

STRINGS 101

1. Name the four parts of a string.

- 1 Core 2 Winding 3 Silking 4 Ball or Loop End

2. Name two types of metal cores.

- 1 Solid Steel 2 Stranded Steel

3. True or False: *Orchestral strings are made using the exact same materials as guitar strings.*

- T F *False; orchestral strings are made with flat-wound outer winding exclusively, while most guitar strings are made with round wire outer windings.*

4. A violin E string can have either a Ball end or a Loop end.

5. Gut strings were historically made from the small intestine of which of the following?

- a. Moose
- b. Cat
- c. Pig
- d. Sheep

6. All orchestral strings use (flat / round) wire on their outside winding layer (choose one).

7. True or False: Synthetic core strings are made from man-made materials.

- T F

8. Strings made from synthetic and metal materials started to become popular in the

20th century.

9. True or False: Wiping the rosin off of your strings after each playing session will help strings last longer.

- T F

1. True/False: All E strings are made from a single piece of wire.

T F *False; some E strings are made with a single layer of winding material on top of the core.*

2. Which type of string needs more damping?

1. Fretted guitar string

2. Orchestral bowed string

3. True/False: Heavy tension strings are easier to control with the bow than medium or light tension strings.

T F *False; Heavy tension strings are more difficult to control because they have a wider string diameter.*

4. Tree resin is the main ingredient of rosin and is a natural, organic material.

5. Put the following string cores in the order of most durable/long-lasting to the least: Gut, Solid Steel, Synthetic

Solid Steel

Synthetic

Gut

6. Which of the following is a sign that it's time to change your strings?

a. The string's inability to hold pitch for a long duration

b. Strings have a dirty or grimy appearance

c. Strings have a dull sound

d. All of the above

7. String silking can be used to describe which of the following characteristics?

a. Pitch/note

b. Brand

c. Tension level

d. All of the above

8. True/False: There are global standards for string tension measurement.

T F *False; while most companies make their strings to fit within a range of tension levels, terms like "light," "medium," and "heavy" refer to relative tension measurements only.*

9. Name two factors that cause strings to deteriorate with age.

Corrosion

Human sweat

Humidity

Dirt & rosin buildup

10. Wire drawing is the process of creating new wire by pulling metal through a series of dies.