1. Place loop end of string over end pin at tailpiece of dulcimer. Use a strip of masking tape to secure the string so it won’t slip off the end of the pin.

2. **Diagram A**
   Pull string end through gear post, leaving approximately 3” slack between fretboard surface and string. Guide string down, towards the floor (1), then back up towards the ceiling (2).

   [Note: Ideally there should be 2 to 3 windings around the post when the string is tuned to pitch.]

3. **Diagram B**
   If the string is unwound, you need to “lock” the string by guiding end underneath the string towards the outside of the peghead, away from the peg knob. (3) [Wound strings should not be “locked”.

4. **Diagram C**
   Tighten string so that the string wraps over the tuner’s shaft when viewed from above.

5. Cut off excess string after string is tightened sufficiently to hold the wraps under tension.

Artwork by Margaret Buie

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1. Place loop end of string over end pin at tailpiece of dulcimer. Use a strip of masking tape to secure the string so it won’t slip off the end of the pin. Ball end strings are secured either by bridge pins or by threading through string guide holes.

2. **Diagram A**
   Pull string end through gear post, leaving approximately 3” slack between fretboard surface and string. [Note: Ideally there should be 2 to 3 windings around the post when the string is tuned to pitch.]

3. **Diagram B**
   Guide string end towards outside edge (1) of peghead, then around (2) towards end of peghead. Pull end up towards ceiling (3).

4. **Diagram C & D**
   Tighten gear, taking up slack in string. Make sure the string wraps around post and over the vertical string end, thus “locking” the string so it won’t slip when under tension (4). The string should wrap from the inside to the outside of the peghead. [Note: wound strings should not be “locked”.]

5. Cut off excess string.

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