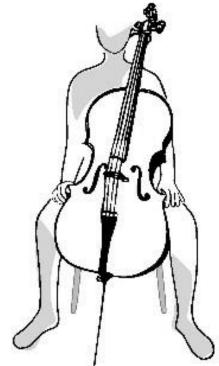
Holding the cello

- When removing the cello and bow from the case, always take the bow out first and put it to one side while taking the cello out. Be careful not to touch the hair of the bow.
- With the cello lying on its side, pull out the spike to the correct length – your teacher will show you how.
- When picking up the cello, start with its back facing you. Reach down and put your left hand around the neck and right hand under the rib to lift your cello into the spike holder.
- Sit down comfortably towards the front of the chair and bring the neck of your cello in towards your left shoulder.
- The right side of the cello will rest near your heart and the pegs shouldn't get in the way of a relaxed neck.
- Check that your feet are firmly on the floor and pointing outwards – like frog's legs! Your knees support the cello but shouldn't grip it.
- When putting your cello down, put your left hand around the neck and the right hand under the rib. Put it on its side, being careful not to stab your foot!
- Make sure the spike is always in when you're not playing.
- Your left hand is always your 'cello hand'.



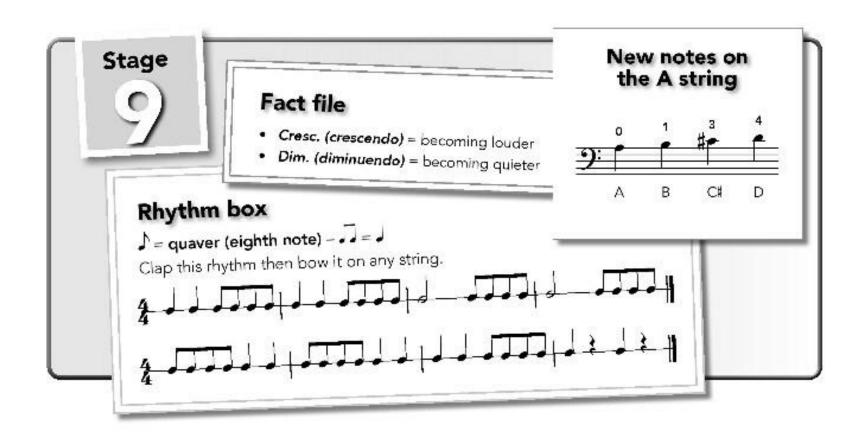


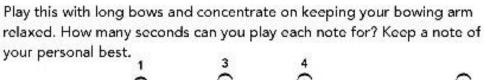


Fun fact

A person who plays the cello is called a *cellist*. Cello strings were originally made from sheep or goat gut but today's strings are made of aluminium, titanium and chromium,









Use less bow for the quavers (eighth notes);







The quavers in bars 1 and 3 will be in the top half of the bow. Where will they be in bars 2 and 4?



Listen to your sound on the long notes: check there are no wobbles.

