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# Basic Music Theory and History for Strings

## Workbook 1 • String Bass

Welcome to **Basic Music Theory and History for Strings Workbook 1!**

Music theory is all about the rules for writing music. In pages 2-21, we study some of the basic rules that were agreed to centuries ago including:

- Placing pitches on a staff
- Organizing pitches into key signatures and major scales
- Writing rhythms and rests
- Organizing rhythms and rests into time signatures
- Describing the form of melodies
- Connecting written music to playing string instruments

In pages 22-48, we visit five periods of music history to see how these rules were used—*and more!*

In each period our study includes:

- Discovering the beginning of string instruments and bows in the 1500s
- Recognizing new instruments
- Describing common characteristics of the music
- Meeting some of the most well-known composers of orchestra music
- Evaluating musical performances
- Making connections to other people and events

Be curious! Learning about music theory and history can be very interesting, and it also helps you become a stronger musician.

**Basic Music Theory and History** is supported with audio tracks and visual files. The audio tracks provide rhythmic and melodic ear training exercises and the visual files support highlights from the history portion of the book. **Go to [www.kjos.com](http://www.kjos.com)** and click the **Kjos Multimedia Library** icon and look for **Theory**. Click **Theory** and look for the cover of this book. A complete list of audio tracks and visual files will appear.



Neil A. Kjos Music Company thanks Robertson & Sons Violin Shop, Inc., Albuquerque, NM, for the opportunity to photograph instruments throughout their shop. Photos taken for this book can be found on pages 22 and 32.  
Visit: [robertsonviolins.com](http://robertsonviolins.com).

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