

Everyday Maintenance Viola

Before playing, apply rosin to your bow.

Not so much that it creates a 'dust cloud', but enough to create friction between the bow and the string so the bow does not slip when you play.

To test how much rosin is on your bow, flick the hairs of the bow. If you can see rosin coming off the bow, then your bow has enough rosin. If not, run a little more over the bow hair.

Remember - do not touch the hairs. The natural oils on your fingers will soak in and the bow will slip off the string when you play.

Wipe down your Viola after you play

Use of clean cloth, with no product to avoid rosin from building up a sticky residue on your instrument.

The strings will not vibrate to their full potential with sticky rosin on them!

Loosen your bow after playing

This will ensure the bow hairs are not under stress when they are not being played, causing less breakages.

When a hair does break off, never pull or cut it at the very end, leave a 1cm end hanging off. The hair is ravelled around, so if you cut it at the end, it is likely the hair will unravel.