

## THE 10-POINT CHECKLIST FOR CHOOSING A DANCE STUDIO

HOW TO FIND THE BEST FIT FOR YOUR FAMILY

### **READY TO DANCE?**



Not sure what questions to ask or what to look for when choosing a dance school? Here are some tips to help you get started. These are ten important points to consider when choosing a school for your child.



#### FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Plan a visit in person, observe a class, make an appointment with the director. If they don't have time to talk with you now, they likely won't have time to address customer concerns later.

#### STRUCTURED PROGRAM

Ask about evaluations and exams for student-level promotions. Children develop at varying rates. Uniform leveling up based on age or grade can lead to frustration, poor technique, and possible long-term injuries.





#### TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Teacher experience and qualification matters. Look for someone who has danced with a professional company, has a degree in dance, and/or has taught at reputable schools.

#### PROFESSIONAL FOCUS

The purpose of a truly professional dance school is to ensure your child's continuous, safe growth as a dancer and a person. Many recreational schools tend to devote too much class time to preparing for competitions or recitals, rather than firmly establishing proper technique.



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#### PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

Dance is a performance art and students should have opportunities to perform throughout the year. Look for a school that gives its students several performance opportunities that focus on educating and training dancers to be well-rounded individuals.





#### FLOORING & STUDIO ENVIRONMENT

Studio floor quality is important in preventing injury. Look for proper floor covering (Marley is preferable) and structure (should be a raised and sprung floor to prevent injury). It is easy to be dazzled by "glitzy" studios and waiting areas, make sure the lesson areas are safe and appropriate.

#### DISCIPLINED ENVIRONMENT

A dance school should have a sense of structure and adequate basic facilities. Rooms should have barres, and mirrors on at least one wall. And schools should have a set list of dress codes including shoes and proper hairstyles to encourage a structured and positive learning environment for all ages.







#### SNEAK PEEK

Ask about a trial class or lesson. Notice how the teachers engage the students and how the students respond in turn to get a feeling for the real studio environment.

#### TUITION

Annual tuition costs including shows or costume fees should be clear. When comparing schools, look at the quality of the programs, the number of classes, and the professionalism of the faculty. You usually get what you pay for and dance schools are no exception.





#### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Look at the achievements (professional dancers, summer intensives, competitive awards) of students and alumni in comparison to the number of years the studio has been open. Successful students are an indication of successful dance schools.

## CLEVELAND CITY DANCE..





We look forward to meeting you in person! Call today to schedule your free trial class.

Call 216-295-2222