**Violin Needs A lot Of Preparation**

**By: Brooke S.**

Imagine playing with the orchestra in front of billions and billions of people. Violin is a lot of fun, but needs a lot of rehearsal. For example, you need to practice using a bow, reading music, and finger placement.

 First, you need to practice using a bow. For example, you need to practice rosining your bow. Rosin is a hard block that you rub on your bow to make your music less squeaky. Another example, is tightening and loosening a bow. When you tighten and loosen a bow use the small knob at the end of the bow. You need to practice holding the bow. When you hold the bow you need to put your pointer, middle, and ring fingers on the frog of the bow. Lastly, you have to practice pulling split horsehairs off the bow. Once, I didn’t know how to pull split horse hairs off the bow, so I freaked out. My friends came over and helped me pull it off.

 Other than practicing using a bow, you have to practice reading music. One example is, you need to know where D, F#, G, A, B, C, and high D etc. notes are. When I was in my first year of violin I read the notes as letters. This made it easier to learn how to play the violin. When I didn’t know any of these notes Mrs. Herrschaft {my violin teacher} told me where my fingers should go. This leads to … Finger Placement!!!!

 Lastly, you need to practice finger placement. Mrs. Herrschaft put tape on the violins, right where you are supposed to put your fingers. Mrs. Herrschaft tells me and my fellow violinists to put our fingers half-way on the tape. The tape helped the violinists by showing the violinists where to put all of their fingers. There are a total of four tapes that you need to put on your violin so you can play all of the notes.

 In conclusion, violin can be very exciting, but it takes a lot of practice. You should practice using a bow, reading music, and finger placement. This is what you need to know about violins so you can be a great violinist.