

USASF: A Jazz routine can encompass any range of jazz movement including traditional jazz, commercial jazz, musical theater, jazz funk or stylized hard-hitting jazz. **Movement is crisp and/or aggressive in approach** and can include moments of softness while complementing musicality. Emphasis is placed on style, body alignment, extension, control, uniformity, technical elements, and communication.

IASF: A Jazz routine incorporates traditional or stylized dynamic movements with strength, continuity, presence and proper technical execution. An emphasis is placed on group execution including synchronization, uniformity and spacing. The choreography of a dynamic and effective routine utilizes musicality, staging and complexity of movement and skills. The **overall impression of the routine should be lively, energetic and motivating**, with the understanding that the dynamics of movement may change to utilize musicality. Costuming should reflect the category style.

OVERALL EFFECT

Communication/Projection, Audience Appeal and Appropriateness Judges will credit: genuine use of projection and energetic expression, including body energy; the fulfillment of the genre per the category description; has age-appropriate music, costumes and choreography that enhance the routine.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Musicality Judges will credit: how well the movement complements unique musicality and dynamics of the music; the originality of routine and concept. Movement that utilizes the music's accents, rhythm, tempo, phrasing, lyrics, style, etc.

Routine Staging / Visual Effects Judges will credit: how the choreography utilizes the stage exploring all directions/aspects and how the dancers are presented on the floor; the structure of challenging and unpredictable formations and seamless transitions. Incorporation of creative surprising visual effects developed through creative floor work, balanced use of features, group/partner work, level changes, and opposition.

Complexity of Movement Judges will credit: difficulty of the routine considering both movement and elements/skills (does not reflect execution); overall level, pace, intricacy, and variety of movement, and footwork. Difficulty as it relates to the appropriate use of dancers' ability level.

TECHNICAL & GROUP EXECUTION

Category Style Execution Judges will credit: the dancer's ability to display the correct foundation and form effectively and continually throughout the routine; noting the continuity of movement and quality of style, extension, and presence/carriage; exhibiting a lively performance.

Movement Technique Execution Judges will credit: the true development of the movement; noting the dancer's display of intensity, musicality, strength, and velocity.

Skill Technique Execution Judges will credit: demonstration of (not difficulty of) appropriate level skills/elements with correct approach, execution and completion of elements such as, but not limited to: leaps, turns, lifts, partnering, etc.

Synchronization/Timing with Music Judges will credit: the team's ability to maintain strong synchronization and timing with each other and the music, displaying accuracy, clarity, and control within both movement and technical skills/elements.

Uniformity of Movement Judges will credit: how well the clarity of movement as a team is upheld, the consistent approach and commitment to the style and interpretation of movement as a group.

Spacing Judges will credit: the ability of the dancers to use spatial awareness to position themselves with correct distances between each other in and throughout all formations and transition pathways.