A violist must bring the left elbow farther forward or around, so as to reach the lowest string, which allows the fingers to press firmly and so create a clearer tone. Different positions are often used, including half position. The viola is generally strung with heavier strings than the violin. Practically speaking, if a violist and violinist are playing together, the violist must begin moving the bow a fraction of a second sooner than the violinist. The thicker strings also mean that more weight must be applied with the bow to make them speak. Each string of a viola is wrapped around a peg near the scroll and is tuned by turning the peg. Tightening the string raises the pitch; loosening the string lowers the pitch. The A string is normally tuned first, typically to a pitch of 440 Hz or 442 Hz. This 10-book series takes violinists from near-beginning stages to a moderately advanced level. The Suzuki Method is based on the principle that all children have the capability to excel at music and that a nurturing environment can help develop and enhance that capability. Whether you’re a young child or well into your adult years, the Suzuki Method is appropriate for harnessing your ability to play the violin. Hal Leonard Rubank Elementary Method for Violin. This is one of the most popular violin books, both for individual instruction and same-instrument groups. It employs an all-encompassing approach to teaching the violin,
including scales and arpeggios, articulation and technical studies, solos and duets, and studies for musicianship. Setting up the left hand correctly is essential to developing good technique and intonation. Here are some basic concepts to keep in mind: