

Here are a few frequently asked questions and answers that may help you figure out what classes you would like to take, what level you should enter, or what things you need beforehand. If your questions are still unanswered, email us at info@bainbridgeballet.com or visit us at the studio.

- **What level does my dancer enter?**

Here's how levels at Bainbridge Ballet work:

*Pre levels are all according to age. Age is show directly after the class name on the schedule. Example: Pre-Ballet 3 is for 3 year olds. Pre-Ballet 4-5 is for 4 year olds going on 5.

*Leveling begins after age 7.

*Level A1s are all beginners with ages ranging from 7-9.

*Level A2s range from 8-10 year olds and are for beginners with knowledge of basic dance and rhythm.

*Level A2/3 is a mixed levels of classes for the beginners and age ranging from 8-13 year olds.

*Level A3 ranges from 8-13 year olds.

*Level B is an Intermediate level.

*Level C is Advanced based on skill level.

*We also offer Beginning Teen and Beginning Adult classes specified on the schedule.

- **What age do you start your dancers at?**

We begin our dancers with a Pre-Ballet class at 3 years old where they learn movement, basic technique, and learn in a follow-the-instructor supportive atmosphere.

- **What's the difference between MODERN and LYRICAL?**

Modern is a dance developed on natural rhythm but still has structure and shape. Lyrical is a jazz form that incorporates some balletic movement done to music with lyrics.

- **What does it take to get on to Pointe?**

Based on alignment and strength. I require pointe dancers to be at least 12 years of age due to the development of growth plates in the feet. Most dancers will need to take at least 2 classes per week to develop the strength needed in the ankles and feet to go onto pointe. I look for ability to hold turn out and maintain correct core alignment before placing a student on pointe. I have developed a test that helps me ascertain the readiness of a student.

- **How young do you begin Hip Hop dancers?**

We like to begin our dancers at age 9. I encourage any dancer younger than age 9 that is interested in hip hop to begin with a jazz class to get some basic dance, movement, and rhythm.

- **What does it take to be a professional dancer?**

Most people need to begin training early. The best training for a well-rounded dancer is classical training (which means ballet). Given a certain amount of natural ability, most dancers need to be taking multiple classes per week even as early as 8 years old to develop the skill and strength required for the competitive world of dance. There are many different areas of dance, and one needs to consider which area they prefer.

- **Do you carry dancewear?**

Why yes we do. We have leotards, slippers, shoes, and tights in stock, but in limited amounts. Anything we don't have we can order, but takes a minimum of 4-7 business days depending on the stock of our supplier.