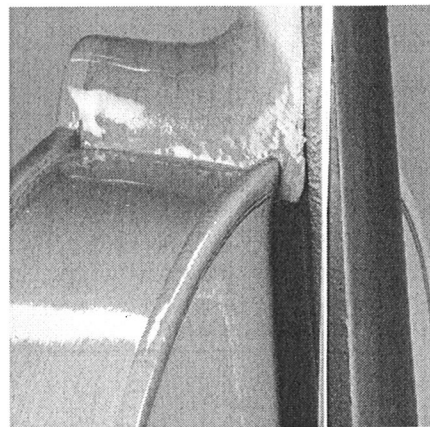
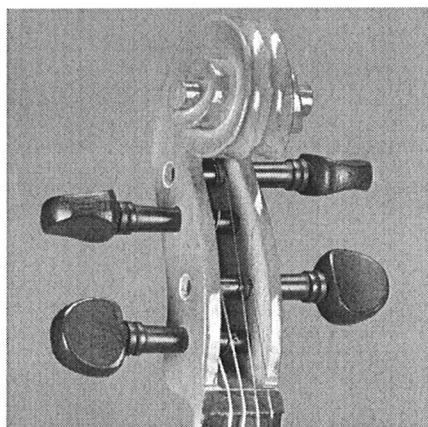
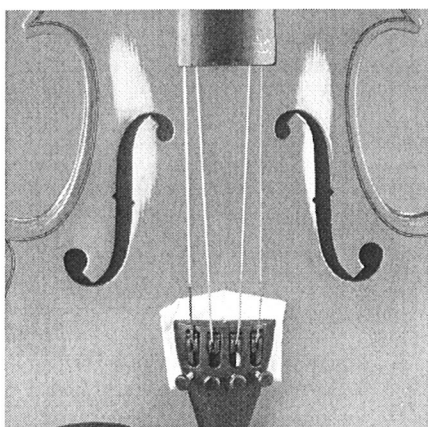


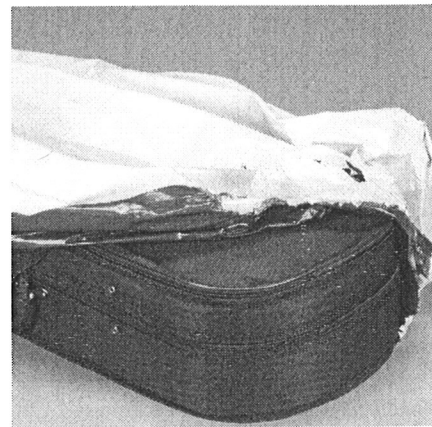
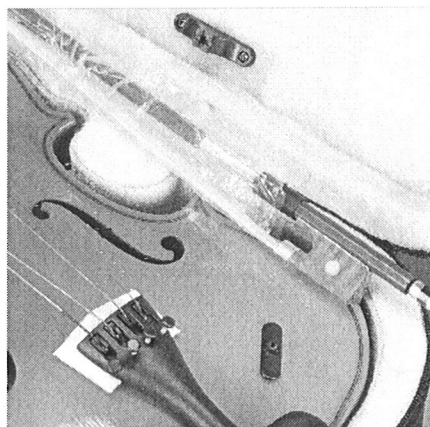
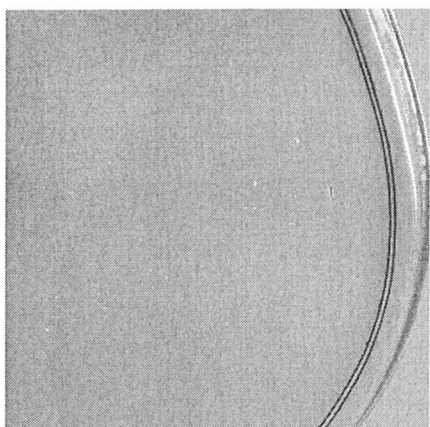
# Can a V.S.O. hurt your wallet?

## *Be aware of V.S.O.'s (Violin Shaped Objects)*

We encourage parents to avoid temptations to buy cheap internet violin outfits, commonly known as V.S.O. - Violin Shaped Objects. These instruments look like violins, but very high percentages are virtually unplayable due to innumerable structural and set-up problems. Many well-meaning parents bring their V.S.O.'s to violin shops and are disappointed to find out that the repairs needed to make their instrument playable far exceed both the price they paid for the instrument and the price of a properly made and set up instruments.



*"We bought a violin on the internet for \$33 from a large well-known online source. This is what it looked like..."*



### Typical repair costs to make a V.S.O. Playable

Fit Pegs Properly - \$20-\$100

Adjust nut - \$30-\$50

Reset/replace soundpost - \$5-\$50

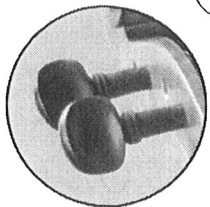
Replace bridge - \$30-\$75

Fingerboard repair \$30-\$50

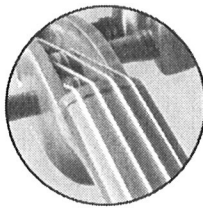
Repairing the neck projection - \$200 and up

New strings - \$10-\$50

Pegs: Must be ebony and be properly cut for easy tuning.



Nut: Correct string spacing and height at the nut and in third position.

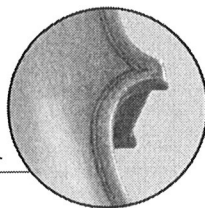


Fingerboard: Ebony only!!! Not ebonized black painted wood.

Top and Back: Must be arched to enhance sound.

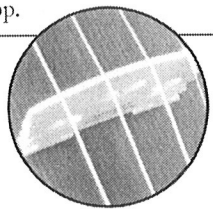
Strings: Must be matched to the instrument in order to enhance the sound.

Purfling: Only inlaid, not painted.

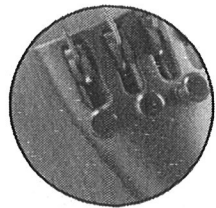


Soundpost: Correctly fitted and adjusted to minimize cracks and enhance tonality.

Bridge Quality: Must be the correct height and the feet must fit the top.



Fine Tuners: Easy to turn.



Properly Aged Wood: Violin Shaped Objects (V.S.O's) for example, are often made with "green wood" which has not adequately dried. Within a few months, wood parts warp and/or crack, making it difficult or impossible to play.

