

**String Quartet in F Major: *Assez vif- Très rythmé*
Arranged for Harp Quartet by Erin Freund**

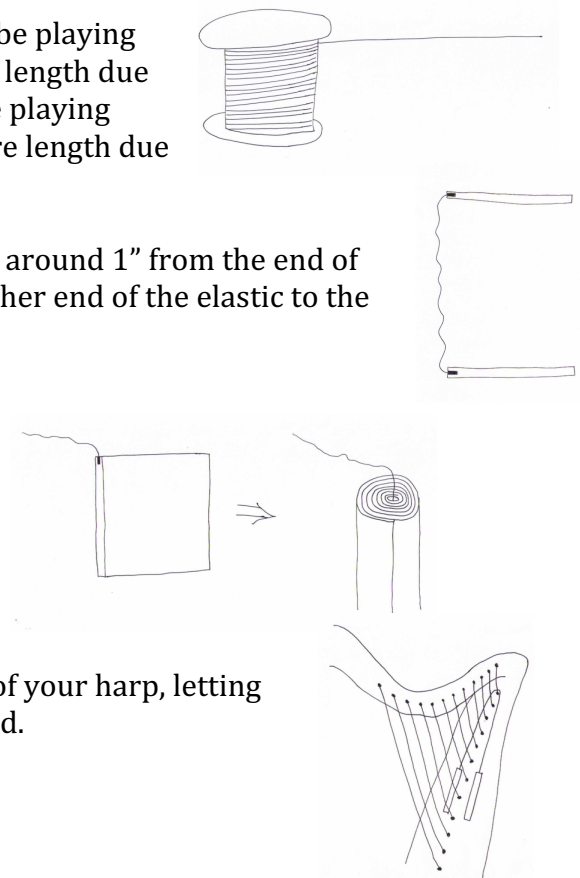
Maurice Ravel (1875-1937) composed his String Quartet in F major in 1903. The second movement is a striking scherzo featuring bouncy pizzicato passages in the opening and closing, and contrasting slow, dreamlike, bowed material in the center. To simulate the pizzicato timbre on the harp in this arrangement, harpists should press a mute against the strings near the soundboard with one hand while plucking with the other hand. Follow the directions below to build a two-ended mute that can be hung around the highest string and rest on the soundboard for either hand to easily and quickly access.

Materials needed:

- Two wooden dowels (.25" x 12", or similar)
- Two felt squares (9" x 12", or similar; single side adhesive if available)
- Elastic cord (1mm or similar;
- Tape or glue (if using glue, choose super glue, or hot glue)

Creating your harp mute:

1. Cut 35" to 45" of elastic cord. (If you will be playing harp parts 1 or 2, you will likely need less length due to their higher registers, and if you will be playing harp parts 3 or 4, you will likely need more length due to their lower registers.)
2. Attach one end of the elastic to the dowel, around 1" from the end of the dowel with glue or tape. Attach the other end of the elastic to the other dowel, around 1" from its end.
3. Attach one edge of a felt square to the dowel with tape, glue, or its adhesive backing. Tightly roll the rest of the felt around the dowel, and secure the remaining end with tape, glue, or its adhesive backing.
4. Hang the mute around the highest string of your harp, letting both felt pieces hang along the soundboard.



String Quartet in F Major

Assez vif - Très rythmé

Maurice Ravel
Erin Freund

Assez vif- Très rythmé ♩ = 92

The score is for four harps, labeled Harp 1 through Harp 4. It is in 6/8 time and marked 'Assez vif - Très rythmé' with a tempo of ♩ = 92. The music is in F major. Harp 1 and Harp 2 play a melodic line in the right hand, while Harp 3 and Harp 4 play a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The score includes a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and a chord progression of F#m, Fb, F#m, Fb, F#m.

Harp 1

Harp 2

Harp 3

Harp 4

f

f

f

f

F#m — Fb — F#m — Fb — F#m

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Hp. 1

Hp. 2

Hp. 3

Hp. 4

A

pp

mp

mp

mp

F#
C#

B# — B \flat A#

G# F# D \flat

G#

Hp. 1

Hp. 2

Hp. 3

Hp. 4

B

f

pp *bien chanté*

ff

ppp

ff

pp

ff

G#
D#

F#

C# A#

C# A#