



The Academy of Dance Tap Class Curriculum

Introduction to all tap levels syllabus:

The skills and steps listed for each level are intended to be mastered before students are ready to move on; they are not meant to be the only steps a teacher will be working on in class throughout the year. Each level builds off the previous levels. Steps listed are not intended to be extensive/exclusive, but more as a guide to what level of difficulty and vocabulary each level will be working on. ***Levels will be reassessed at the end of each school year, though dancers should expect to spend multiple years in each level.***

Tap Levels:

- Pre Tap
- Tap 1
- Tap 2
- Tap 3



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Pre-Tap

30 minutes-1 hour class | *Intended for ages: 4-7*

Overall goals for the level:

- ability to listen to the teacher
- to stand/sit in a line or pattern and follow directions
- to count to 8 and hear basic music cues
- to remember steps and short dances from week to week
- basic arm movement at the same time as feet
- Basic directions (Right Wall, Left Wall, Back Wall, Front, Corner)
- understand the idea of opposition arms while walking
- Clapping on the beat
- Hop on 1 foot (Right and Left)

Movement goals for the level:

Center

1. toe drops (one foot at a time)
2. heel drops (one foot at a time)
3. Toe drops (feet at same time)
4. Heel drops (feet at same time)
5. Toe taps (Right and Left)
6. Tap Steps (Alternating)
7. Heel Steps (Alternating)
8. Toe Steps (Alternating)
9. Shuffles (Right and Left)
10. Shuffle Step (Alternating)
11. Shuffle Hop Step (Alternating)
12. Hop Shuffle Step (Alternating)
13. Shuffle Ball Change (Right and Left)
14. Step Dig (Alternating)
15. Jump Apart and Together
16. Jump Apart, Clap, Jump Together, Clap
17. Marching (Forward, Backward, In a Circle)

Front to Back/ Across the Floor

1. Runs (Tiny on toes and kicking bum)
2. Heel Pushes
3. Toe Heels (Forward and Backward)
4. Toe Heel, Heels (Forward and Backward)
5. Flaps (Forward and Backward)
6. Flap Heel (Forward and Backward)
7. Flap Heel, Heel (Forward and Backward)
8. Rhythm Roll
9. Step Clap
10. Flap Ball Changes
11. Chugs
12. Grapevines
13. Toe Heel Grape Vines



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Tap 1

1 hour class | *Intended for ages: 7-10*

All things listed in Pre-Tap Syllabus

Overall goals for the level:

- Count with half notes (“and” counts)
- Hear and understand more complex music cues
- Work at a faster tempo
- More complex arm movements at the same time as feet
- Ability to remember a longer piece of choreography from week to week
- To know and apply the difference between working on your toes or flat footed.
- Ability to pick up choreography at a faster speed.
- To coordinate head, arms, legs and feet at the same time.

Movement goals for the level:

Center

1. 3 step turn
2. Shuffles crossing over (Right and Left)
3. Shuffle hop on 1 foot (at least 4 in a row. Right and Left)
4. Drumrolls/ Cramprolles (4 count and 5 count)
5. Maxi Fords (Alternating)
6. Leap Maxi Ford (Right and Left)
7. Waltz Clogs (Alternating)
8. Single Time Step (Right and Left)
9. Single Pirouette (Right and Left)

Across the Floor

1. Running Flaps (Forward and Back)
2. Irish Jigs (Front and Back)
3. Single Buffalos
4. Triples (also called Rolling Shuffles)
5. Chainé Turns
6. Toe Heel Turns
7. Flap Heel Turns
8. Shuffle Ball Change traveling side (Right and Left)
9. Flap Heel Dig traveling side (Right and Left)
10. 4 count Riff Walk



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Tap 2

1 hour class | *Intended for ages: 10-14, by placement of teacher*

All things listed in Pre-Tap and Tap 1 Syllabus

Overall goals for the level:

- Count in quarter notes (“a” counts ex. 1 and a, 2 and a)
- Work on the balls of the feet/not always flat footed
- Hear and understand complex music and cues.
- Work at a fast tempo and stay on the beat
- Ability to quickly pick up choreography
- To be able to perform a step just by calling it by name
- To apply corrections given weekly
- Perform steps consistently at the correct tempo

Movement goals for the level:

Center

1. Double Time Steps (Right and Left)
2. Triple Time Steps (Right and Left)
3. Varying Time Step “Breaks”
4. Swinging Cramproll
5. Double Pirouette
6. Drag Turns

Across The Floor

1. Flap Toe Hops
2. Drawbacks (Alternating)
3. Cincinatti
4. Triples with chug variations
5. Bombershay (Right and Left)
6. Double Pullbacks/Pickups (Both feet at same time)
7. Single Pullbacks/Pickups (Right and Left)
8. Alternating Pullbacks/Pickups
9. Brush back Pullbacks/Pickups (Right and Left)
10. Shuffle Pickups (Alternating)
11. Double Buffalos (Right and Left)
12. Triple Buffalos (Right and Left)
13. Turning Buffalos (Right and Left)
14. Turning Flap Ball Change (Right and Left)
15. Cramproll Turns (Right and Left)
16. 5 count Riff Walk (Alternating)
17. Changeable 5 Riff Walk (Alternating)
18. 6 count Riff Walk (Alternating)
19. 7 count Riff Walk (Alternating)

Tap 3 (Ages 12+)



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1 hour class | *Intended for ages: 12+, by placement of teacher*

All things listed in Pre-Tap, Tap 1 and Tap 2

Overall goals for the level:

- Advanced Timing (“e” counts ex: 1, e, and, a, 2, e, and, a)
- Hear and understand very complex music and cues.
- To go back and forth between very fast and slow tempos and stay consistently on the correct beat
- Very clean/crisp sounds
- Understand variations of rhythm
- Have a sense of “Style”

Movement goals for the level:

Center

1. Skuffle (Right and Left)
2. Riffle (Right and Left)
3. Paradiddle (Alternating)
4. Complex Time Step “breaks” changing weight
5. Time Steps starting with a shuffle
6. Triple Pirouette (Right and Left)
7. Toe Stands
8. Toe Stand Cramroll (Right and Left)
9. Barrel Turns (Right and Left)
10. Paddle Turns (Right and Left)
11. Wings

Across the Floor

1. Drawbacks crossing over
2. Flap Shuffle Hop (Alternating)
3. Traveling Time Steps
4. Maxi Ford Turns
5. Brush back Pickups to Toe Stand (Right and Left)
6. Complex combinations combining steps from previous levels