

Step 1 to shifting, viola

Goals for today:

- Introduce third position
- Answer “what is shifting?”
- On the D string, identify first finger in first position (E) and first finger in third position (G)

What are **positions** on a stringed instrument?

Positions are the different locations on a stringed instrument, the closer your hand is to your nose-the higher the position.

What is **shifting**?

Shifting is how we move around the instrument from one “position” to another.

However, before we can shift from one position to another, we must be able to identify them. Knowing where each position is on the fingerboard is important.

Identifying the positions: use the notes on the D string as an example

Let’s pizzicato together:



If I put my **first finger on E**, I’m in **first position**. If I put my **first finger on F or F#**, I’m in **second position**. If I put my **first finger on G**, I’m in **third position**.

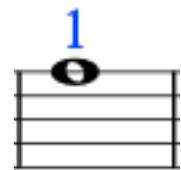
Today we’re going to practice **THIRD position**.

Playing in third position:

Let’s go back to our first exercise and pizzicato together:



Next, put your **first finger on G**



Now you’re in third position!

Remember, all your good habits from first position still apply! :)

In step 2 we will learn how to **shift**, or move, from **first position** to **third position**.