



## 9 Guidelines for Buying a Used Violin

*Buying a used violin can be an overwhelming experience due to the large number of variables involved in the purchasing process. The articles in this 2 part series will help take the confusion out of this process by sharing 9 guidelines for buying a used violin and [PDF checklists](#) to print out and bring with when viewing instruments. There are accompanying videos on the [Music for Young Violinists YouTube channel](#) that will further educate you by illustrating these 9 guidelines.*

- Used violins are great and often better than new violins.**
- Set your price range before looking.**
- For children, size appropriately engaging the help of an experienced teacher.**
- Cracks are normal and possible to repair. Review the article for the 2 circumstances that cracks will compromise the integrity of the instrument.**
- Visually inspect the craftsmanship and condition of the violin, bow and case. Investigate the history and maker of the instrument. Download a 14 part checklist on the M4YV website to stay organized.**
- Beware of the “Stradivarius” label trap.**
- Hear the instrument being played before buying.**
- Ask the seller if they are willing to negotiate the price or add in extra items to increase the value of your purchase.**
- Violins will maintain their value over time.**