

A Parents' Guide to Beginning Dance At Naperville Dance Academy

Welcome to Naperville Dance Academy! We are so excited to welcome you as part of our dance family!
We have put together this guide to help you prepare for your child's dance season.

- **Registered for class, now what?**

- Recital vs Seasonal/Non-Recital Classes: Be sure you signed your dancer up for the correct dance class. Recital session is a 9-month session where dancers will finish the session with an annual recital. Seasonal/Non-Recital classes are shorter sessions that are geared more toward students that want to take class and not participate in recital. We will also have a recital track for dancers that will begin in January. 3-5 year old classes will not have recital track classes in the Fall; the recital session of these classes will be offered during Winter registration for a January start.
- Confirm location: It is important to verify the location on where the class will be taking place. Did you know Naperville Dance Academy has five studios throughout Naperville? Locations are:
 - ARRC (also referred to RCC): Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center, 305 West Jackson Ave, Room 123
 - Fort Hill Activity Center: 20 Fort Hill Drive, Studio B
 - 95th Street Center: 2244 95th Street, Room 208/209
 - NCHS: Naperville Central High School, 440 Aurora Ave, Enter through door #28
 - Xilin Association, 1163 E Ogden Suite 610
- Confirm Start Date: Not all classes may start the same week. Double check the start date and put it on your calendar! The first day of dance class is one of the most important classes you do not want to miss. The instructor will hold a 5 minute meeting with parents to introduce themselves and to set expectations for the dance session.

- **What does my child wear to class?**

- Dress Code: Dress code for each class is different. Please refer to the "Dance Academy Dress Code" document on our website, www.napervilleparks.org/dance.
- Shoes: Each class requires a specific shoe and is extremely important part of dance class. Below are some general images of types of shoes. Please refer to the "Dancewear Suggestions" document on our website, www.napervilleparks.org/dance.
- Check out our studio dancewear shop that offers teacher recommendations and a vast selection of items for class. www.shopnimbly.com/npddance.



Leather Ballet Shoes used for all level Ballet, Pirouette with Me and Ballet/Tap Combo classes



Jazz Shoes used for all level Jazz classes, Competition Dance, Dance and Poms, Hippity Hoppers and Hip Hop/Jazz classes.



Tap Shoes used for all level Tap and Ballet/Tap Combo classes.

- **First Day of Dance Class:**

- 5 Minute Parent Meeting: Be prepared to stay an extra 5 minutes on the first day of class so that you can meet your child's dance instructor. The instructor will also go over class attire, punctuality, parent observation days and anything else that is specific to the class.
- Water Bottle: We encourage all dancers to bring a reusable water bottle to dance class as long as it contains **only** water. Often times dancers will not have enough time during their class to take a break to go to the water fountain, therefore water bottles come in handy! When bringing a water bottle, please make sure to initial or write your child's name on the water bottle.
- Arriving On Time: It is important that your child is arriving to dance class on time. Arriving late puts your child at risk of any injuries if they are not properly warmed up. Please allow plenty of time for your dancer to get their shoes on and their personal belongings put away before dance class starts. This is extremely important during the winter months. Please do not allow your dancer to wear their dance shoes outside. We do provide designated areas to store their personal items such as shoes, jackets, bags at all of our studio locations.

- **Still have questions?**

- Who to Contact: We understand starting something new can be overwhelming and can result in a lot of questions! Please contact *Raegan Milan, Dance Academy Coordinator*, by phone (630)848-3618 or via email at rmilan@napervilleparks.org.

