

# One line at a time

One of the most helpful first steps in practising any passage of double stops is to play one string at a time while fingering both strings.

- Finger both notes of each double stop as written, but bow only one string at a time. Practise each line separately until both are comfortably in tune.

42 Etudes ou caprices, Kreutzer  
No. 38

Example

- Bow only the lower of the two strings. The x-notes show the notes on the upper string that you finger without playing them:

- Bow only the upper string while silently fingering the notes on the lower string:

Violin Concerto no. 1 in G minor, op. 26, Bruch  
Third movement

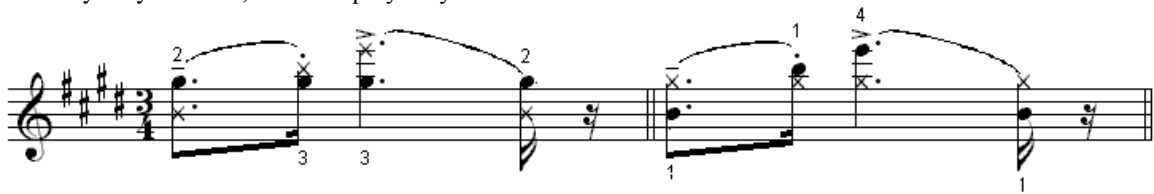
Example

- In many passages it is helpful to select certain notes from the upper and lower line. In this example play only the A#'s:

Polonaise Brillante, op. 21, Wieniawski

Example

- Play only the G#'s, and then play only the B's and the E:



Violin Concerto no. 1 in G minor, op. 26, Bruch  
Third movement

Example

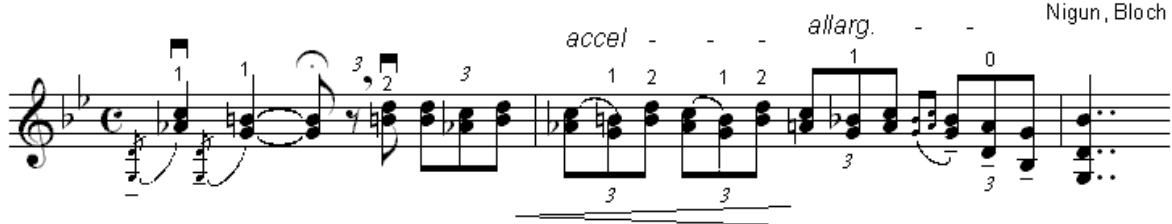


- Play only the second finger:



Nigun, Bloch

Example II



If there is anything unusual or awkward in the passage – in this example the wide space between A<sup>b</sup> and B<sup>♯</sup> could disturb the intonation – first use an ordinary fingering to find exactly the right tuning:

- 1 Play each line separately, using a normal, convenient fingering. Use this as a model for 2.
- 2 Finger all the notes with the proper fingering, but bow only one string at a time.

Lower line only, easy fingering



Lower line only, stopping both notes



Upper line only, easy fingering



Upper line only, stopping both notes

