

# Salem Suzuki Violin Studio Practice Agreement

## Requirements

- 1. Practice 6 days out of the week.**
  - Students do not need to practice on lesson days, aside from an optional quick warmup before the lesson.
- 2. Practice for approximately the length of your lesson time every day.**
  - 45-minute lesson = about 45 minutes of daily practice.
- 3. *For students aged 10 and under*, a parent should be present during every lesson and practice session.**
- 4. Practice and lessons are technology-free for students AND parents**
  - Full attention and presence are important for productive practice sessions
- 5. Establish a quiet, calm practice area where the student will not be disturbed or distracted.**
- 6. Fill out your practice chart each day to reflect the tasks completed.**
- 7. Complete assigned listening every day.**
  - Listening assignments are just as important as active practicing.
  - This can be passive listening, unless I have specified otherwise. Students can listen during a meal, on the way to school, or any other moment that they are not actively engaged in another task.
- 8. Maintain the condition of your instrument.**
  - Loosen the bow and wipe off the violin after practicing.
  - Rosin the bow every time you play.
  - Handle the violin and bow with care, making sure never to drop them or let them collide with other objects.
- 9. For practice parents, submit a short practice journal the night before your lesson.**
  - This should include a short summary of what you worked on that week with your child, things that went well, and any challenges.

## **Suggestions for Productive Practice**

### **1. Practice at the same time every day.**

- Practice should become a regular part of the student's routine, just like brushing your teeth before bed.

### **2. Isolate the most difficult spots.**

- Go straight to the measures you know are hard. Don't spend time playing through things you already know well.
- Run-throughs are generally not the best use of practice time, and should only happen once or twice per day.

### **3. Sing before you play.**

- If you're having trouble playing something and you can't figure out why, sing it first.
- If you find you or your child can't sing it, you need to listen more often!

### **4. Mix it up.**

- Don't spend too long on any one task or piece. The brain gets tired of doing the same thing after just a few minutes. You can always come back to it later.

### **5. Maintain a growth mindset.**

- Learning music is all about the process, not the result. Every minute that you practice is making you a stronger musician and a more focused, disciplined person.

### **6. Be patient with yourself and your child**

- It's easy to get discouraged during a practice session. Remind yourself that it's normal to have off days, and don't force yourself (or your child) to keep going if it feels counterproductive.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to follow the above requirements to the best of my ability while I am a student in the Mayers Violin Studio. I understand that these requirements are designed to help me grow, both musically and personally.

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Signature of Student

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Signature of Parent/Guardian