



# Skill Maps

# VIOLIN

B E G I N N E R   L E V E L   1 : T E E N - A D U L T

Taaqademy's music teachers are carefully chosen for their musical ability, teaching aptitude, live performance experience and music qualifications - pretty much in that order. We can confidently claim to have some of the country's top musicians with us. As a result, we use a proprietary method of '**Skill Maps**' to bring structure and focus

to our classes, enabling our musicians to **avoid cookie-cutter methods** when working with students. Skill Maps provide **detailed specifics** on what students should be able to accomplish at every level while allowing our teachers to use their own **unique approaches**, songs, techniques and shortcuts to get students there!

## VIOLIN BEGINNER LEVEL 1: AREAS COVERED



**MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS**



**SIGHT READING**



**EAR TRAINING**



**SONG LEARNING**



**MUSCULAR TRAINING**



**MUSIC EXAMINATIONS**

**DETAILS ON PG. 2**



## MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- Conceptual knowledge - pitch, duration, intensity, quality
- Note-names, the ability to find notes on a keyboard, and a basic understanding of tuning
- Violin-string note-names & recognizing the strings in their correct order
- Ability to understand the 1st, 2nd & 3rd positions on the fretless fingerboard
- The practice of basic posture (including the positioning of fingers, wrist, left hand, shoulders & feet)
- Ability to play the D & A Major scales with the right fingering over 1 octave, and starting on open strings



## EAR TRAINING

- Knowledge of basic pitch
- Ability to sing at least 5 distinct notes within one octave
- Ability to recognize the interval of an octave



## MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Placement of the thumb & support on the fingerboard while plucking
- Bowing exercises: Balancing the bow, Frog-Tip, Tip-Frog & Straight Bows
- Pizzicato: Plucking the notes with the fingers, while mostly keeping in time
- Playing simple exercises between 50-70bpm



## SIGHT READING

- Basics of staff notation - identifying the Treble Clef notes on the staff
- An understanding of basic time signatures
- Ability to read & play simple exercises and pieces



## SONG LEARNING

- Ability to play simple exercises/pieces from Debut/Initial violin books (Suzuki, Honeyman, etc.)
- Ability to pick up and play simple 4/5-note melodies by ear



## MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

- Depending on ability, Trinity/ABRSM Initial Examination

## HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

This question gets asked a lot! Allow us to give you a simple rule-of-thumb:

- At this level, if you **consistently** practice for an avg. **30min - 1 hr. per day**, you can expect to have covered the above in **3 months** (just **12 classes**) or less.
- If you practice **2 hrs. per week**, this could **add 1 - 2 months**.
- If you practice **<1 hr. per week**, you could take **6 months!**