

Bruce's 6-Week Violin Practice Plan

This plan is designed to help you stay consistent and make steady progress on your violin journey. Take your time and if a week takes longer, that's perfectly fine. Consistency is more important than speed!

PS: I recommend daily warm up every time you want to practice.

Daily Warm-Up (8-10 mins)

1. Posture & Relaxation (1 min)

- Stand straight, loosen shoulders, relax arms
- Hold the violin in playing position for 30 seconds without tension

2. Bow Hold Exercise (2 mins)

- Finger taps on the bow (each finger taps one at a time)
- Windshield wiper motion to relax the bow hold

3. Open String Long Bows (4 mins)

- Play slow full bows on G, D, A, E
- Focus on smooth tone and straight bow
- Count 4 beats per bow

4. Left-Hand Finger Taps (2-3 mins)

- Place fingers lightly on the string in first position (G or D string)
- Tap fingers in sequence (1-2-3-4), keeping hand relaxed

Week 1 - Setup & Posture (15-20 mins daily)

Focus: Correct posture, bow hold, and violin position

Daily Practice:

- Posture and bow hold check in front of a mirror (3 mins)
- Bow hold exercises without the violin (5 mins)
- Violin position exercises (5–7 mins)

Relevant Lesson (Click to go to Lessons):

- Holding the Bow
 - o <u>Exercise without Bow</u>
 - <u>Exercise with Bow</u>
- Holding Your Violin
 - o <u>Exercise without Violin</u>
 - Exercise with Violin

Send a 30-second video of your bow and violin hold for feedback.

Week 2 - Open Strings & Bow Control (20 mins daily)

Focus: Smooth, even bowing on open strings

Daily Practice:

- Long bows on G, D, A, E strings (10 mins)
- Listen for clear tone and adjust bow angle (5 mins)
- Bow distribution exercise (5 mins)

Relevant Lesson:

- Bow Control and Exercises
 - o <u>Bow Positioning</u>
 - o <u>Common Mistakes in Bow Positioning</u>
 - <u>Levels of Elbow in Bow Control</u>
- Playing Open Strings
 - o <u>Reading Open Strings on the Violin</u>
 - o <u>Open Strings Exercises</u>

Record a short video of open strings with smooth bowing.

Week 3 - Music Reading Basics (15-20 mins daily)

Focus: Understand note names and rhythms

Daily Practice:

- Identify notes on the stave (5 mins)
- Simple clapping rhythm exercises (5 mins)
- Match notes to violin strings (5–10 mins)

Relevant Lesson:

- Intro to Music Reading
 - <u>Stave notation and intro to C Major</u>
 - o <u>Reading Open Strings</u>
 - o <u>Open Strings Exercise</u>

Record a short video where you play open strings while counting the beat out loud (e.g., "1-2-3-4") following a simple rhythm pattern.

Week 4 - Left-Hand Placement (20 mins daily)

Focus: First position on G and D strings

Daily Practice:

- Finger placement on G and D strings(10 mins)
- Short note patterns for accuracy (10 mins)

Relevant Lesson:

- First Position on the Violin
- <u>Fingering on G</u>
- <u>Fingering on D</u>

Show a video of you playing 4 notes on G and D strings.

Week 5 - Scales & Coordination (20-25 mins daily)

Focus: Play the D Major scale (slowly, in tune)

Daily Practice:

- D Major Scale pizzicato (5 mins)
- D Major Scale with bow (10 mins)
- Arpeggio pattern (5 mins)

Relevant Lesson:

- <u>D Major Scale Lesson (with bow)</u>
- <u>D Major Scale(Pizz)</u>

Send a video of your D Major Scale.

Week 6 - First Song (25 mins daily)

Focus: Play Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Daily Practice:

- Break the song into small phrases (10 mins)
- Combine phrases slowly (10 mins)
- Play full song with good tone (5 mins)

Relevant Lesson:

• <u>Twinkle Twinkle Tutorial</u>

Share a full video of Twinkle Twinkle for feedback.



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