

DERT 2019 - Marking Criteria

Main, Spotlight & Veterans Competitions

Stepping (15 marks)

Description	Mark Range	Mark awarded
Stepping is clean and crisp, at a good volume and in time with the music throughout. The team display a consistent style between dancers and throughout the dance. There is a variety of stepping with interesting variations. Jumps are good, and in time with the music; where the jump is two footed the feet are together. Stepping in spins is good. Dancers all start and finish stepping at the same time unless clearly intended otherwise.	13-15	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	10-12	
Stepping is on the whole in time with the music and audible. A consistent style is attempted between dancers and throughout the dance. There is some variety in stepping. Jumps are secure and in time with the dance. Stepping in spins is accurate. Dancers mostly start and finish stepping at the same time where necessary.	7-9	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	4-6	
Stepping is muffled with missed taps and not in time with the music. There is no consistency in style between dancers or throughout the dance. There is very little / no variety in stepping. Jumps are poor, not in time with the music and dancers do not jump together. Stepping in spins is not in time with the music and feet are not at the same height. Dancers do not start and finish stepping at the same time.	0-3	

Sword Handling (15 marks)

Description	Mark Range	Mark Awarded
Swords are kept high and above heads (where necessary), meaning no ducking is needed, and hands are together where possible. Excellent sword shapes throughout the dance, including display figures and locks. Locks are displayed evenly, including any flat locks. Smooth movements and transitions and skilful use of swords to create excitement. While any erroneous dropped sword should be penalised any loose or dropped swords are immediately recovered and there is no detriment to the flow of the dance.	13-15	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	10-12	
Swords are generally high and there is minimal ducking, hands are mostly kept together. Sword shapes are good throughout the dance, especially in display figures and locks. Locks are displayed well. Movements and transitions are secure. Any loose or dropped swords are recovered quickly allowing the dance to continue.	7-9	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	4-6	
Swords are low which causes ducking throughout the dance and hands are not together. Swords do not move together and locks and display figures are poorly formed. There is inconsistent control of swords. There are loose or dropped swords which are slowly recovered stopping the flow of the dance.	0-3	

Dance Technique (15 marks)

Description	Mark Range	Mark Awarded
Dancers work in complete harmony as a team, set is always controlled, tight and balanced. There are clear shapes and spacing throughout the dance and movements and positions are planned and executed with each dancer in control. All individual movements are fluid, smooth and well controlled and dancers are always aware of each other. The set stays well centred within the dance space. Spins are even, circular and instantly well-paced, and tumbles are confident and in time with each other and the music.	13-15	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	10-12	
There is some fluidity as a team with control and minimal bumping. Shapes are well formed and movements are generally controlled and dancers are aware of each other. There is fluidity between figures. The set moves very little within the dance space. Spins are secure, balanced and get up to speed swiftly, and tumbles are in time with the dance.	7-9	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	4-6	
Dancers do not work together as a team and frequently bump into each other. Shapes are poorly formed, e.g lines are not straight/circles are not circular, and there is a lack of fluidity between figures. The set moves a lot within the dance space. Spins are slow to get going, uneven, and with varied postures amongst the dancers. Individual movements are poorly controlled and tumbles are out of time with the music, each other, or fail to execute.	0-3	

Buzz Factor (15 marks)

Description	Mark Range	Mark Awarded
A highly exciting and entertaining dance that dominates the performance space. The confidence and energy of the dance is high throughout, captivating judges and audience members. Figures are performed with excitement and flair. Display figures and locks are received well by the audience. Exciting figures are included. There is a real 'buzz' atmosphere in the room from the team entrance, during the dance and when the dance has finished, bearing in mind the size of the available audience and potential 'rent-a-crowd' effect.	13-15	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	10-12	
An entertaining dance that uses the performance space well. There is good energy throughout and audience members and judges are clearly interested. Display figures and locks receive a positive response from the audience. Dancers are engaging with the audience and not intimidated. There is a good 'buzz' atmosphere during and after the dance, bearing in mind the size of the available audience.	7-9	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	4-6	
A tame or boring dance that fails to dominate the space. Low energy throughout, audience members are not paying full attention. Display figures and locks receive minimal response from the audience. There is little or no 'buzz' atmosphere during/after the dance, bearing in mind the size of the available audience.	0-3	

