



# Dance Design Checklist

## ROOM SIZES

- Square Footage - Clear floor area.
- Critical Dimensions - length and width.
- Clear height (below all obstructions, ceiling, lights, rigging, etc.).
- Room height (may extend above lowest obstruction to accommodate ductwork, appropriate acoustical volume, or catwalks, etc.).
- Excludes Gross Building Area - Wall area, shafts, sound and light locks, corridors, etc. to be identified separately.

## DANCE FLOORS - DISCUSS WITH YOUR FACULTY

- Permanent or Portable (may require storage and floor level transitions).
- Resilience
  - Sprung or floating - various floor constructions are used, but a basket-weave wood floor is often preferred; resilient isolation pads are successful.
- Surface options - should support the types of dance to be performed: ballet, modern, folk, tap, etc. Consider flexibility.
  - Wood with tung oil finish, duroseal or similar needs to be maintained properly which involves resanding and refinishing periodically
  - Synthetic floors - Marley, Harlequin, etc.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA

- Temperature control (response time is important to keep dancers comfortable and to reduce injury).
- Ventilation - natural often preferred; drafts and cool breezes to be avoided.
- Lighting - natural preferred; avoid intense down-lights during floor exercises; performance lighting may be required; performance black-out required.
- Humidity control (can affect wood floors, musical instruments, and dancers).

## ACOUSTICAL CRITERIA – GET HELP FROM AN ACOUSTICIAN

- Sound isolation - STC - Sound Transmission Class (Rating of Wall, Ceiling, & Floor materials' ability to isolate sound from adjacent spaces).
- Noise levels - NC - Noise Criteria (Noise level within a space, due to HVAC, finish materials, room volume, etc. Affects speech intelligibility and clarity of music).
- Variable acoustics - draperies or fabric panels that can be adjusted to change acoustical characteristics of room based on number of people, performance vs. instruction, etc.

## EQUIPMENT

- Mirror size and location; barre placement.
- Black-out shades/draperies.
- Theatrical draperies, borders, legs, battens, "wings."
- Instructional equipment - Markerboards, Tackboards, AV, Computer access.

## STORAGE NEEDS – IDENTIFY STORAGE REQUIRED FOR EACH SPACE

- Portable Equipment, Musical Instruments - list all items; include sizes/dimensions.
- Consider shelving, cabinets, wall attachment options.
- Identify unique door and corridor clearance requirements.