

## **Tips for Hair and Make-up for the Year-End Show**

Everything you need for hair and make-up is available at a drug store. Some grocery stores also carry some items. You can also purchase any of the pins and hairnets needed at the dance shop.

### **Making a secure ponytail (this is also the anchor for a ballet bun)**

You will need:

- gel or non-aerosol hairspray
- aerosol hairspray (recommend Garnier as it smells better than most!)
- sturdy elastic to match hair (a small elastic for young dancers with less hair; a nice thick one for those with longer/thicker hair)
- hairbrush and comb
- bobby pins to match hair (the closed pins)

- 1) make sure hair is damp, or spray with water to wet (hair that's not too clean is also easier to style)
- 2) comb tangles out; work gel through or spray, and comb again
- 3) comb into a smooth ponytail, at medium to high height (just above the tops of the ears, at the crown of the head), making sure to catch wisps, and try to smooth out the hair coming up from the neck > smooth hair straight back from face, no parts
- 4) secure in place with elastic; spray generously with aerosol hairspray (top and under the ponytail) to secure wisps
- 5) any stubborn wisps can be held in place with bobby pins

Bangs – depending on the length of bangs and thickness of hair, there are two options:

- 1) preferred - comb back with the rest of the hair (use lots of gel/spray!), and secure with bobby pins
- 2) if absolutely necessary, you can part the bangs and gel/spray and pin to the sides

Bangs and wisps cause shadows on the face under stage lights.

Some dances require a centre part – please make sure this is directly between the eyes, and nice and straight. Same procedures apply as above.

### **Making a bun (for ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, or modern)**

As well as the items listed above, you will also need:

- hairpins (the open kind)
- invisible hairnet (to match hair colour)

- 1) make a ponytail as described above
- 2) twist ponytail, and then wrap around the base of the ponytail, keeping close to the head. It's a good idea to pin as you go, and you don't want to twist too tightly, or the bun will elongate and pull away from the head. These long buns look a bit odd, and more importantly, are also much less secure
- 3) most hair needs the open hairpins to make a bun, but on young dancers with very fine hair you may find that bobby pins are more secure.
- 4) use a good number of pins, around 12-16 works for average length/thickness but you may need more
- 5) wrap hair net around 2-3 times, depending on size of bun, and tuck any loose net under the edge of the bun. Use 2 or 3 more hairpins to hold the net in place

Please note that for buns, we are looking for a flat, classical-style bun; no sock or doughnut buns please.

## Make-Up Notes

Make-up on stage is to prevent the washing-out effect of the powerful stage lights, therefore all dancers (male and female) are asked to wear make-up. All necessary make-up can be found at a drug store, or places like the Body Shop. The following notes are for older (Part 2/Finale) dancers. Younger dancers' notes are below.

### Part 2/Finale dancers (older):

Foundation – we recommend a liquid foundation to match skin tone be applied before make-up. Be sure to blend into throat to avoid a make-up line.

Eyes – we recommend a pastel or neutral brown eyeshadow; nothing too bright, metallic, or dark. Black eyeliner and mascara have the best impact on stage. Eyeliner should be on both upper and lower eyelids, and extend in wings at the corner of the eyes. Top wing should go up slightly, and extend about a centimetre from the corner of the eye. Lower wing should go down slightly, and be about half the length. See image here:

Beauty Tues: Easy Double-Wing Eyeliner + How-To Apply Tips  
<https://images.app.goo.gl/tRCm2DfJUGJizZDW8>

Cheeks – a nice pink blush, applied to the cheekbones and back towards the ears

Lips – bright red lipstick, with red lipliner to stop it from bleeding

### Younger dancers (Part 1):

We recommend blush, pink or red lipstick or gloss, and a pastel/neutral eyeshadow for our youngest dancers (approx. 3-6 years old).

Dancers are welcome to add any of the other elements as listed above (eyeliner, mascara, foundation) as they get older. Dancers in both Part 1 & Part 2, should use the older dancer's makeup options.

### Boys:

Boys wear makeup too, so their faces don't wash out. Similar to girls, but can be more neutral in the eye and lip colours, and eyeliner wings can be less pronounced.

We respect your comfort levels, and will not put additional make-up on a young dancer. If you need assistance, just pack the dancers' make-up and a volunteer will be happy to help.