



# Legato Exercise

## Intermediate

To do an "airplane landing" at the beginning of the stroke:

- Establish the bow speed in the air before the bow touches down on the string at a flat angle. This way the sound appears gradually without a click.
- As you begin the stroke, your sounding point moves from the fingerboard to the bridge. This feels like a diagonal motion. Keep your bow straight!

To avoid accents when you cross strings:

- Start the string crossing motion during the previous note by moving your right arm and your bow toward the new string. This way your bow reaches the double stop position at the moment of the note change, and the string crossing proceeds smoothly.
- Set the new finger on the new string while you play the previous note, and vibrate with it before the bow touches the new string.

Left Hand Articulation:

- Let your new finger fall fast onto the string to create clear separation between notes. Maintain equal bow speed for both notes.

Bow Changes:

- For smooth legato bow changes please review *Bow Changes*.

Finger Lifting:

- Perform a very subtle pizzicato with your left hand for clear separation of pitches.

Shifting:

- If you need clear separation of notes, you have to shift fast — this is an exception to our usual practice of shifting slowly.