

# DREW LECHER STUDIO

## VIOLIN/VIOLA/CHAMBER MUSIC

[WWW.DREWLECHER.COM](http://WWW.DREWLECHER.COM)

Dear Musician,

A number of individuals have inquired as to how I use the book, particularly with younger students—even beginning students.

Formatted to be worked in bits and then build from that, it is all to be memorized. Know the Notes, Intervals, Positions and Hand Groups at all times. Highly adaptable, interrelate the various aspects of the studies throughout and apply to the technique and artistic expression of your repertoire.

Here is how I work with someone new to the book and methods—including beginning students.

Work a few minutes on:

1. **Planes/String Crossings**, pg. 4, #1a-3c.
2. **Open & Closed Hand Groups**, pg. 6, #1 Just the first 2 measures initially (add as able) — use the Repetition Hits (very moderate tempo) at bottom of pg. 7.
3. **Basics I**, pg. 11, #1-4 Use even rhythm—2 per bow, then 3, then 4, etc.
4. **Basics II**, pg. 12-13, #1-4 Progressively add Rhythms 1-8— Variations 1-8, pg 13, correlate and are of great help.
5. **Basics III**, pg. 14, #1-4 Continuously add Variations as ready.
6. **8va Study**, pg. 27, #1 Focus on shape, posture and balance of the left hand/fingers.
7. **3rds**, pg. 34, #1 Favor 4<sup>th</sup> finger—rotating left hand clockwise, contract 1st finger back.
8. **4ths**, pg. 42, #1 Initially do without shifting.
9. **Basics IV**, pg. 16, #1 Maintain left hand form with stable wrist during shifts.
10. **Basics V**, pg. 18, #1 Maintain left hand form with fingers hovering over the notes.
11. **Sliding Arpeggios**, pg. 20-21, #1-4 Initially 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions—progressively add positions.
12. **8va Slides**, pg. 22, #1 When shifting with fingers 2, 3 and 4, make sure the 1<sup>st</sup> finger arrives to the new position in tune, as well.

### Now Arpeggios, Scales, etc., etc.

More advanced players should periodically review the earlier steps to tune-up their skills and double-check things out. Rotate through the studies in a pattern that suits you and your level of accomplishment.

Even when tuning the instrument, the focused player will be practicing the **Planes/String Crossings** with beautiful bow changes—perhaps adding Basics I.

Hope this helps. Do let me know your thoughts and/or questions.

God Bless,  
Drew

In numerous countries around the world...

"Violin Technique, the Manual"

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*"These two volumes offer a comprehensive practice methodology that addresses the full gamut of fundamental technical issues on the violin and viola;...these books certainly chart a course towards the acquisition of an in-depth technical understanding...whether used to build one from scratch or to hone individual aspects."— the Strad, London, September 2008 [www.thestrad.com](http://www.thestrad.com)*

Illinois ASTA, Studio Teacher of the Year, 2009