

Tips for your Zoom lessons!

✔ **LESSON CHECKLIST** ✔

- Zoom app installed on your device
- Your printed sheet music, or books
- A music stand for your sheet music
- Pencils and a sharpener (please no pens)
- Metronome or app
- Tuner or app
- Rosin
- Your instrument
- Headphones
- Your google drive folder is bookmarked in your web browser, and easily accessible

🔊 **AUDIO TIPS** 🎧

1. While built-in webcams have come a long way, built-in microphones haven't evolved with the same resolution or quality. Test your microphone with your violin in the Zoom app, or in your recording software/voice memo app to see if the sound quality on your device's microphone is sufficient. If you decide to purchase a USB microphone, look for a condenser microphone that can pick up your voice and instrument from a distance (without having to speak or play directly into the microphone). A few examples below – anything similar should do
 - i. <https://www.londondrugs.com/blue-yeti-usb-mic---blackout---988-000100/L8909624.html>
 - ii. <https://www.londondrugs.com/blue-microphones-snowball-usb-microphone---brushed-aluminum---988-000068/L5954169.html>
 - iii. If you have an audio interface and a microphone that is perfect too!
2. Have headphones available so we can play 'together'. Best are Bluetooth headphone, or headphones with a long enough of a cable that you can stand away from your device, so I can see you. You can also purchase a headphone extension cable, if needed. (https://www.amazon.ca/dp/B01552UGKG/ref=cm_sw_em_r_mt_dp_Dv.sFbP0MDS0B)
3. Join the Zoom meeting a few minutes early and test your audio while in the waiting room to make sure your microphone, speakers and headphones are all hooked up and working.

 **ZOOM AUDIO SETTINGS:** 

To Access the Audio Settings, go to **Zoom Preferences** or Click the Up Arrow next to the Microphone Icon on Lower Left Corner of Meeting Screen & Choose **“Audio Settings”**

Uncheck – **Automatically Adjust Microphone Volume** & Set the Volume to High.

Select **ADVANCED SETTINGS**: On Lower Right Corner

1. Check – **Show In-Meeting Option to “Enable Original Sound” from Microphone**. This Stops Audio Compression.
NOTE: The **Show In Meeting Option** appears in the Upper Left Corner on the Zoom Meeting Screen as **“Turn On Original Sound”**. Click on the option so it says **“Turn Off Original Sound”**. Click on the Little Triangle next to this button for a Pop Up Menu to Select Sound Source of a Microphone or Mixer
2. Disable – **Suppress Persistent Background Noise**
3. Disable – **Suppress Intermittent Background Noise**
4. Auto – **Echo Cancelation**

 **VIDEO TIPS** 

1. Check that your webcam is not backlit (no window or bright lights behind you). If you look dark, try directing lights or a lamp towards your face and instrument so you can be seen clearly. Alternatively, you can face a window.
2. Position yourself in your camera so you can be seen in the frame from the top of your head to your waist, and so your bow and left hand are in the frame as you are playing.
3. My preference is that students stand during lessons. If possible, raising the camera allows me to see more clearly.

 **DOWNLOADS:** 

Zoom (free):

- <https://zoom.us/download>

Tuner T1 (free):

- <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/tuner-t1/id453056916>
- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.jsplash.tuner&hl=en_CA

Pro metronome (free):

- <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/pro-metronome-tempo-beat-subdivision-polyrhythm/id477960671>
- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.eumlab.android.prometronome&hl=en_CA

Google Drive (free):

- <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/google-drive/id507874739>
- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.apps.docs&hl=en_CA

✨ **OPTIONAL DOWNLOAD LINKS.** ✨ I will let you know over the course of the year if you need to download any of these apps. Don't worry about downloading any of these quite yet!

Drone Tone Tool (free through website or cheap app):

- <http://www.dronetonetool.com> (free)
- <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.tuningtoolbox.dronetonetool&pcampaignid=MKT-Other-global-all-co-prtnr-py-PartBadge-Mar2515-1> (\$2.69)
- <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/dronetonetool/id1191100591> (\$2.79)

Acapella from PicPlayPost

- <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/acapella-from-picplaypost/id924635678>
- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=co.mixcord.acapella&hl=en_CA

iReal Pro – jazz play along app (\$20, I think)

- <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/ireal-pro/id298206806>
- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.massimobiolcati.irealb&hl=en_CA

Capo – slow down recordings (Annual \$20 subscription)

- <https://apps.apple.com/ca/app/capo-touch/id887497388>
- <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/capo-3/id696977615?ls=1&mt=12&pt=15168&ct=productpage&at=10I5V6>