

A Note to Educators and Students

We offer a variety of bowed instruments for students. We make models to fit all levels and budgets. At Susquehanna Strings, we are dedicated to providing you with the best instrument you can get for your money.

We have a strong commitment to providing students with quality instruments. Many talented students either own or rent inferior instruments that impair their ability to learn and play well. No one can learn well on an inferior instrument. Cheap instruments have poor tone, are harder to tune and play, and ultimately discourage the player. We do everything we can to get the best possible instrument into your hands and offer a number of incentives. We offer several options for instrument rentals, rent to own, or outright purchase. We even accept trade-ins!

Cheaper instruments are mass produced. The wood is not well seasoned and of poor quality. Most of the carving or shaping of these instruments is done by machine or unskilled labor. A handmade instrument will take much longer to make. The wood is carefully selected from older and better seasoned stock and the carving is done by hand. As a luthier (instrument maker) carves the top and bottom plates of a violin, he adjusts the tone by selectively thinning certain areas to achieve optimum sound. This takes skill and time, meaning that a handmade instrument will be more expensive than a mass-produced one, but it will be a more responsive and satisfying instrument to play.

Prices for instruments vary widely. If a price seems too good to be true, it probably is. More expensive instruments use higher quality tonewoods that are carefully selected and air dried for many years. Good quality instruments will also exhibit a high degree of craftsmanship. They will look better, feel better, and sound better.

