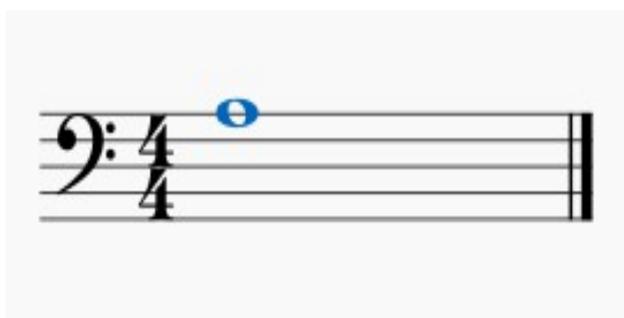




CELLO DISCOVERY

Let's Learn First Finger!

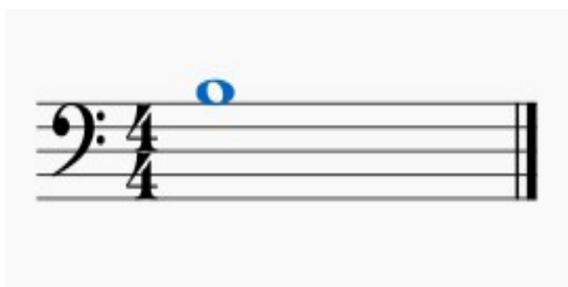
By now we are hopefully feeling confident about spotting our 'A' string on the cello. Here is a little reminder: (Can you see that 'A' lives on the top line of 'Steve the Stave'?)



Now, you may remember in our lessons that we discovered what happens when we add our first finger (our pointing finger) to the string. Can you remember? When we add a finger to the string, it makes that note move one step higher in our musical alphabet.

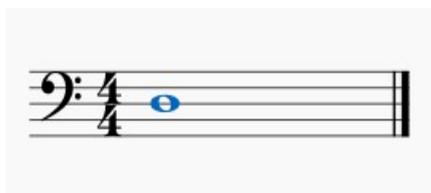
The musical alphabet : A B C D E F G A B C D E F G etc (when you get to G the next note is A)

So, on our A string first finger becomes the note B. And as we might expect, this moves the note into the space above our A note. So B lives in the space above A. Here is what B looks like:

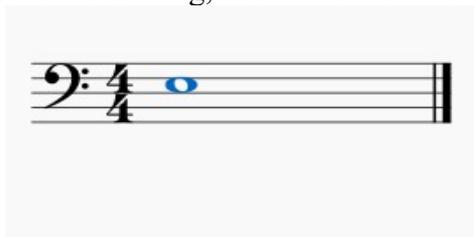


Lets have a look at our other strings, and how first finger will look on each string:

Here is our D string (Can you see that 'D' lives on the middle line of 'Steve the Stave'?)



And then if we add our first finger to the D String, we make the note 'E'.



Let's now look at our G string. (Can you see that 'G' lives on the bottom line of 'Steve the Stave'?)



So when we add our first finger to the G string, we make the note 'A'.



Now, we won't be using the C string for quite a while, but in case you are curious, here is what the C string and it's first finger look like on the staff:



Can you see that 'C' is such a low note that it needs an extra two lines below 'Steve the Stave', we call these ledger lines. When we add first finger to the C string, we put this in the space above the C string, and this makes the note 'D'.



Now have a look at the piece 'Dark Horse' (song number 18 in your Vamoosh Book). This piece uses only four notes (D and first finger 'E', A string and first finger 'B'). Can you work out the names of all notes? Why not have a go of playing it? Try pizzicato (plucked) first, then arco (with the bow)