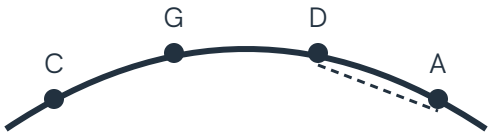
D to A: Change the String Level

Prepare the next string level early; keep the current note sounding for its full value.

1 · TWO NEIGHBORING STRINGS, TWO BOW LEVELS



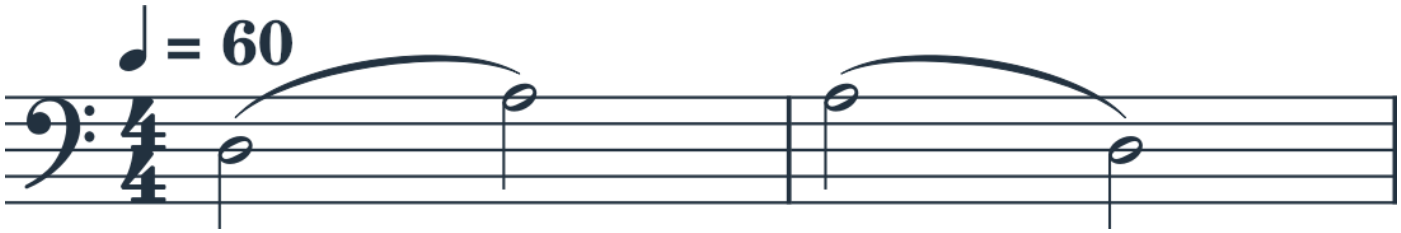
Looking from the tailpiece toward the scroll
Adjacent strings D–A; not a bow angle
Schematic, not to scale

For these exercises, sound only one string at a time. The four cello strings sit on a curved bridge. **D and A are neighbors** — adjacent strings. Your teacher will guide the bow-arm level for your setup.

Open strings: **D3 (second string, II)** and **A3 (first string, I, the highest open string)**.

2 · D→A AND A→D IN ONE SLURRED BOW

Each bar is slurred: one bow, two notes. Ask your teacher to choose a comfortable bow region and starting direction.



Bar 1: D→A · Bar 2: A→D · **D3 = string II; A3 = string I.**

3 · FOUR NOTES, ONE CROSSING

Four quarter notes — **D D A A** — under one slur. There is one string crossing: D changes to A between notes 2 and 3. After the four notes, rest for one whole bar.

Keep one bow direction through all four notes. Ask your teacher to demonstrate a gentle pulse for each repeated quarter note.



Mini-task: Mark ↑ above the first note played on the new string. *Flip the page for the answer.*

Try it

During note 2, move gradually toward the A-string level. Begin sounding A on beat 3.
Check: one bow direction through the slur; full note values; no unintended gap or accent at the crossing. Ask your teacher to check string contact.

Listen: scan or visit **tissimo.co/worksheets/cello-adjacent-string-levels**
Piano pitch and timing checks at quarter note = 60. These do not demonstrate cello tone or bowing; ask your teacher to demonstrate the crossing. Each recording begins with four seconds of silence.

Mini-task answer: Mark ↑ above note 3, the first A3; the string changes after note 2.

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