Inspire Dance Centre
2026/27 Dress Code

Our dress code is in place to promote students' freedom of movement and teachers' observation of the correct technique. We have differentiated the Ballet levels by the color of the leotard. The color distinction gives the student a sense of accomplishment as the dancer moves up in levels and graduates to a new leotard color.

Undergarments are never worn beneath dance attire, much like a swimsuit.

Skirts and sweaters must be removed before entering class, with Pointe & Pre Pointe classes being the exception. A ballet wrap sweater may be used for young dancers who are cold.

Mark all items with the dancer's first and last name, especially shoes.

Dance shoes should be put on once inside the studio, do not wear them outside.

It is proper etiquette to wear clothes over dancewear when entering or exiting the studio - office staff will remind dancers and have them correct this if needed.

Hair:

- A *neat, tidy bun* is required for ALL ballet, ball, and pointe classes regardless of level.
- A ponytail or bun is required for ALL OTHER CLASSES - your hair must be pulled back. You can find bun tutorials pinned on our Instagram page, a floppy/messy bun with the hair pulled half way through a ponytail will not be allowed for class.
- Boys: Hair, and bangs must be groomed away from the face and eyes.

Jewelry:

- Please remove all jewelry, with the exception being small stud earrings.

Attire - Leotards can be found on Amazon, or other online dance stores (Dancewear Solutions), or locally at The Leotard in Portland. We recommend getting fit with your ballet slippers at The Leotard.

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Ballet

Dance Sprouts Creative Ballet Primary Ballet	Burgundy leotard, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers. A ballet wrap sweater may be used in winter.
Intro to Ballet	Purple leotard, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers.
Ballet 1	Royal blue leotard, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers.
Ballet 2	Forest Green Leotard, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers.
Ballet 3 Ballet 4	Navy blue leotard, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers. You may add stirrup tights over your standard attire in pink or black.
Ballet 5	Black leotard, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers. You may add stirrup tights over your standard attire in pink or black.
Ballet 6	Solid Color leotard of your choice, pink tights, and pink canvas split-sole ballet slippers. You may add stirrup tights over your standard attire in pink or black.
Boys	Black tights/footless dance leggings, white ballet shirt (tucked in), white socks, and black canvas cross strap ballet slippers.
Adult Fitness	Athletic attire, and ballet slippers of your choosing.

Shoes: Gaynor Minden “Liberty” for size 4 and larger, or Capezio Hanami for feet smaller than size 4.

Pointe:

Pointe 5/6	Class ballet attire & Pointe skirt from 2025
Pointe 1	Class ballet attire & Balera Ombre Skirt in Navy
Pre-Pointe	Class ballet attire & Balera Ombre Skirt in Black Cherry

Contemporary Ballet & Neoclassical:

Contemporary Ballet 2	Class Leotard with Balera shorts or black leggings, and split-sole nude ballet slippers.
Contemporary Ballet 3/4	Class Leotard with Balera shorts or black leggings, and split-sole nude ballet slippers.
Neoclassical 5/6	Class Leotard with Balera shorts or black leggings, and split-sole nude ballet slippers.

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Contemporary

Contemporary 3/4	Athletic attire, in all black. Black Balera dance shorts, or black leggings.
Contemporary 5/6	Athletic attire, in all black. Black dance shorts, or black leggings

Lyrical

Lyrical 2	Ballet leotard, no tights & Balera Woven Tech Waist Pocket Shorts in Black, or black leggings, barefoot.

Jazz

Jazz 2	Athletic top, Black Balera dance shorts or black leggings and Bloch Phantom jazz shoes in tan.
Jazz 3/4	Athletic attire, in all black. Black Balera dance shorts, or black leggings.
Jazz 5/6	Athletic attire, in all black. Black dance shorts, or black leggings
Jazz Funk	Athletic attire, in all black. Black dance shorts, or black leggings

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Lyrical & Jazz Combo

Creative & Primary Jazz & Lyrical	Burgundy leotard, Black Balera dance shorts, or black leggings. Bloch Phantom Jazz Shoes in Tan.
Intro to Jazz & Lyrical	Ballet class leotard, black Balera dance shorts or black leggings and Bloch Phantom Jazz Shoes in tan.
Jazz & Lyrical 1	Ballet class leotard, black Balera dance shorts or black leggings and Bloch Phantom Jazz Shoes in tan.

Musical Theater

Musical Theater All Classes	Athletic attire, no baggy t-shirts or baggy shorts, and Bloch Phantom jazz shoes in tan.

Hip Hop

All Levels	Loose, baggy clothing to have free range of motion (no jeans). Clean sneakers, **worn only for class** and not used for regular everyday attire.

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Tap

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR TAP SHOE RECOMMENDATIONS BY LEVEL

All Levels	Athletic attire and tap shoes as recommended below.

Tumbling

All Levels	Athletic attire, no baggy shirts or pants.

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Tap Shoe Requirements:

Intro to Tap - Level 1
Capezio Mary Jane Child Tap Shoe 3800

Black (**NO PATENT LEATHER**)
eBay has a lot of these for $10-$20! Buy used!

Beginner Boys: Age 4-7 (approx.)

See the “Intermediate” shoe listed below.

** If a younger child is placed in a class with older kids, then a different shoe may be preferred. Please, check with the teacher before purchasing a new shoe.

** Girls can obviously also wear the intermediate shoe, in theory. However, at this age, Mary Jane is much more attractive with typical costumes, and the velcro strap eliminates the constant need to tie shoelaces. The Capezio also happens to be of outstanding quality and sounds terrific..

Level 2-6 & Company

Bloch Lace Up “Sync” Tap Shoe

Style No: S0321L
* Black full-grain leather (won’t crack like similar looking shoes actually made with plastic)
* This shoe also has a solid toe box, which is vital for toe stand work. Most intermediate-level shoes do NOT have this type of support, and a student will be hindered in what they’re able to do without a proper toe box.

*****If the Bloch shoe does not come in your child’s size, then the Capezio Fluid Tap Shoe is your next choice. It is the Capezio CG17C.**

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Leotards

Leotards and tights are available in the office while supplies last. Listed below are links to a variety of leotards available on Amazon.

https://amzn.to/4c1Bo4M

https://amzn.to/4fTWpj7

https://amzn.to/45b2hzu

https://amzn.to/4wbOi7y