
BASICS

Extensions (2)

Measure extensions by dividing the distance into smaller intervals, rather than measuring only from the note directly before the extension. Each player can choose their own ways of reaching extensions to suit their particular hand, or to go with the harmony in a particular phrase.

Example

Violin Concerto no. 3 in G, K216, Mozart
Second movement

- (1) Play G \sharp as an intermediate note, and then measure the third finger A from the G \sharp . Keep the first finger on the string as marked.
- (2) Place the third finger on G \sharp without playing it (written as a stemless note), and then measure the A from the G \sharp .
- (3) Remember the feeling of the G \sharp without placing the finger (written as an x-note), and measure the A from it as before.

Example

Sonata no. 2 in A, op. 100, Brahms
First movement

- (1) The usual way to find an augmented fourth or diminished fifth is from the perfect fourth. Measure the F from the E, keeping the first finger on the string.
- (2) Hover above the string, remembering the feel of the finger when it plays E, and measure the F from it as before.
- (3) Another approach is to feel the equal tone–tone–tone spacing between the fingers. This is a very secure and accurate way to judge any augmented fourth or diminished fifth.

BASICS

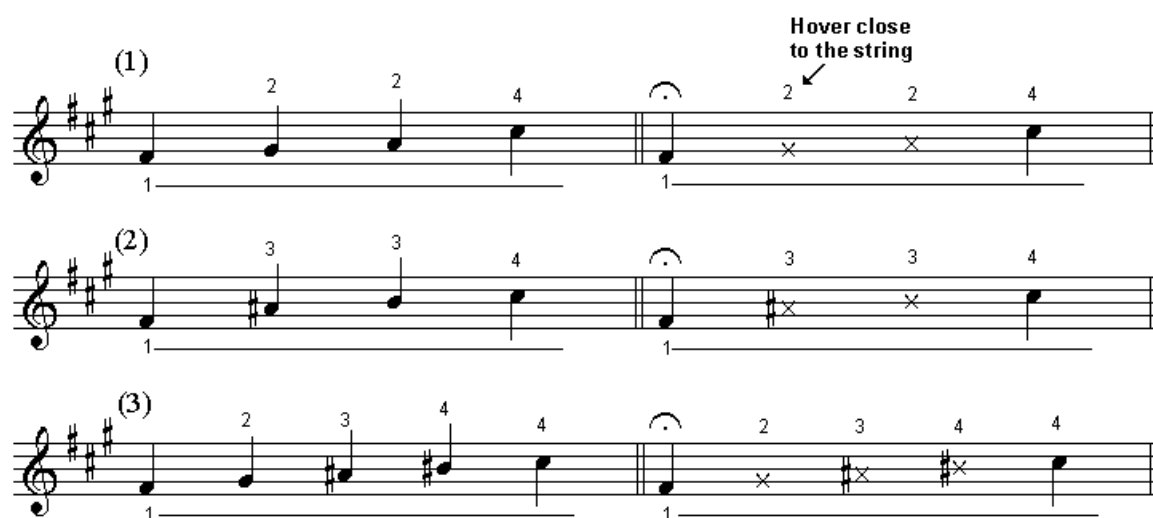
Sonata in A, Franck
Third movement



Example

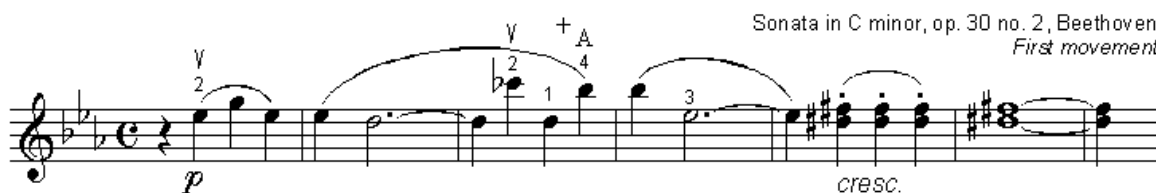
There are three ways to measure a perfect fifth: (1) measuring from the second finger, (2) from the third finger, or (3) from the fourth finger. Which to use depends on the context and the individual hand.

- In each case first play the intermediate notes, and then hover above them to help measure the interval.



- Practise all three ways to get the feel of the interval, regardless of how you will measure it in the end.

Sonata in C minor, op. 30 no. 2, Beethoven
First movement



Example



Divide the interval of a minor sixth into a major third plus a semitone (third finger to third finger), and a major second plus a semitone (fourth to fourth).

- Play the intermediate notes equally, memorizing the feel of the fingers.
- Play only the middle of the three intermediate notes, hovering the fingers above the string for the others (written as x-notes). Remember the feeling of playing the notes so that you hover above them 'in tune'.
- Play only the two notes of the interval. Hover above the intermediate notes to measure the extension.