# Touch Halfway: The Octave Harmonic

Violin · D and A strings · Start with steady open-string bowing and a teacher.

## 1 · FIND HALF THE SPEAKING LENGTH




Speaking length runs from nut to bridge. The fractions show parts of the string length; the drawing is not life-size. Ask your teacher to locate the midpoint and check a comfortable reach.

**Open:** no left-hand contact. **Harmonic:** lightly touch the midpoint. A normally stopped note presses the string down; that is a different action.

## 2 · READ TOUCH POINT AND SOUND SEPARATELY

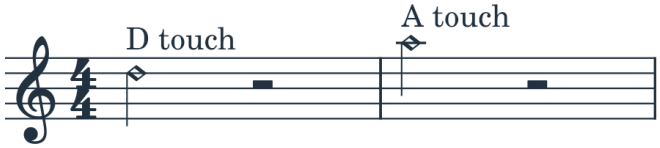
**On this sheet only:** a diamond names the note you would get by pressing at that location, but you touch lightly instead; the string label tells you which string. Normal notes in the sound reference show the result. Harmonic notation varies in other music. For these midpoint harmonics, touch-point and sounding-pitch names happen to match.

Pitch names here use C4 = middle C; the number increases by 1 for each octave.

**Open strings · normal notes**




**Midpoint · diamond touch points**

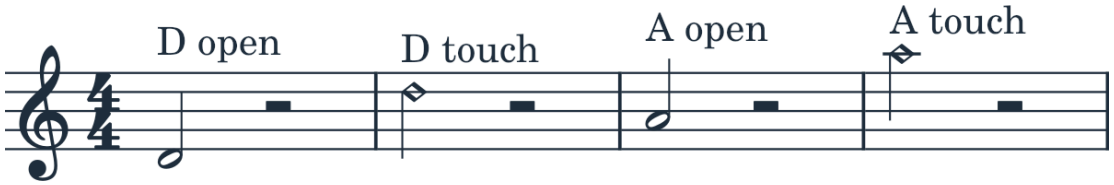



**Sounding-pitch reference · normal notes:**




D4 → D5 · A4 → A5 · The open-string pitch is the first partial. The midpoint harmonic is the second partial: one octave higher (12 semitones), with about twice the open-string frequency.

## 3 · COMPARE ONE OPEN NOTE WITH ONE HARMONIC




Four bars of 4/4: play for beats 1–2; rest for beats 3–4. First D open → D midpoint; then A open → A midpoint. The diamond notes here sound D5 and A5.

**Try it** Predict the D-string midpoint sound: D5 or A4? Then ask your teacher to demonstrate the open note, a normally stopped note, and the light-touch harmonic.

Listen: tissimo.co/worksheets/violin-midpoint-harmonic-map
Neutral piano octave targets and timing · quarter = 60 BPM.
These checks do not demonstrate harmonic timbre. Your teacher supplies the physical and sound model.

Mini-key: D-string midpoint → D5 (one octave above D4), not A4 (a fifth).



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