Questions and answers about violin building

Bows

- My bow is losing hair!
- My bow can no longer be tightened!
- The hairs no longer properly grip the strings while playing!

Violins

- My Violin rattles!
- My varnish has become dull and gummy!
- Inexplicable scratches are occurring on the bottom of the violin cover!
- How must the bridge be positioned?
- The bridge is no longer straight after tightening the strings!
- Where must the sound post be positioned?
- Do I own a genuine Stradivarius?
- My pegs no longer hold properly. They slip and cant be turned!
- Problems in Winter
- String Studies
- Which string is recommended for my instrument?
- How did Stradivari build his intruments?

Answers

The bridge is no longer straight after tightening the strings!

t is important the strings be replaced one by one otherwise it can happen that the bridge collapses and a trip to a violin maker becomes necessary. After each rising of a string, the bridge should be checked. It should be slightly inclined toward the tailpiece and its feet should have a perfect fit. If this is not the case take the bridge carefully between your thumbs and use pressure to firmly correct its position.

Have a violinmaker show you this procedure. The proper position has great influence on the sound. A description of how a bridge is shaped can be found here.

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