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The most important change to the violin in 400 years

PLEASE READ BEFORE PLAYING INSTRUMENT

*Instructions for the Proper Care and Handling of **THE COBRA CELLO***

Welcome to the elite growing family of Wood Cobra Cello owners! You are now participants in a vision that is sure to affect the string world at large. This instrument was made entirely by hand and each instrument has its own personality. Feel free to keep in touch as your thoughts and suggestions are valued and welcomed. Also, I would love to hear the different types of playing styles on all of these instruments so please send recordings (and pictures!).

IMPORTANT: I personally play and fine-tune every instrument we sell to conform to my high standards; however, since each player has their own approach to playing their instrument, you may find you have your own preferences regarding string action, nut spacing, bridge height, etc. Feel free to do any fine-tuning yourself *as long as you use a professional repair shop to make these minor adjustments.*

VERY IMPORTANT: When unpacking cello, be careful of the bridge. I pack all my instruments with strings tightened just enough to show you where the bridge is supposed to be. Please make sure that you don't overtune the instrument because the strings will pop from too much tension. If bridge has fallen or shifted for some reason, there are small indents in the body where the feet of the bridge should be placed.

ALSO VERY IMPORTANT: Be sure to visit the Wood Violins message board online (www.woodviolins.com/wvmb) - it is packed with all sorts of great information relating to electric strings – from equipment choices to music discussions, we have players from all over the world networking and contributing their thoughts and ideas.

REALLY IMPORTANT: DO NOT DISCARD THE PACKING BOX AND PACKING MATERIALS - STORE IN A SAFE, DRY PLACE.

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1. Put on shoulder harness first, then attach the included pieces **(located in pocket of soft gig bag)** that hold the ball joints to the harness. It's best to start with the two medium-length attachments and then adjust accordingly to suit your preference. Loosen the top holder a little bit, just enough to fit the ball joint. Insert the top ball joint on the back of the cello into the top holder and tighten a little bit. Then insert the lower ball joint into the lower holder and tighten just a little.
 2. Position the angle of the cello to your liking, and completely tighten the holders around the ball joints.

3. CAUTION: Be careful not to loosen up the holder too much, because the bolt and washer will come apart! Loosen **just enough** to squeeze the ball joint into it.
4. When performing with an amplifier, always make sure your volume knob is all the way up.
5. Keep an eye on your bridge. The strings will naturally slowly pull the bridge forward, so you have to reposition the bridge by pushing it back. Make sure that the back of the bridge (nearest the tailpiece) is at a 90-degree angle to the body of the Cobra. Be careful of the upper part of the bridge, that's where the piezos (pickups) are. Do not hit or damage that area as it is very delicate. It's a good idea to wrap the bridge in bubble wrap (enclosed) every time you pack up the cello.
6. You should keep the harness on the cello, when staying in one place to play or practice. When traveling, obviously, store the cello in the gig bag.
7. If you purchased a hard case for your Cobra, make sure you pack the Cobra in the gig bag first. Then put the gig bag into the hard case and situate the shoulder harness around the outside of the gig bag. If you have a separate bow case (recommended), put this into the hard case last.
8. Feel free to explore the instrument and make it your own. May I suggest you go to a local hardware store and get a small wrench that fits the nut size on the shoulder harness in case any of the screws need tightening. You can also have the nut re-cut to your liking at a local, reputable violin shop or store if you like.
9. Always e-mail us if you have any questions. That's what we're here for!
10. Above all, ENJOY!!

***All the best,
Mark Wood***