

Second Finger: F or F-sharp?

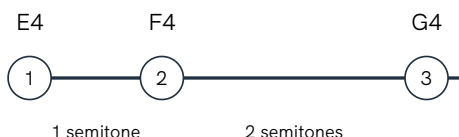
Viola · D string · first position · C4 = middle C.

Use teacher-established E4 (finger 1) and G4 (finger 3) as reference pitches.

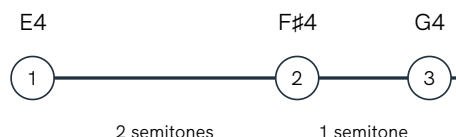
1 · ONE FINGER NUMBER, TWO PITCH TARGETS

For these two patterns, only finger 2's target changes. Low/high describes pitch, not hand elevation.

Low second finger



High second finger



Pitch-order schematics: left → right = rising pitch. Gaps show semitone counts, not measured finger distances. No required finger contact.

2 · READ THE TWO PATTERNS



Bar 1: E4-F4-G4-F4 · low 2. Bar 2: E4-F#4-G4-F#4 · high 2.

Digits above the notes show fingering: 1, 2 and 3 are fingers; 0 means the open D string. Both F4 and F#4 use finger 2.

3 · LET EACH ACCIDENTAL GUIDE FINGER 2

Bars 1-2



Bars 3-4



Four bars of 4/4. In bar 1, ♮ cancels # on F. In these examples, a sharp stays in effect for later F notes in the same bar until a natural cancels it. For example, bar 2, beat 3 is still F-sharp. With no key signature, each bar starts with F-natural again. A new # is needed for F# in bars 2 and 3. Bar 3 ends on F-sharp. The barline ends that sharp, so the unsigned F at the start of bar 4 is F-natural.

Mini-task: Which finger is one semitone from low 2? ____ From high 2? ____

Try it Play slowly after your teacher models both placements. Teacher/self check: correct F/F# target; steady E/G reference pitches; comfortable hand balance. Ask for a retry if any item needs help.



Listen: tissimo.co/worksheets/viola-second-finger-two-places
Neutral piano pitch and timing references · quarter = 60 BPM.
Teacher models viola placement; audio does not demonstrate it.

Mini-key: low 2 → finger 1 (E4-F4) · high 2 → finger 3 (F#4-G4)