

Music Store List

Finding an instrument that sounds good is more rewarding to play and is a better value. The price and quality of instruments varies widely, and there are many options for "beginning" & "intermediate" level instruments, as well as considering various new or used purchase, rent or lease options. I suggest starting your search on the websites of both local stores and online sources, and comparing brand names in the various price ranges. At local stores, ask for someone to play instruments in different price ranges, for you to compare sound. Insist on better quality strings like "Dominant", not all steel strings. Better quality used instruments can be an affordable option to explore. Instruments that are crafted mostly by hand cost more, but often go up in value over time. Be sure the bow has real horsehair. Be wary of violin outfits under \$200. If you buy through a mail order company or any shop, talk to them to be sure it is set up completely, with a real carved bridge and if they will do adjustments for you.

Tips on looking for instruments: <http://www.beginnerviolintips.com/buying-beginner-violin>
<http://www.violinist.com/wiki/buying/>

<http://www.childrensmusicworkshop.com/instruments/violin/index.html>
the violin channel

Quinn Violins	1081 21st Ave S.E., Mpls (west of Hwy 280 off Hennepin) All stringed instruments.	612-378-5470 www.quinnviolins.com
Fein Stringed Instruments	1850 Grand Ave St. Paul www.feinviolins.com	228-0783
Cadenza Music Center	149 North Snelling Avenue (at Selby) Band & orchestra instruments and lesson books	644-3611
Eckroth Music	3065 Centerpoint Dr., Roseville www.eckroth.com	651 704-9654
John Waddle Violins	2032 St. Claire Ave, St. Paul (excellent small shop in home, call for appointment)	698-4692
House of Note	7210 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park All stringed instruments	952-929-0026 www.houseofnote.com
Claire Givens Violin	1004 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis www.givensviolins.com	(612) 375-0708
Groth Music Company	494 & Nicollet, Bloomington All String and Band instruments. Rentals and maintenance plans available	(952) 884-4772
Schmitt Music Centers	Maplewood Square, 3035 White Bear Avenue, Maplewood Roseville Store, 2436 Cleveland Avenue North, Roseville	770-0091 636-0801
Shar Products Inc	www.sharmusic.com very reliable online & mail order shop stringed instruments, rentals, supplies and music in Ann Arbor Michigan	800-248-SHAR (7427)
All Strings Attached	8244 Olson Memorial Hwy (Hwy 55) Golden Valley 2000 Industrial Ave S., Stillwater	763-542-9542 651-439-8899 www.allstringsattached.com
Rapid Rentals	MusicArts.com online	