



## NXTa Violin / Viola Instructions

### SHOULDER REST

The round connecting arm should extend from the shoulder rest up into the back of the instrument as shown. The connecting arm should slide up into the hole located on the back adjacent to the knob near the chin rest bar (loosen knob first). Slide the connecting arm in or out to set the height of the shoulder rest. The clamp on the shoulder rest adjusts the angle and location. When a comfortable position is achieved, tighten both knobs to prevent movement.



**Insert Shoulder Rest**



**Chin and Shoulder Rest Assembly**



**Shape Shoulder Rest**

Bend the malleable aluminum top plate as desired with fingers and thumb as shown below. The shape should be adjusted so the rest is comfortable and stable on the shoulder and across the chest.

To store the instrument in its case, loosen both knobs and slide the entire shoulder rest assembly out of the instrument. Fold the connecting arm flat against the shoulder rest. The instrument and rest are now ready to be placed in the case. Do not leave the connecting arm in the instrument when it is stored in its case.

## ADJUSTMENT OF THE SHOULDER REST CLAMPS

If the two clamps associated with the shoulder rest assembly (one on the body of the instrument, one on the base of the shoulder rest) are not properly adjusted, slippage of the support arm or shoulder rest base can be expected. When a user is experiencing difficulty, the first thing to check is whether the two members of the clamp touch each other at one end or the other. If they do, loosen the clamp and adjust the set screw (the one at the end opposite the thumb screw) so that, when tightened, the two halves are parallel. Once that has been checked or adjusted, another easy step is to apply a coating of powdered rosin to the support rod where it contacts the clamp. Then tighten the thumb screw firmly.

This photo shows the proper orientation of the two clamp members, and the arrow points to the set screw used to adjust the position. This screw can be turned by hand, but it can also be adjusted using a hex key. Always loosen the thumb screw before adjusting the set screw.



## CONTROLS

**Knob 1 Volume** – rotary control

**Knob 2 Tone** – rotary control, clockwise for full treble, counter-clockwise to cut treble.

**Dual Output Mode** – push-pull control, in for Passive Mode, out for Active Mode.

**Active Mode** – Using the supplied charger, connect the NXTa to any AC outlet for 60 seconds. This will fuel the capacitor-powered active circuit for up to 16 hours of performance time. The instrument can then be plugged straight into any low or high impedance device, no direct box necessary.

**Passive Mode\*** – The NXTa can be played in this mode with an amplifier with an impedance of 1 meg ohm or greater (3-10 meg ohm recommended) or with a direct box.

**Switch Arco/Pizzicato Mode** selection, toggle up for Arco, toggle down for Pizzicato

The design of the Polar™ Pickup System enables you to choose between two distinct attack and decay characteristics:

**Arco Mode** is for massive attack and relatively fast decay, optimal for bowed and percussive plucked sound.

**Pizzicato Mode** is for a smooth attack and long decay, optimal for plucked, sustained sound. This mode is not recommended for bowing.

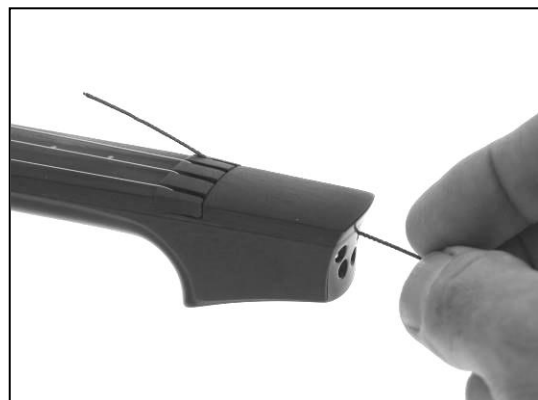
Note that the **Polar™ pickup** allows the player to control attack and decay parameters. Pizzicato Mode is for a smoother attack and longer decay when plucked. Note that the full bow response can only be achieved in the Arco Mode.

## TUNING AND STRING CHANGE

We recommend NS Electric strings, but any solid and stranded core strings may be used. Tune strings with knobs located behind the bridge, like conventional fine tuners.

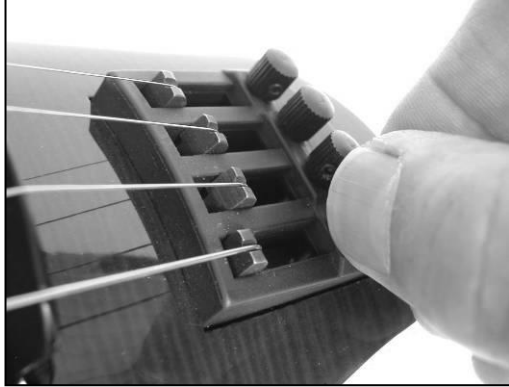
To remove strings, loosen knob all the way until the string pulls out of the tuner. If necessary, use a finger to push the tuning lever back and down to open the tuner jaws to free the string.

To install strings, thread the string through the hole in the end of the neck and pull it through the nut. Insert the free end of the string into the appropriate slot located just behind each tuning lever. (Be sure knob is rotated all the way in the counter-clockwise direction to open tuner fully



**Thread String Through Neck**

so string can enter easily.) Pull string through the tuner from the back, making sure the string is in the slot that rides up over the tuning lever, as shown above. Tune the string to pitch (the string will clamp automatically when tuned). Cut excess string.



**Clamp String**



**Insert String Through Tuner**

**Note:** We do not recommend Nylon, Perlon, or Gut Core strings, which have a great deal of stretch, and will not reach pitch unless they are pre-tensioned. The pitch of the pre-tensioned string must not be more than one fifth lower than the correct final pitch. If the string is not properly pre-tensioned, the string will not reach pitch.

**To Pre-tension string:**

After the string is inserted into the tuner, rotate the tuning knob clockwise until the string just begins to clamp (when the string can no longer be pulled out of the tuner). Pre-tension the string by pulling the string firmly through the tuner from the back. The string must be pulled strongly enough so that the resulting pitch of the pre-tuned string is higher than one fifth below the correct pitch. For example, the D string must be pre-tensioned to A or higher. In this way the correct pitch can be achieved within the range of the tuning mechanism. This procedure should be repeated if the final pitch is not reached. The string ends may be wrapped around a pencil or similar object to grip the string so greater pulling force can be applied.



**Pre-tension Synthetic Core Strings**

**ACTION HEIGHT:**

Adjust bridge height with the screws located under the bridge and accessible through the holes the back.

**BODY EXTENSION**

The body extension provides the conventional position reference for the left hand. It is easily removable with the single screw located at the back of the neck.

[www.thinkNS.com](http://www.thinkNS.com)

US Phone Support: 1-207-563-7705

[info@nedsteinberger.com](mailto:info@nedsteinberger.com)