

# Measuring spaces between fingers

To place a finger exactly in tune you do not only judge its position by the sound of the previous note. You also feel the new finger in relation to the previous one, as well as the general relationship of the fingers to each other. When the playing fingers are not next to each other, you need to imagine the missing fingers. For example, play first to third finger B to D: as well as measuring the third finger from the first, you also have to imagine the feeling of second finger C or C#, and measure the third finger from *the imagined second finger*.

This is one reason why fingers that are not being used should stay close to the strings - they remain involved in the playing by helping to measure distances accurately.

## Ascending



## Descending



Each bar contains two ordinary crotchets, and one or two x-notes. Play each bar in three different ways, using the x-notes as follows:

- 1 Play the x-note as an ordinary crotchet, playing it equally with the others (see example below). Play each bar or group several times, memorising the feel of each note and the feel of the fingers in relation to each other.



- 2 Play the first crotchet and lift the bow off the string. Without playing it, place the x-note (or notes) silently on the string. Play the last crotchet of the bar. *Feel* the relation of the fingers to each other.



- 3 Do not put the x-note (or notes) on the string. While playing the first crotchet mentally pitch the x-note, and recall the feeling of it on the string. Put the second crotchet down next to this *imagined* x-note.



Play the same notes in other octaves. Also play in a variety of keys to cover different tone-semitone possibilities:

