

## **Dance Unlimited Dress for Class**

### **A. Combo Ballet/Tap Classes for ages 3-5:**

Any color leotard, pink tights, ballet split-soled ballet shoes. Optional: Mid-thigh-length skirt, but nothing longer because the teacher needs to see your dancer's legs. Hair pulled back and away from the face. We are better teachers when all dancers are dressed alike, as it makes it easier to assess dancers' movements, posture, lines of the body, etc.

Tap shoes: Black. If you purchase a pair of tap shoes with ribbon ties, please take out the ties and replace them with elastic, so your dancer can slip them on and off by herself/himself and we won't take away class time tying shoe laces.

Ballet Shoes: We recommend shoes that are all-leather, have split soles (easier to point the foot) and have elastic under the arch so that the shoe stretches as your dancer's feet grow. Our Revolution brand are preferred. We do not recommend ballet shoes that have the one piece of cardboard on the bottom; they make it difficult for little ballerinas to point their feet.

### **B. Combo Ballet/Jazz Classes for ages 5-8:**

Either leotard or tight top paired with dance shorts or pants. If wearing a leotard, tights that are pink. Optional: mid-thigh length skirt over the leotard, but nothing longer because the teacher needs to see your dancer's legs. We are better teachers when all dancers are dressed alike, as it makes it easier to assess dancers' movements, posture, lines of the body, etc.

Ballet Shoes: We recommend shoes that are all-leather, have split soles (easier to point the foot) and have elastic under the arch so that the shoe stretches as your dancer's feet grow. Our Revolution brand are preferred. We do not recommend ballet shoes that have the one piece of cardboard on the bottom; they make it difficult for little ballerinas to point their feet.

### **C. Classical Ballet Classes, All Levels:**

Any solid leotard that is one color, pink tights with pink canvas split-soled ballet shoes. Hair pulled back and away from the face. Mid-thigh-length skirts or black dance shorts may be worn over the leotard. We are better teachers when all dancers are dressed alike, as it makes it easier to assess dancers' movements, posture, lines of the body, etc.

Ballet Shoes: We recommend shoes that are canvas and have split soles (easier to point the foot). We do not recommend ballet shoes that have the one piece of cardboard on the bottom; they make it difficult for little ballerinas to point their feet.

### **D. Jazz Classes:**

Either leotard or tight top paired with dance shorts or pants, with bare legs, body tights or tights. We are better teachers when all dancers are dressed alike, as it makes it easier to assess dancers' movements, posture, lines of the body, etc. We can polish the dance more easily and as a result, dancers will look better performing as a class!

**Shoes:** When your dance costume is selected, we will know whether you need tan jazz shoes or black jazz shoes. Until then, please wear whatever you have on hand; we'd hate for you to purchase a tan pair of shoes, and then later find out that you need a black pair to match your costume. If you don't own any dance shoes at all, then your safest bet is to purchase a tan pair and keep your fingers crossed that tan is the color you'll need for matching your costume! If you already own a pair of ballet shoes, just wear them in the meantime. We also have a box of used shoes that you're welcome to look through, use and return to the box when your dancer outgrows them.

### **E. Non-performing Jazz Technique Classes:**

Either leotard or tight black top paired with dance shorts or pants, with bare legs, body tights or tights.

**Shoes:** Any jazz shoes or barefoot.

### **F. Hip-Hop:**

Wear loose, comfortable clothing and a pair of tennis shoes.

### **G. Contemporary:**

Any color and style of dance wear and dance shoes that are preferred by the dancer.

### **H. Tap-only:**

A pair of shorts or pants (make sure the pants don't go over your shoes because the teacher will need to see your feet as you dance), and a comfortable top you can move in.

**Tap Shoes:** We recommend a quality tap shoe.

### **I. Competition Dance Teams:**

Either leotard or tight top paired with dance shorts or pants, with bare legs or tights. Pulled back, out of your face. We are better teachers when all dancers are dressed alike, as it makes it easier to assess dancers' movements, posture, lines of the body, etc. We can polish the dance more easily and as a result, dancers will look better performing as a class!

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**What are "split-sole" dance shoes?**

On the bottom of the ballet shoe, rather than having one piece of hard material from the toes to the heels, there are two pieces: one under the toes/ball of the foot, and another under the heel. This leaves a space in the middle of the sole, at the arch, where there's only the soft shoe leather, so it's easier for your dancer to point and manipulate her/his feet.

**Can I buy an inexpensive pair of ballet shoes at Wal-Mart?**

We advise against it as that quality of shoe makes it difficult for the dancer to work through their feet.

**Can I purchase shoes and other dancewear at Dance Unlimited?**

Yes, we have a store that carries everything you need for class, all are high-quality and at reasonable prices. We recommend purchasing early to avoid the chaos and to make sure we don't run out of the sizes you need.