

TETRACHORD EXERCISES FOR VIOLA: SEVCIK "REVISITED"

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FINGER PATTERNS

Ascending step-wise

1	2	3	4
2	3	4	1
3	4	1	2
4	1	2	3

Descending step-wise

4	3	2	1
3	2	1	4
2	1	4	3
1	4	3	2

Ascending thirds

1	3	2	4
3	2	4	1
2	4	1	3
4	1	3	2

Descending thirds

4	2	3	1
2	3	1	4
3	1	4	2
1	4	2	3

Ascending lower third, descending upper third

1	3	4	2
3	4	2	1
4	2	1	3
2	1	3	4

Descending lower third, ascending upper third

3	1	2	4
1	2	4	3
2	4	3	1
4	3	1	2

KEY QUALITIES

Major: 1 2 3 ^ 4

Minor: 1 2 ^ 3 4

Phrygian: 1 ^ 2 3 4

Whole tone: 1 2 3 4

Harmonic

Minor: 1 ^ 2 [A2] 3 ^ 4

PRACTICE STRATEGIES

1. Find balanced and consistent placement of thumb (forward of index finger)
2. Maintain freedom between the thumb and index finger (avoid squeezing).
3. "Drop/release" motion from base knuckle
4. Lift finger from string with articulation from base knuckle (like testing a hot iron)
5. Hold and prepare fingers on string
6. Start with major tetrachord type and then progress in order
7. Master one key quality at a time on all strings beginning with D- or G-string
8. Start with 2nd and 3rd fingers to help position the thumb
9. Listen for evenness and repeat as needed
10. Apply rhythms(see attached example sheet) beginning at quarter-note = 66-72 to start; gradually increasing tempo to at least = 120

(example rhythms to be applied with each finger pattern)

$\text{♩} = 60 - 120$



4

