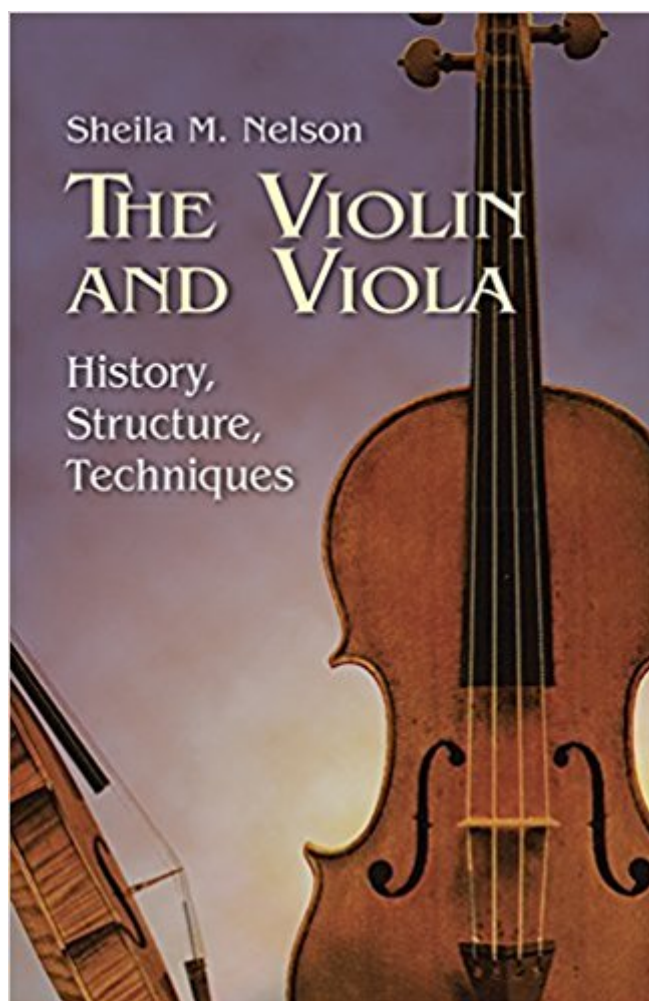


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# The Violin And Viola: History, Structure, Techniques (Dover Books On Music)



## Synopsis

"[The book] should appeal greatly to the string performer, student or teacher, and to the enthusiast of music history." — Choice. "Nelson's book should be read by every player and teacher of violin and viola. . . . Her chapter 'Education for Survival' must be singled out for special praise, for it provides a short but comprehensive discussion of the manner in which string teaching ought to proceed but all too seldom does." — Library Journal. Comprehensive view of the violin and viola by a professional violinist, teacher, and author details the historical development and changing structure of the two instruments. Text covers the contributions of Stradivarius and the legendary Cremona school of makers; techniques and improvements advocated by such celebrated teachers as Geminiani, Tartini, and Leopold Mozart; the great schools of players — from Corelli to Paganini; and the demands imposed by the growth of the 19th-century orchestra. Includes music examples and 11 diagrams. 24 halftones.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The two upper voices of the string family have an eternal appeal for us because they are the two instruments most akin to the human voice. The violin produces a soprano-like singing tone that has an almost uncanny ability to emulate the voice in projecting emotion. The viola has more of a tenor or baritone sound but it still can reproduce the human voice with a rich, dark legato that is almost operatic in its emotional power. *The Violin and Viola: History, Structure, Techniques* is a superb

history of the violin and viola for performers and students of music history. It is comprehensive, covering the contributions of Stradivarius and the renowned Cremona school of violin makers. It discusses the crucial Baroque/pre-Classical era of composers and teachers such as Geminiani and Tartini, who helped to standardize the instrument. Leopold Mozart, whose violin textbook was the most famous of the early Classical era is discussed in depth. Famous violinist/composers like Corelli and Paganini, both of whom helped to strengthen the violin in its development as the orchestra changed, becoming larger and more formidable an adversary for the solo violin in the concerto, are an important component here as well. Author Sheila Nelson is a violinist and teacher whose knowledge of these two string instruments is deep and profound and she has written a superb introduction. If you're searching for a history of the violin, this is a really good one. Great for both the curious general reader with an interest in music as well as performers seeking deeper knowledge about their instruments. Dover continues to provide classic books at reasonable prices, a huge gift whose importance cannot be overstated.

Provides very interesting information on the origins and development of string instruments to value the efforts of violin makers in putting out the best for players.

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