

Jim's Music and Teaching Center

Instrument Repair Definitions



String Set up

Our repair shop focuses on preventative maintenance of instruments, rather than the 'quick fix'. We feel that our customers are better served by sending in the instrument fewer times, resulting in fewer last minute emergencies, less frustration and ultimately less cost in down time and money. We will do any repair necessary to put the instrument into solid playing condition. This includes:

- Glue open seams, loose nut or saddle

- Check sound-post and bridge for proper placement

- Inspect bridge for proper fit to top of instrument

- Measure string height and adjust, if necessary, for ease of playing

- Inspect strings and, if worn, replace any

- Inspect the fingerboard for proper shape, unusual wear and clean

- Clean rosin from body and polish

- Play test

We also consider the condition of the case to be part of preventative maintenance. Faulty latches and hinges could cause serious damage to the instrument.

Aspects important to a properly adjusted string instrument

Bridge

Each bridge is hand carved to fit the body of each individual instrument. This insures the best transmission of sound from the strings to the instrument itself. We plane the bridge to the proper thickness, shape and then arch it for balanced tone, strength and ease of bowing.

Soundpost

Carefully positioning the sound post is critical in the transmission of a full, focused sound.

Nut

A properly shaped nut allows ease of fingering and the prevention of premature string breakage. The grooves of the nut are optimally spaced for ease of playing chords and separate tones.

Pegs

Individually tapered pegs turn freely enough for string installation and easy tuning, but snug enough to hold when released.

Afterlength and Stoplevelth

Setting the distances from the bridge to tailpiece and from nut to bridge to exact measurements, allows the strings to vibrate at the specific lengths for proper intonation and a clear and focused sound.