

Saint Saens' Thumb

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Excerpts from Saint Saens' (1835-1921) cello music that could, should or must be played in thumb position

Cello Concerto N°1: Movt I

4 ° thumb up

II x2

f

thumb up

thumb up

III

3 thumb on I only

cadenza

thumb back

Movt II: Allegretto con moto

Movt III (fast)

thumb back

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The musical score consists of 13 staves of music in G major, 2/4 time. It features a variety of technical exercises including triplets, sixteenth-note runs, and slurs. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-3. Performance instructions include 'thumb on I only', 'thumb still', and 'thumb up'. The piece concludes with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic marking.

Allegro Appassionato

f 2 *p* 2

p *f* 1 M

p 1 1