

Bow on the Highway

You will bring out the best tone from your fiddle by playing on the “highway.” The highway is the middle zone between the fingerboard and the bridge.

Look at the illustration below. Imagine a four-lane highway running across the top of your fiddle between the fingerboard and the bridge. The best tone comes from lanes two and three. Bowing on lane two will make your tone a little louder and brighter, while lane three will be a little softer and mellower. Bowing on the line between lane two and three gives you a combination of rich tone and volume. You can use bow placement to create exactly the tone that you want for a tune or phrase.

