

Tips for stage make up application

USE YOUR JUDGEMENT WITH THESE TIPS. YOUNG DANCERS DO NOT NEED HEAVY MAKE UP APPLICATION, BUT THEY DO NEED COLOR! STAGE LIGHTING IS BRIGHT AND WILL “WASH OUT” THE FACE IF COLOR IS NOT ADDED. MAKE UP IS NOT NEEDED FOR BOYS.

Start with a clean dry face

- If applying false eyelashes, do so now. Before anything has been applied to the skin. (This does not apply to small children, advanced dancers only!)
- Apply moisturizer and allow to dry. (optional)
- Apply concealer under the eyes by dotting and blending with the finger tip. Concealers should be slightly lighter than the tone of the foundation to give a brightening effect around the eyes. Try a concealer in a “wand” for easy control. Dot with the wand, blend with the finger tip.
- Select a foundation just slightly darker shade than your normal skin tone. This will help with the stage light “wash-out”. Try a stick or mousse foundation formula. Dot on lightly and blend in to skin being careful not to leave lines around neck and jaw line.
- Apply loose or pressed powder to face with a brush. Try to match skin tone or foundation to smooth the surface of the skin. This step is important because it helps with the “staying power” of the make-up.
- Apply blush (pink tones) by first sweeping your brush through the loose/pressed powder then through your powdered blush. This will blend the blush in better. Apply blush to the apples of the cheeks, and stroke brush in an “upward, and outward” motion toward the hairline to blend. Apply a bit more color on the cheeks than you would for street wear for stage. The lights “wash out” color very easily. Be careful that blush is blended well; you do not want it to look “streaky”, or “clown like”
- Apply eyeliner (black or charcoal) - For creamy pencil, liquid, gel or pen, use the tip of the brush or point for the finest line, getting right at the base of the lashes. Extend the line from one corner of your eye to the other. Begin at the point near the inside corner of your lid, where your lashes begin, and extend the smooth line outward to the outer corner of lid. Creamy pencil may then be smudged into a shadowy effect or left as a defined line.

For powdery pencil or crayon, begin either at the corner of your eye, at the point on your lid where lashes begin. (The starting point isn't that critical since you'll be smudging the line.) Smudge liner just enough to blur the edge, pushing color onto your lid and/or just towards the corners. Smudging can be done with the ring or pinky finger, a cotton swab or a sponge-tip shadow applicator.

Lining lower lashes should be done with a light hand and never directly on the rim of the lid. Generally, liquid liner is too hard-looking on lower lids. Stick with one of the softer effects. You can make a smooth line as close to the lashes as possible, or you can “dot” the liner along the lower lash line (this technique is effective for younger dancers).

- Apply eye shadow - For a simple wash of color, apply a light neutral shimmer shadow, (such as light sandy colors, pearly pinks or champagne colored shadows) from the inner corner of your lid up and across the entire lid to just above the crease. Then apply a darker brown matte color in the crease to create contour and depth.

Use highlighting shadow to brighten your eyes and lift the look of your whole face. It can be a lighter, complementary shade of the one you use on your lid, or an all-



purpose pale ivory; frosted highlighters are great too. Blend a touch of highlighter upwards from shadow on your lid, toward the arch of your brow and, if you like, extended out a bit --- but no further than the outer tip of your brow.

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- Apply Mascara –* tip: Date mascara when you buy it and replace it after 3-5 months to avoid clumping and bacteria.

Put on mascara last, so lashes won't get dusted when you put on powder.

- Twirl - don't pump - the wand to coat it. Pumping allows in air, hastening dry-out.

- If you prefer the lightest possible touch of mascara (good tip for younger dancers), wipe the wand gently with a clean tissue to remove excess mascara before applying.

- Hold the brush horizontally for upper lashes. Start at the base and wiggle it up to the tips to maximize separation and lushness. Allow the first coat to dry completely, and then repeat.

- Hold the brush vertically for lower lashes and sweep it lightly across them.

- If lengthening is your goal, fluff on an extra dash of lengthening mascara just at the tips of lashes.

- Apply Lip Liner and Lipstick – * tip: apply lip liner first

Lip liner is optional but if you use it, it should go on first. Don't use liner darker than your lipstick, because if the lipstick fades and the liner doesn't, you're left with just an outline. Use neutral or lipstick-matched liner.

- Starting at the center of your upper lip, draw a line to each outer corner, following the edge of your natural lip line; on the upper and lower lip.

- Fill in liner color all over lips if you want extra holding power for your lipstick.

- A dusting of powder or bit of foundation beneath lipstick can also maximize its staying power. Use a creamy long wear formula lipstick in pink and red tones. Do not use sticky wet glosses over your lipstick- this is messy and it smears.

- Stretch your lips and starting at the center of top or bottom, glide color to corners. Blot, reapply and blot again for longer-lasting color. * Hint: A lip brush gives you the most precision in applying lipstick.

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don't forget to send lipstick with your child for "touch ups" backstage!