.

FOLDER, INSTRUMENT CASE, BOOK

These will be provided for you at school.

PENCIL AND A MUSIC STAND

Please bring a pencil to every class. You will need to have a music stand for practicing at home. They start at \$10 and you can often find a used ones.



What Instruments Are In Strings?

These are *orchestral* strings classes, which means the instruments we use in class are:

Violin

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

(also called the Upright Bass, or Bass)

Guitar is an important instrument for Jazz Band, but it's not taught to that high level in school. Ukulele is taught in Music Exploratory.

How To Get a STRING Instrument

TO USE IN CLASS



CONTACT:
Risa McDonell,
Band Teacher at Rockheights
rmcdonell@sd61.bc.ca
(250) 384-7125
www.rockheightsmusic.com

OPTION A

BUY AN INSTRUMENT

A GREAT INVESTMENT IN THE LONG RUN!

BUYING FROM A MUSIC STORE

These music retailers sell good new and used instruments. Their experts will work with you to fit your needs to your budget.

Long & McQuade Musical Instruments

756 Hillside Ave., Victoria, BC
(250) 384-3622

Ask to speak to the “Strings Department”

Tapestry Music

1824 Government Street, Victoria, BC
(250) 590-0752

BUYING FROM AN INDEPENDENT SELLER

You can find some amazing deals on used string instruments on Used Victoria, Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, etc. The most important things when buying second-hand is the brand and the condition. A quality brand-name instrument could be a good deal, even if it needs some repairs, and a brand new instrument that’s an unknown brand might be junk. **Good brands are: Yamaha, Eastman, Xue Chang Sun, Gliga, and Shen.** Never buy an instrument with no brand name or serial number.

OPTION B

RENT AN INSTRUMENT

A GREAT WAY TO TRY IT OUT!

RENTING FROM A MUSIC STORE

These music retailers rent quality instruments on a monthly basis, and will make repairs and adjustments for you. They also support our program by giving us a donation for every instrument that is rented to a Rockheights student. This is a great way to avoid the frustration of, “Is it me, or is my instrument not working?” They guarantee your instrument is working. Both retailers have rent-to-own programs, or give you the option of buying out a rented instrument.

Long & McQuade Musical Instruments

756 Hillside Ave., Victoria, BC
(250) 384-3622

Ask to speak to the “Strings Department”

Tapestry Music

1824 Government Street, Victoria, BC
(250) 590-0752

OPTION C

BORROW AN INSTRUMENT

THE MOST AFFORDABLE OPTION!

BORROW AN INSTRUMENT FROM SD61

Greater Victoria School District 61 is very lucky to own a collection of string instruments, which are available for students to borrow for the year. The cost to rent these are:

**Violins and Violas:
\$150/year or \$15/month**

**Cellos:
\$200/year or \$20/month**

**Basses:
Rockheights has two basses which can be borrowed. Please speak to Ms. McDonell about these.**

No student is denied an instrument to use because of cost however. If your family needs support to borrow an instrument from SD61, please contact me and I will ask to waive the fees. An administrator must sign-off of the request.

These instruments are loaned out on a first-to-send-in-signed-forms, first-served basis, so please send in the forms right away. We have a limited supply of them.

BORROWING FROM A FRIEND

This is a great option! Ask around – someone you know might have one you can use. You will need to practice on it at home, so they have to loan it for the year.