


Study Guide No. 1: Using the *The Orchestral Violinist's Companion* for Reference

- If you would like to see some demonstrations of how to use the book for reference open the [second introductory video](#), scroll forward to 02:09, and start watching (alternatively, you may watch the [German video](#) from 02:35).
- Watch the [first introductory video](#) in order to see what you will find in the book and where you will find it. Links to all videos are found at <http://www.orch.info> (right-hand column).
- If you would like to look up Italian, German, and French terms, expressions, and abbreviations that you find in a score, please use my *String Player's Dictionary*, which you can order after December 2013 from <http://www.orchestraldictionary.com>.

If you are looking for advice about practicing and performing a **particular piece**, go to Index No. 2, which you will find at the end of Vol. 2, starting at p. 466, or as a downloadable, searchable file, at <http://www.orch.info>. In the Index, all page numbers in **boldface** refer to excerpts from orchestral compositions (or exercises). Note: when you look up pieces in the Index make sure to leave out the articles in work titles: Verdi's *La forza del destino*, for instance, is alphabetized under "f." The Index of Composers and Compositions (as well as the first index, the Index of Terms) covers *both* the material in the book and the material included in all the web documents at <http://www.orch.info> (in order to locate website material look for the little globe icons  in the Index).

If you are looking for information about a **particular issue**, go to Index No. 1, which you will find at the end of the second volume, starting at p. 455, or as a downloadable, searchable file, at <http://www.orch.info>. For instance, if you would like to learn more about tremolo look up the word in the Index. You will find both a reference to Chapter 5.18, which includes technical advice and many exercises and excerpts, and a reference to Chapter 9.8, which includes explanations of issues of notation and performance practice.

The chart at the beginning of this Index, on p. 454, allows you to look up **signs, symbols, and bowing or rhythmic patterns** as well. Let's say you find a particular bowing pattern challenging and want to practice it systematically. For instance, you might play Mendelssohn's "Scottish" Symphony or another a piece that features the pattern



When you turn to the chart of bowing patterns in Index no. 1, you will find the pattern in the chart on p. 455. The reference there will lead you to pp. 187 and 188, where you will find a number of exercises and excerpts that allow you to practice the pattern.