

Pointe/Toe Shoes

How It's Made: Pointe/Toe Shoes

Directions: Fill in the diagram as you watch the video.

1. The exterior is sewn with 3 pieces of **SATIN**.
2. The lining is made of **COTTON** to protect feet from irritation.
3. V-shape piece in the front of the shoe is called the **VAMP**. It becomes the front half of the shoe.
4. The **QUARTER** panel is attached to the Vamp to form the back part of the shoe.
5. The drawstring enables the dancer to pull the shoe **TIGHTLY** around the foot.
6. What will happen to the dancer if the height of the vamp is off more than 1/8 of an inch?

IT WILL CUT INTO THE TOP OF THE DANCERS FOOT

7. The insole is made from rigid **CARDBOARD** infused with **PLASTIC** for flexibility.
8. The **TOE BOX** is the hard incasing inside the shoe. It is made out of paper mache material created from combining fabric and glue.
9. The toe box must be stiff enough to bear the dancers full weight but **FLEXIBLE** enough for the dancers to move fluidly.
10. The squared off front of the shoe is called the **PLATFORM**. It is pressed on a marble slab to make it completely flat. If not completely flat, the dancer may **FALL**.
11. The sole is made of **SUEDE** for grip. This non-slip material still enables the dancer to slide across the floor.

Anaheim Ballet: Pointe Shoe Questions

1. The original pointe shoes are nothing like today's shoes.
2. Italians added the **PLATFORM** to the pointe shoe.
3. Russians strengthened the _____ and the platform.
4. Pointe shoes last **1** performance(s) in a professional company.
5. Girls are ready for point when (3 criteria) :
 - a. **Their bones are fully developed and their thigh, seat and core muscles are strong.**
 - b.
 - c. **Their ballet technique is strong enough to perform on pointe.**
6. Can adults dance pointe? What do they need to do to prepare for pointe?

Yes, same as beginning pointe dancers

7. Why do guys not dance pointe?

Girls wore pointe shoes in the ballet to make them look like they were flying/floating in air. It guys were expected to jump higher in order to achieve this look.