

Making friends with my fingerboard

- **Finding the notes of I (Tonic):** Play all the notes of the chord in first position with the tuner on a I and V pedal.

G Major



G (I) and D (V) pedal

- **Play around:** play little random patterns of notes and rhythms with the tuner on a I and V pedal. Listen and feel it, don't read the notes!

- Doesn't it feel good to play in tune?



G (I) and D (V) pedal

- **Double Stops:** add some double stops to help the hand position understand the relationship between the intervals, angles, fingers.



G (I) and D (V) pedal



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G (I) and D (V) pedal



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- Chords of I (tonic) :



G (I) and D (V) pedal

- **Improvise:** Invent a little tune with any or all the notes of the I chord in first position with the tuner on a I and V pedal.



G (I) and D (V) pedal

- **Finding the notes of V (Dominant):** Play all the notes of the chord in first position with the tuner on a V pedal.



D (V) pedal



- **Chords of V (Dominant) :**



D (V) pedal

- **Combining the notes of I and V** : Play all the notes of the I and V chord in first position with the tuner on a V pedal.

Musical notation in G major (one sharp) showing a sequence of eighth notes. The notes are: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G. The final measure shows a whole note chord with a '6' below it, indicating a first-position D major chord.

D (V) pedal

- **Improvise**: Invent a little tune with any or all the notes of the I and V chord in first position with the tuner on a V pedal.

A blank musical staff in G major (one sharp) with a treble clef, intended for improvisation.

D (V) pedal

- **Double Stops**: combining the notes of I and V

Musical notation in G major showing double stops. The notes are: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G. The notes are played in pairs: G-A, A-B, B-C, C-D, D-E, E-F#, F#-G, G-A, A-B, B-C, C-D, D-E, E-F#, F#-G, G-A, A-B, B-C, C-D, D-E, E-F#, F#-G.

D (V) pedal

Musical notation in G major showing double stops. The notes are: G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G. The notes are played in pairs: G-A, A-B, B-C, C-D, D-E, E-F#, F#-G, G-A, A-B, B-C, C-D, D-E, E-F#, F#-G, G-A, A-B, B-C, C-D, D-E, E-F#, F#-G.

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Tuning with Julie

- The point of this exercises is to **make friends with your fingerboard**, finding the notes of your key in a relaxing and enjoyable way.
- Our **goal** is to get **this key feeling good** in our hand and to remember the feeling when we come back to play this key.

Exercise step by step:

- Put your **Tuner** on your **Tonic (I)** and check that your **open strings** are **in tune** with the temperament! We recommend to start with Vallotti or 1/6 Comma temperament. If you are doing sharps and a solo violin piece use Rameau. Experiment which temperament feels better! (Julie likes Vallotti C Major and Rameau for E Major)
- Play all the notes of my I chord in first position of the key I am working on with my tuner. We are looking for the relationship between the fingers, intervals, the angles of how the finger lands on the fingerboard and how to set up a **consistent hand position**.
- How do I increase my consistency once I have found the notes? We don't want to be fishing for the notes, we want to replace the finger on the same angle where it was placed. We want to memorise the sensation of the finger going down and up on the exact same **angle**. Play the same note several times and put it in context playing one or two notes before and after. Once you have identified that note go for the next one analysing what happens to the next one, is it sharp is it flat?. Go back and forward between the intervals to make sure we teach our fingers the right places.
- Take your time, go slowly, listen carefully! If you do it now it will go faster later!
- Remember to encourage your fingers in a **Kind and Loving way** (K+L). If they are not coming down in the right position just give them some better information. We want to encourage confidence and consistency without judgement.
- Our new **brain pathway** to be able to play in tune in any key is: “ **doesn't it feel great to play in tune?**”
- We want to feel good playing in tune, the intervals are all in tune, my hand feels so comfortable, my shoulders are relaxed, my neck is free, I am making a beautiful sound... **Playing in tune feels good!!**
- Once we have the notes figured out and the relationships between the intervals we can start jumping around with octaves, fifths and thirds.
- We can also add some double stops as we do the first part (finding the note process), to help the structure of our hand.
- After that you can repeat the same process with your tuner on the **Dominant (V)**.
- Depending on your temperament your notes might be slightly different when you go to the Dominant pedal. Listen carefully be gentle! Remember K+L