

Music School of the Air
Bill and Ardyce
Radio Station KFEQ
St. Joseph, Mo.

Instructions for holding instrument.

Rest the curved part of the instrument's body over your right leg close to your body, hold the neck a little higher than the body of the instrument between first finger and thumb so there is an open space between first finger and thumb under the fingerboard. Keep fingers of left hand as straight as possible. Rest the right forearm on the upper corner of the instrument's body. Hold your pick in your right hand between the thumb and tip of first finger and keep your wrist as loose as possible so that your picking movement comes entirely from the wrist and not from the elbow.

Description of Tenor Banjo

The bar across the head of the banjo is the bridge. The small metal strips across the fingerboard are called frets. On the tenor guitar the bridge is placed right below the sound hole. Remember the heaviest string is the fourth string and is the one closest to you when the neck of your instrument is to the left which is the proper way to hold your instrument when playing.

Instructions for tuning instrument.

Tune to piano in the following way.

Tune first string to the second A above middle C.
Tune second string to the second D above middle C.
Tune third string to the first G above middle C.
Tune fourth string to middle C.

To tune without the use of piano.

Tune first string high enough so that it sounds good, then place finger on seventh fret on second string and tune so it sounds like the open first string, then place your finger on seventh fret on third string and tune so it sounds like the open second string, and then place your finger on seventh fret on fourth string and tune so it sounds like the open third string.

If you have trouble tuning using either of the ways mentioned we suggest you send us 45¢ for a special pitch pipe that will make tuning easy.

In the first lessons of this course we teach you to read music, and to play pieces, and in the last part of the course we teach you the chords. Be sure to study this lesson thoroughly before proceeding to the next.