



Hair & Makeup Instructions



HAIR: It is easiest to manage hair that is damp and has gel worked through it before trying to secure back into a bun. Never try to put dry hair up in a bun – especially with children with fine hair. Whether trying to secure bangs back or putting up to a ponytail or braids, always work with dampened hair that has a sticky gel worked through before combing back.

1) **Bangs off the face:** **ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE BANGS OFF THE FACE**, regardless of the hairstyle. This is very important onstage and will require that you use the damp hair/ wet gel method described above for short or long hair to get the bangs back. Bobby pins may be necessary; however, if the hair is wet and gel applied, it will help to keep it sufficiently off the forehead. The balance of hair that is down does not need the same application and may hang loosely.

2) **Hair in a Bun:** On very damp hair thoroughly apply a thick gel to slick the hair and make it workable. After applying gel and with hair still damp, brush back and up and secure with hair elastic into a ponytail at the back of the head. Please try for a low bun down and at the nape of the neck. Then, depending upon the length of the hair, twist in a circle around the elastic and secure all loose ends with bobby pins until there are no loose or unsecured areas of the bun. You may need more bobby pins for areas above ears or at the nape of the neck. Apply the headpiece or hat as instructed by the teacher. Please also use a hair net in the color of the hair to completely finish the look. They can be purchased at stores such as: Walmart, Target, CVS, Wallgreens, and Bed Bath & Beyond. THE SECRET: Work on very damp hair that is wet with gel. Then, let the hair dry after it has been put into the bun. Use a hair net then hairspray the head heavily even if enough gel has been applied.

3) **Hair ½ up ½ down:** Use the same method as above for the forward part of the hair that will be pulled up into the ponytail ONLY. Most of the time, the hair is just pulled in the ponytail and hangs with a ribbon or headpiece secured as instructed. Let all loose hair hang *without gel* applied so it will look natural. Use hairspray to help with control.

4) **Ponytail:** On very damp hair thoroughly apply a thick gel to slick the hair and make it workable. After applying gel and with hair still damp, brush back and up and secure with a hair elastic into a ponytail at the back crown of the head. Sometimes the instructor will ask for a low ponytail down and at the nape of the neck. Side ponytails (only if requested) should be on the crown of the head on the specified side.

Any questions regarding the method or style of hair required for your piece, please ask your instructor. The main points to remember:

- a) Hair off of face - a must
- b) No loose strands of hair around face or in front of ears
- c) Work with damp hair, gel, hairspray
- d) Have Fun!!!

MAKEUP: Makeup may be applied at your discretion for children under age 12, however, under the bright lights, facial features wash out and makeup helps the audience to see the dancer's faces more clearly. Good stage makeup will look very exaggerated, dramatic and bold. We suggest:

1) BASE: (foundation) is not necessary for most very young children, however, if you use it yourself and are comfortable applying a light cover, you may. Just be careful when putting a costume on, as it is easy to soil it with foundation, etc. Use foundation only if you are comfortable with it. **FOR ALL YOUNG**

TEENS/TEENS Please apply a light toned foundation as a base for your makeup. Use hypo-allergenic if necessary. Base is necessary for mature students to even out the skin tone on the face. Apply only on full face down to but not including the neck area. Let dry thoroughly before proceeding:

2) EYE SHADOW: Apply a medium brown eyeshadow from the lash line to the crease of the eye. Apply an even darker shade in the crease/outer corner of the eye and blend thoroughly. Apply a white shadow directly underneath the eyebrow. I always recommend a little sparkle in eyeshadow.

3) EYELINER: I know what you're thinking, "There is NO way I'm putting eyeliner on my child." If you are working with a wiggly three-year-old, I agree with you. **For all children age 6-older**, please be certain to have eyes lined. You can either use a dark brown or black eyeshadow to line their eyes with a thin angled brush or be brave and use black eyeliner for a bigger impact. Apply liner along lower lid of eye just below where the lashes grow on lower lid, just above lashes on upper lid. If the child is too young to handle this application, you may omit it.

5) MASCARA: Another sharp object...I know. If you are able, apply black mascara to the lashes...VERY CAREFULLY. Please apply thick layer of heavy black mascara to upper and lower lids, however, this may not be tolerated by very young students and you may get by with just liner. **YOUNG TEEN/TEEN STUDENTS** may apply false eyelashes for maximum effect on stage if they desire. Simply buy thick black lashes with adhesive, trim to fit and follow instructions. It is best to practice before the day of the show.

6) BLUSH: Directly under the cheekbone, near the hairline, brush a line of dark pink / burgundy / neutral / browns blush downwards towards the lips. Stop near the apples of their cheeks and blend, blend, blend! Do not solely put blush on the apple of the cheeks or they will look more like clowns than dancers!

7) LIPSTICK: Deep red/burgundy lipstick is the only real color that is appropriate on stage. If the costume color is bright pink a very deep pink lipstick would be acceptable also. For all other costume colors, the red lipstick is best.

****examples of what a dancer should look like: (you can also google search dance recital makeup)**

