CHECKING THE MIDDLE STRING

To check if you have correctly tuned the middle string, fret it on the third fret (the small spaced one.) Pressing down firmly, pluck it and then the unison strings. You should get almost the same tone from both the middle and unison strings. If not, you haven't gotten the middle string tuned to the octave-fifth value, so keep on trying to get it. Even when the middle note is in tune at the octave-fifth value, its note when fretted on the third fret is not going to be exactly the same as the open unisons. This is because the middle string is thicker than the unisons and produces a different "sound color."

Finally, tune the bass string to an octave below the open unisons. We notate the tuning for the bass string by simply circling (X) indicating an octave below the open X strings. To check your bass string, fret it on the fourth fret and pluck it. It should produce a note the same as the middle string, taking into consideration the differences in sound color.