

# Basic Detail Report

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## Pardessus de viole

### Date

1700 - 1800 ca.

### Description

The pardessus de viole was a small-sized instrument created to allow the violin repertoire to be played by a viol player. This example has five strings and is currently disassembled. Top: two-piece, quarter-cut spruce: fine grain Back: one-piece, slab-cut maple: medium curl; flat back with no break Ribs: slab-cut maple: medium curl Head and neck: maple: narrow curl; pegbox terminates in female head wearing hat; back of pegbox relief carved foliate decoration; faceted neck shape Arching: back flat with no break Purfling: purfling on top, none on back Varnish: medium orange-brown Fingerboard: maple with narrow curl, originally stained black Nut: missing Tailpiece: ebony with bone plate at key-shaped string holes; upper edge angled; probably later Tailpiece

attachment: ebony bar and hook Pegs: five miss-matched pegs; two black-stained fruitwood with undercut, concave heads and mother-of-pearl eyes, two ebony with undercut heads; one black-stained fruitwood with undercut head Saddle: none Soundholes: C-shaped; inside edges stained dark brown Linings: spruce Corner blocks: poplar or willow Top block: spruce Bottom block: spruce; Bassbar: spruce; low height; original Back bracing: wide and low spruce brace in center bout at soundpost position Other: saw and fine-toothed scraper marks on inside of ribs

### Dimensions

Total pardessus length: 608 mm Top length: 323 mm Upper bout width: 150 mm Center bout width: 97 mm Lower bout width: 191 mm Upper rib height: 41-50 mm Center rib height: 48-50 mm Lower rib height: 48-49 mm Stop length: 175 mm Vibrating string length: 328 mm Neck length (bottom of nut to ribs): 149 mm