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 hairs no longer properly grip the strings while playing!

If you sense that you require ever more rosin to get the strings to vibrate, it is probably time to re-hair the bow.

Under a microscope one can recognize little scales on the hairs which, in connection with the rosin, allow the string to vibrate. The intensity and duration of the playing cause these scales, over time, to wear down. Even when all hairs are still intact, a bow must eventually be re-haired.

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