

**PLEASE NOTE:** This photo is taken from slightly above the cello. In 4th position (1st finger on the BLUE tape), the 4th finger should land right above the rim of the cello body.



**POSITION NAME**  
(assuming 1st finger  
on given note)

**C STRING**

**G STRING**

**D STRING**

**A STRING**

HALF

Db

Ab

Eb

Bb

1ST

D

A

E

B

LOWER 2ND

Eb

Bb

F

C

UPPER 2ND

E

B

F#

C#

LOWER 3RD

F

C

G

D

UPPER 3RD

F#

C#

Ab

Eb

4TH

G

D

A

E

Ab

Eb

Bb

F

A

E

B

F#

Bb

F

C

G

## An Introduction to the Geography of the Cello Fingerboard (1st to 4th Positions, & ½ Position)\*

\*The note names which include a “#” or “b” can also be called by their enharmonic equivalent name, depending on the key context (eg. C# = Db; Eb = D#; F# = Gb). The names here have been chosen as those most frequently used, especially, in beginner and intermediate music.

All the notes that land on a tape have been colour coded  
(1st tape = red; 2nd tape = green; 3rd tape = blue)

### A STRING

½ Position	1	2	3	4
	Bb	B	C	C#

1st Position (1st tape)	1	2	3	4
	B	C	C#	D

Lower 2nd Position	1	2	3	4
	C	C#	D	Eb

Upper 2nd Position	1	2	3	4
	C#	D	Eb	E

Lower 3rd Position (2nd tape)	1	2	3	4
	D	Eb	E	F

Upper 3rd Position	1	2	3	4
	Eb	E	F	F#

4th Position (3rd tape)	1	2	3	4
	E	F	F#	G

## D STRING

½ Position	1 Eb	2 E	3 F	4 F#
1st Position (1st tape)	1 E	2 F	3 F#	4 G
Lower 2nd Position	1 F	2 F#	3 G	4 Ab
Upper 2nd Position	1 F#	2 G	3 Ab	4 A
Lower 3rd Position (2nd tape)	1 G	2 Ab	3 A	4 Bb
Upper 3rd Position	1 Ab	2 A	3 Bb	4 B
4th Position (3rd tape)	1 A	2 Bb	3 B	4 C

## G STRING

½ Position	1 Ab	2 A	3 Bb	4 B
1st Position (1st tape)	1 A	2 Bb	3 B	4 C
Lower 2nd Position	1 Bb	2 B	3 C	4 C#
Upper 2nd Position	1 B	2 C	3 C#	4 D
Lower 3rd Position (2nd tape)	1 C	2 C#	3 D	4 Eb
Upper 3rd Position	1 C#	2 D	3 Eb	4 E
4th Position (3rd tape)	1 D	2 Eb	3 E	4 F

## C STRING

½ Position	1 Db	2 D	3 Eb	4 E
1st Position (1st tape)	1 D	2 Eb	3 E	4 F
Lower 2nd Position	1 Eb	2 E	3 F	4 F#
Upper 2nd Position	1 E	2 F	3 F#	4 G
Lower 3rd Position (2nd tape)	1 F	2 F#	3 G	4 Ab
Upper 3rd Position	1 F#	2 G	3 Ab	4 A
4th Position (3rd tape)	1 G	2 Ab	3 A	4 Bb