

# BASS TIPS

courtesy of  **ELLIS MUSIC**

## INSTRUMENT SIZING

► String instruments come in fractional sizes to accommodate players of all sizes. For comfort and to avoid bad habits, be sure to choose the right size instrument for your body. Your music teacher should be able to help, or refer to online resources at [EllisMusic.com](http://EllisMusic.com).

► Remember to move up in size as you grow! Most people choose to rent their instrument until they are ready to purchase a full-size instrument.

## CARE & MAINTENANCE

► Turn the bow's adjustment button to the right (clockwise) to tighten the bow hair. Avoid overtightening, which can damage the bow.

► Loosen the bow at the end of each playing session by turning the adjustment button to the left (counter-clockwise).

► Handle the instrument with care.

► Wipe the instrument with a dry cloth after playing to remove any rosin dust and fingerprints.

► Store the instrument in its case/bag when not in use.

► Avoid extreme temperatures (both hot and cold), as well as rapid changes in temperature, which can cause the wood of the instrument to crack.

► The ideal humidity level for a string instrument is 40-60%. Consider using a case humidifier or a home humidifier/dehumidifier as necessary.

► Strings wear out over time. Replace them when they break (or before). For a consistent sound, be sure to use the same type of strings.

► Send the instrument to the Ellis Music if it needs repairs.

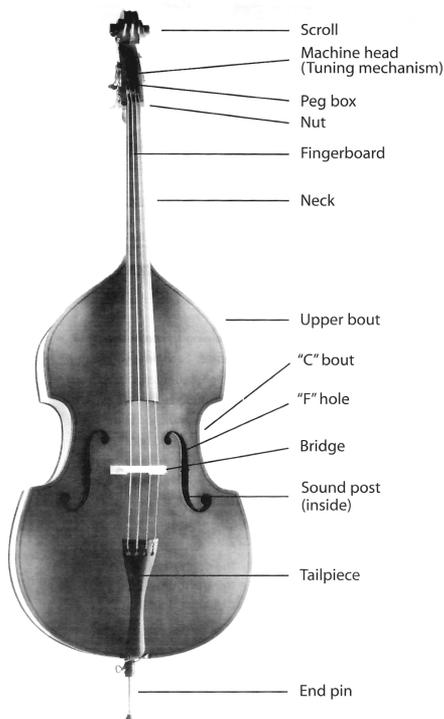
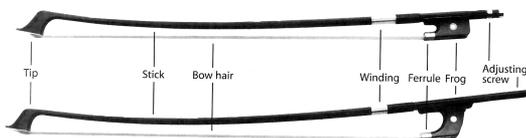


IMAGE SOURCE: *Essential Elements for Strings*.  
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*Note: The top bow pictured to the right is a French bow. The bottom bow is a German bow, which requires an underhand grip.*

## HELPFUL ITEMS TO HAVE

- Rosin
- Polishing cloth
- Humidifier



**Questions?**  
**Contact Ellis Music**  
**802-234-6400**  
**[www.ellismusic.com](http://www.ellismusic.com)**