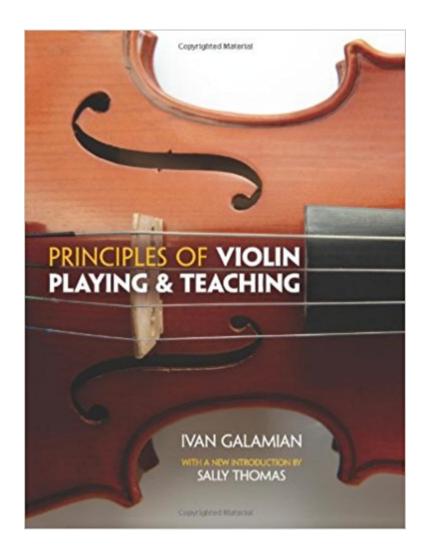


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# Principles Of Violin Playing And Teaching (Dover Books On Music)





## Synopsis

A celebrated instructor explains his philosophy of teaching and practice methods, including the appropriate combination of technique and interpretation. Ivan Galamian, a longtime Juilliard professor, incorporates aspects of both the Russian and French schools in a system both ingenious and logical. His tutelage has produced astonishing results with students, many of whom rank among the world's most acclaimed concert artists and orchestral concertmasters. Suitable for violin teachers and students of all ages and levels, this guide presents general principles and offers practical suggestions related to posture, holding the instrument and bow, vibrato movements, intonation, tone production, bowing patterns, double stops, trills, and many other facets of playing and practice. This edition features a new Introduction by Sally Thomas, violin virtuoso and Galamian's former student.

## **Book Information**

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### Customer Reviews

A graduate of Moscow's School of the Philharmonic Society, Ivan Galamian (1903 $\tilde{A}$ ¢ $\hat{a}$  ¬ $\hat{a}$  œ81) was an instructor at the Russian Conservatory in Paris. For more than  $\tilde{A}$   $\hat{A}$  40 years, he taught at the Curtis Institute of Music and the Juilliard School, where  $\tilde{A}$   $\hat{A}$  he was Head of the Violin Department. Sally Thomas was among Galamian's prized pupils at Juilliard.

My teacher was a student of Galamian, so everything in this book, I have experienced directly through my study. The best part about Galamian's teaching is how to produce a beautiful sound through the interaction of bow speed, weight, and sounding point. The right hand really is the voice

of the instrument, and Galamian shows you how to achieve this.

This review may be superfluous, but this advanced amateur agrees: The book is extremely helpful in finding and solving "root causes" for many problems, both performance and practice. It builds upon older traditions (e.g., Auer's methods), but frequently exceeds them by adding MODERN, BETTER fingering and bowing techniques. Because so many editions of music are reprinted from long ago, and edited by an earlier generation of Violinists (some of whom would never play in an even-numbered position; others of whom would crawl down a chromatic scale with far too many shifts), this is indispensable for correcting bad suggestions/advice in those editions. Any violin player who has not fully mastered the instrument (and IMO, that collection of players includes perhaps 98% of professionals) - should at least read this book from start to end; they are likely to find a new or alternative technique of great value, explained in detail, and sometimes with pictures as well.

Gotta say this book surprised me. I thought it might be beyond my modest abilities but it turns out to be the most instructive book I could have imagined. If you buy only one violin book - MAKE IT THIS ONE !!!

To me, it is no doubt that this is the best violin instruction book. This new version has an introduction written by Sally Thomas. The old version (published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, in 1963) contains following parts, which the new version does not have: (1) "Postscript --- Galamian in the Studio

I recently saw a YouTube video of Itzhak Perlman speaking about violin bowing. Ivan Galamian was one of his early instructors and he recommend any violinist read this book. This book contains the original 1961 version plus it includes a postscript written by the late Professor Emeritus Elizabeth A. H. Green. I do wish the book contained more photographs...but, hey, it was written in 1961. I would recommend violinist at any skill level consider reading this book

For anyone who plays violin, Galamian is well-known for producing the world's best violinists. I was surprised at the accessibility and openness of this book, it looks at violin technique from unique perspectives and delves into the basic skills that underlie even the most difficult violin technique. While I am at the Intermediate level, I found this book extremely interesting and full of masterful

theory. It is a great resource, and I look forward to growing into understanding it more deeply as I learn and use some of the more advanced techniques Galamian explains.

Excellent book on playing and teaching. Well written and illustrated. Serious students should really appreciate having a copy.

This man's work turned out many great world-class soloists and violinists. I was fortunate to have studied with Galamian many years ago. The book is very analytical, but also comprehensive as well as valuable.

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