## Don't Fret® Enterprises

## **Our Products**

We manufacture two types of finger position indicators for violin, viola and cello: the **Don't Fret**<sup>®</sup>, and the **First Frets** finger position indicators. These are <u>decals</u> which adhere to the fingerboards of violins, violas and cellos. They are made of clear vinyl, are abrasion-resistant, and remove easily and cleanly from the instrument. Both product lines are available in sizes ranging from 1/16 violin to 4/4 cello.

The decals are printed with coloured lines so as to <u>indicate the proper positioning of the fingers</u> on the instrument. Both replace stickers, tapes, and other markers. Compared to other types of markers **Don't**Fret® and First Frets finger position indicators are more accurate. They also will not slip, slide, fray or buzz.

The **First Frets** decal has <u>4 lines</u>, thus indicating only the most common notes for the beginning player. **First Frets** substitutes for, and is an improved version of, the most common fingerboard marking practices. Some teachers prefer to use the **First Frets** for their beginning students as it is closer to their previous practice, and then as their students advance to continue with the **Don't Fret**<sup>®</sup>.

The **Don't Fret**<sup>®</sup> decal has <u>12 lines</u> indicating a complete chromatic scale of one octave. The lines---5 white, and 7 in other colours---are arranged in the same pattern as that of the piano keyboard, with its 5 black and 7 white keys. With the full set of lines it is easier to teach finger patterns, keys (tonalities), and intervals such as whole- and half-steps. Because the 12 lines make the patterns of whole-and half- steps more obvious, many teachers prefer to start their beginning students directly on the **Don't Fret**<sup>®</sup>, simply teaching finger placement one colour at a time.