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MUSICANEO

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Yellow Cello Music  
Vibrato Exercises for Cello

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For a single performer

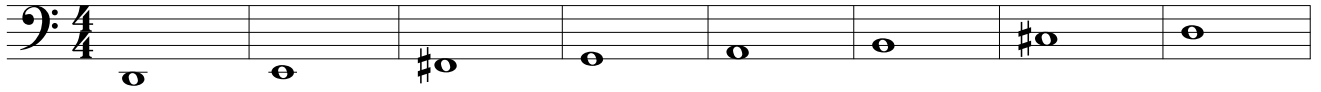
# Vibrato Exercises

to accompany the vibrato exercise video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c9119qENres>

Sheryl Smith

Exercise 1 - with metronome. Start with metronome on 40, and vibrate each note for one whole bow, counting triplets on each beat. So, one triplet = down, down, down. Use a scale or any notes. Gradually increase metronome speed. Triplets 80 beats per minute is a nice goal! Accent the first note of each triplet with the right hand.

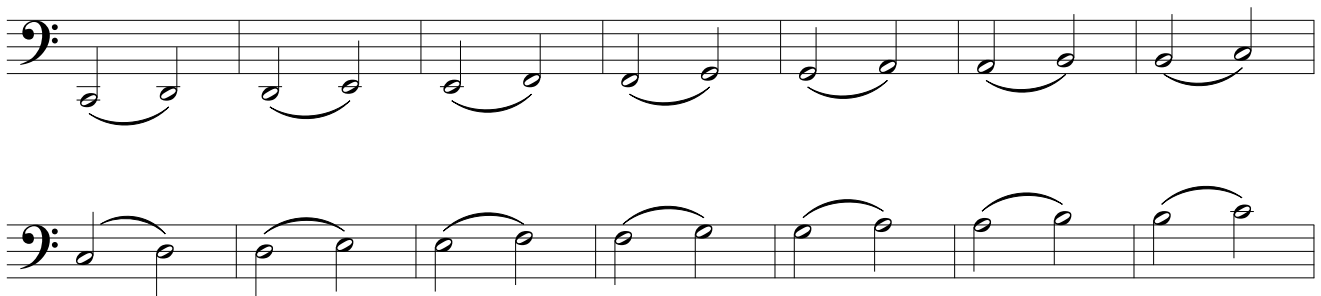
etc.



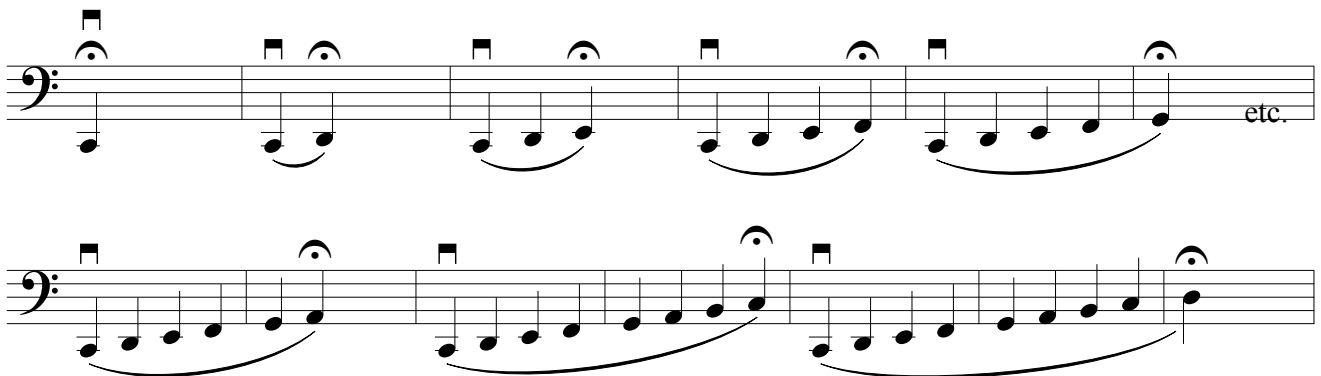
Exercise 2 - scales. Change notes with bow



Exercise 2 - scales. Change notes in mid-bow.



Exercise 2 - Scales. Add a note scale. Vibrate the top note of each run until you are happy with the vibrato. Change bows as needed. This teaches you how to move into vibrato after playing a few notes with no vibrato. "Vibrato on the fly"



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## Exercise 3 - Held note vibrato exercise (any note)

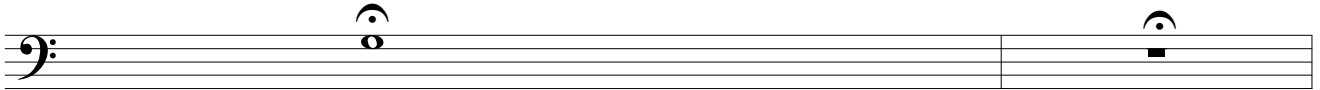
Play note, no vibrato.  
Note how body feels.

Play note with vibrato.  
Still relaxed? Check shoulders,  
arm, hand.

Stop vibrato. Did any part  
of your body relax when you  
stopped the vibrato?

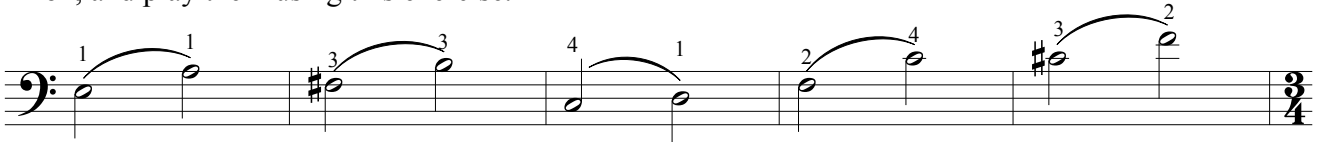


Practice last note technique. Pretend this is the last note of your piece. Vibrate note (any note), then stop bowing and try to keep the vibrato going after the bow stops. Try to let the cello ring.



## Exercise 4 - shifting. Vibrate a note. Shift to another note without stopping the vibrato.

Play this very slowly, vibrate slowly, listen carefully! Find shifts in pieces that you are working on, and play them using this exercise.



Exercise 5 - Piece vibrato. Pick a piece that you are working on, and create an exercise as shown below for The Swan. Start with holding each note long enough to get a good vibrato. Change bows as needed. Only vibrate on the notes that you would vibrate on when playing up to tempo. Note that the last B does not have a fermata - I have chosen to not vibrate that note.



Repeat the above with a metronome, for example, at quarter note = 40. Vibrate 3 times for each quarter note. Slowly raise metronome marking, and increase number of vibrations per beat. Consider leaving out the original bowing back in until you feel comfortable with the vibrato - otherwise it might be too much to think about!