Presentation (15 marks)

Description	Mark Range	Mark Awarded
Excellent entrance to dance area, ending and exit from dance area (no fidgeting). All performers appear confident and positive throughout the dance. Consistent approach e.g. all smiling/enjoying dance or all serious. Very smart, clean and tidy kit, including shoes and hair. All dancers wearing matching kit, including shoes. Kit is appropriate for rapper and harmonises with overall presentation, enhancing performance. Shiny, clean swords. Musicians dressed smartly and in keeping with the team appearance.	13-15	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	10-12	
Confident entrance and exit to/from dance area (minimal fidgeting). Dancers look calm and in control. Clean and tidy kit which is consistent between dancers. Kit is appropriate for rapper and does not inhibit the performance. Some kit coming adrift during the dance.	7-9	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	4-6	
Poor entrance and exit, fidgeting before or after the dance. Talking within the set. Dancers frowning or looking nervous. Scruffy, untidy and dirty kit - whites not white, shoes/swords not polished etc. Kit not consistent between dancers. Kit coming adrift during dance. Kit inhibiting the ability to dance. Items in pockets e.g. keys or change cause distraction from the dance	0-3	

Music (15 marks)

Description	Mark Range	Mark Awarded
<p>Paying close attention to the dancers, playing for/with the dancers throughout performance, at their speed. Music is an integral part of the dance (e.g. alters rhythmic emphasis where appropriate to match jumps / tumbles / varied stepping types, builds tension in spins if appropriate, raises excitement levels for end of dance). Well played and planned, and fits, lifts and drives the entire dance. Music matches the intended atmosphere of the dance whether serious / joyful / aggressive / smooth and slick. Music is enjoyable to listen to with excellent choices and changes of key and tune that are well timed to fit the figures.</p>	13-15	
<p>Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.</p>	10-12	
<p>Musicians pay attention to the dancers adapting quickly and smoothly where necessary. Music has steady rhythm and is at an appropriate speed for the dancers. The music fits well with the dance and has suitable tune choices and changes. Some change(s) of emphasis to bring out the rhythm of the dance.</p>	7-9	
<p>Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.</p>	4-6	
<p>Little or no drive or lift from music. Musicians are not paying attention to dancers and do not adapt when required. The rhythm is unsteady and at the wrong speed for the dancers. Playing is poor and/or out of tune. The tunes chosen do not fit the dance or figures. Single tune with little or no variation throughout dance, and no changes of emphasis to highlight the dance rhythms.</p>	0-3	

Character (10 marks)

If a team has no Character please enter N/A

Description	Mark Range	Mark Awarded
Excellent performance that contributes to and is integral to the dance. Actions skilfully tailored to the performance, audience and venue. Positive interaction with dancers, lifting the performance. Effective involvement in dance itself. Draws in audience from the start. Engages audience throughout whole performance, resulting in appropriate responses to locks, tumblers, etc. Only enhances the performance, doesn't detract at all. Responds swiftly and effectively to problems (e.g. mistakes, snapped swords, objects in the dance space) if they arise. Appropriate kit.	9-10	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	7-8	
Performance that contributes to the dance. Clearly audible, and good interaction with dancers and audience. Limited involvement in the dance itself. Responds effectively to problems if they arise. Appropriate kit.	5-6	
Team mostly demonstrates the below but with some elements of the above/team demonstrates all of the below, plus some elements of the above.	3-4	
Detracts from performance e.g. taking attention away from dancers. Fails to engage audience at start and/or during dance and fails to respond effectively to any problems that arise. Unclear or inaudible. Boring, uninspiring, annoying or embarrassing performance. Obstructs audience's view. Obstructing or interfering with dancers and/or musicians. Inappropriate kit. No or poor involvement in dance.	0-2	