

Kun Shoulder Rest, Inc.

The Kun Shoulder Rest owns dozens of patents and trademarks around the world for violin and viola shoulder rests sold under the 'Kun' brand name. In order to protect consumers from counterfeits and infringing products, we use the VeRO Program to protect our intellectual property on eBay.

This page is provided to educate eBay users about the intellectual property rights of our company. If you are reading this because your listing has been ended, we hope that after considering this information you will better understand our actions.

Kun's success in the shoulder rest field over more than 40 years results from our commitment of time and resources to research and develop new ideas, produce the tools to realize them, and promote them through marketing and advertising. Our products are made and assembled in Canada from high-quality materials; as such they have earned a reputation around the world for comfort, durability and good value.

An unfortunate by-product of Kun's leading position in the marketplace is that many companies attempt to copy our products. This obliges us constantly to monitor the market for infringements and violations. Joining eBay's VeRO program is one of many steps we take to protect the hard work, innovation, quality, and integrity that underpin our products and our reputation.

Patents protect inventors like Kun, by giving us the right to exclude others from making, using or selling our inventions for the life of the patents.

In addition to 'utility' patents that protect the mechanical functions of our shoulder rest, 'trade dress' or design registrations protect the distinctive shape of Kun rests. These registrations prohibit other companies from manufacturing and selling shoulder rests that look like ours, whether or not they use the name Kun to sell them.

Kun products are also protected by trademark registrations that stop other manufacturers and sellers from using the name 'Kun' or our company logo in relation to products that are not manufactured by our company. This trademark does not merely prohibit others from calling their shoulder rests 'Kun,' however. It also prohibits them from referring to their products as 'Kun-style' 'faux Kun' or any similar description that uses our company name or attempts to connect their products with our company, products or reputation.

Patent and trademark infringement are serious legal issues that create difficulties for both the producers of these copies and the companies that sell them. Just as Kun is obliged to monitor infringements of its intellectual property rights, wholesalers and retailers bear a legal responsibility for ensuring that they do not sell products that infringe other companies' intellectual property protections. Being unaware of infringement is not a defence in law.