

Beginning Dance Vocabulary Words

Dance Vocabulary Practice

- 1) **barre**: horizontal bar used for support
- 2) **demi** = small
- 3) **grand** = large
- 4) **plie**: bend of the knees
- 5) **relevé (on élevé)**: rise on the toes

Beginning Dance Vocabulary Words

Dance Vocabulary #1

- 1) **bras bas**: arms in low 5th position
- 2) **port de bras**: carriage of the arms
- 3) **cambré**: a bend from the waist in any direction, but especially forward or backward.
- 4) **supporting leg**: the leg which supports the body so the working leg is free to execute a given movement.
- 5) **working leg**: the leg that executes movement while body weight is on the supporting leg.
- 6) **sous-sus**: relevé in tight 5th position
- 7) **soutenu**: turn on relevé in tight 5th position
- 8) **battement tendu**: “stretched”; to stretch the foot on the floor
- 9) **battement dégagé**: “disengaged”; to stretch the foot off the floor
- 10) **chainés**: chains or links; a series of rapid turns performed on relevé.

Beginning Dance Vocabulary Words

Dance Vocabulary #2

- 1) **en croix**: in the shape of a cross; (front, side, back, side)
- 2) **devánt**: to the front
- 3) **á la seconde**: to the side (2nd position)
- 4) **derrière**: to the back
- 5) **coup de pied**: toes at the ankle
- 6) **rond de jambe**: circle of the leg
- 7) **en dehórs**: outward (towards working leg)
- 8) **en dedáns**: inward (towards supporting leg)
- 9) **á terre**: on the floor
- 10) **en l'air**: in the air

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Dance Vocabulary #3

- 1) **changement**: change feet in air by jumping from 5th to opposite 5th
- 2) **soubresaut**: jump that starts and ends in the same 5th position.
- 3) **pas de chat**: step of the cat
- 4) **échappé**: to escape (jump from 5th position to 2nd position)
- 5) **passé**: "to pass"; toes at the knee
- 6) **pirouette**: complete turn of the body on one foot.
- 7) **tombé**: "to fall"; a soft and controlled falling step
- 8) **pas de bourrée**: three little steps used to connect ballet movements (up --> up --> down)
- 9) **sauté**: to jump
- 10) **glissade**: to glide; traveling step that begins w/ demi-plié in 5th, moves through 2nd en l'air, and ends w/demi-plié in 5th

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Dance Vocabulary #4

- 1) **chassé**: traveling step in which one foot chases the other foot out of its position
- 2) **grand battement**: a big/high kick
- 3) **développé**: "developed"; working leg is drawn up to knee of supporting leg & then out to a position in the air
- 4) **assemblé**: "assembled or joined together"; jump from one foot onto both feet while bringing the legs together in the air.
- 5) **entrechat**: "braidings or interweavings"; type of *changement* beginning in 5th position during which the calves are beaten in the opposite 5th position in mid-air before returning to their original position on the floor.
- 6) **balancé**: rocking step
- 7) **attitude**: position held on one leg with the working leg lifted in the air, so the knee is turned out and bent at a 90 degree angle
- 8) **arabesque**: position of the entire body that is held in profile and supported on one leg
- 9) **grand jeté**: type of *jeté* in which the legs are thrown to a 90-degree angle with a corresponding high jump.
- 10) **sissonne**: jump from two feet to one foot