

Dance Instructional Materials and Resources Available Directly to Consumers

These resources do NOT replace qualified instruction!

This information cites resources to reinforce good ballroom training received from a qualified professional. It provides materials that can be used as self-reference or reminders of good technique and know-how. As with any physical skill, video explanations and reading from a book alone will not teach an individual all the nuances to controlling one's movement to achieve desired or expected results to standard. What one may think one is imitating may be something altogether different when viewed by another, trained observer. Complete learning occurs with the involvement of a well-qualified coach or instructor to provide personalized instruction, observation of student performance, and feedback with corrective action to improve skill acquisition.

About the two major categories of ballroom dance

Ballroom dance refers to a set of partner dances, which are enjoyed both socially and competitively around the world. Its performance and entertainment aspects are also widely enjoyed on stage, in film, and on TV. Ballroom dance may refer, at its widest, to almost any type of social dancing as recreation. However, with the emergence of dancesport in modern times, the term has become narrower in scope. It usually refers to the International Standard (Waltz, Viennese Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, and Quickstep) and International Latin style (Cha-Cha, Rumba, Jive, Paso Doble, and Jive) dances.

In the United States, two additional variations are popular: American Smooth (American Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Viennese Waltz, and sometimes Peabody) and American Rhythm (American Cha Cha Cha, Rumba, Swing, Bolero, and Mambo). There are also a number of historical dances, and local or national dances, which may be danced in ballrooms or salons.

Primary sources of instructional materials available directly to consumers

One of the challenges a consumer or learner of ballroom dance faces is where to find reference material about the specific steps of the various ballroom dances. The major franchise dance studios have their own version of American smooth and rhythm syllabi, which are accepted for competition by NCDCA and USA Dance. However, they do not publish their manuals and DVDs for student use. Such materials are provided only to the franchise instructional staff.

DanceVision and USISTD have curricula American smooth and rhythm syllabi that are also accepted for competition by NDCA (www.ndca.org) and USA Dance (www.usadance.org). They also make their materials directly available to the individual consumer. Independent studios typically teach from these syllabi, in addition to the International standard and Latin syllabi, which are also available directly to the consumer from each source.

DanceVision

<http://www.dancevision.com/>

DanceVision (DIVIDA – DanceVision International Dance Association) sells DVDs and manuals for its American Style smooth and rhythm syllabi. These dances include Waltz, V. Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Cha-Cha, Rumba, Samba, Bolero, East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing, Merengue, and Mambo. The DIVIDA® Syllabus is being used by hundreds of studios and teachers in the United States and is recognized by the National Dance Council of America. In addition, the Canadian Dance Teachers Association recently adopted the DIVIDA® American Style Syllabus as their official syllabus to certify professional instructors.

DanceVision also sells DVDS and manuals (using its DIVIDA –style chart system for step explanation) for International Style standard and latin syllabi.

The traditional, ISTD (International Society of Teachers of Dance) manuals for International Style are also available from DanceVision, though these may be purchased at a lower cost directly from USISTD.

USISTD

www.usistd.org

The United States Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance is the US arm of ISTD. USISTD primarily seeks to coordinate and develop the interests of teachers of International Style Ballroom & Latin-American dancing, American Style Smooth & Rhythm dancing and Theatrical Style dancing on the North American continent within the standards established by the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing, London. Its American style materials (American Smooth: American Waltz, Foxtrot, Tango, Viennese Waltz, and Peabody; and American Rhythm: American Cha Cha Cha, Rumba, Swing, Bolero, and Mambo) are priced somewhat lower than DanceVisions are well recognized and sold widely by vendors at ballroom competitions.

BallroomDancers.com

www.ballroomdancers.com

Ballroomdancers.com has an interesting online resource of dance videos, links, and general dance information. It's fun to peruse.

Other useful links:

http://www.ehow.com/how_2343632_ballroom-dance-budget.html

http://www.ehow.com/how_4472933_choose-ballroom-dancing-studio.html

http://www.ballroom-etc.com/five_things_you_should_know.htm

<http://www.ballroomdancesteps.net/tips-on-choosing-ballroom-dance-lessons>

<http://www.learntodance.com/studiosteps.htm>

http://www.pankodancesport.com/choosing_an_instruct.html

<http://www.usabda-mn.org/89/>

<http://www.usabda-mn.org/about/>

<http://ezinearticles.com/?How-to-Find-a-Good-social-dance-Teacher&id=574776&opt=print>

http://www.pankodancesport.com/choosing_an_instruct.html

<http://www.ballroomcrazy.com/>

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=Ch0501/SEC143.htm

<http://ballroom-classes.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.wikihow.com/Ballroom-Dance>

<http://www.teachballroomdancing.com/>

<http://www.teachballroomdancing.com/teaching-tips.html>

<http://www.starlightdance.com/>