

## COSTUME CARE GUIDE

1. Be sure dancer has proper support that is appropriate for their costume. Older dancers may want to wear a flesh-tone leotard under their costume. These add support and keep costumes from riding up. These leotards are available at local dance stores as well as Discount Dance Supply. They also have flesh-tone, seamless bras available. **Male dancers** may want to wear a dance belt of support.
2. Be sure to have the proper tights (color & style).  
**Absolutely no panties or underwear should be worn with costume.**
3. Clean shoes before performance:
  - Leather slippers/jazz shoes can be revived with Vaseline or shoe polish.
  
  - Canvas shoes can be washed in the washing machine. Do not tumble dry. They will shrink.
  
  - Do not wash Pointe shoes.
  
  - Trim all strings from shoes and be sure all stitching is secure!**
  
  - Check shoestrings on jazz shoes. Be sure they are not at breaking point.
4. Follow instructions from Joanie's handout guide on how to prepare costume. This should be done prior to pictures. These handouts will tell you how to safely remove the wrinkles from each costume and other necessary adjustments.
5. Remove all loose stings from costume.
6. Store tutus by hanging them upside down. This helps maintain the shape of the skirt over the years.
7. Do not let your dancer play with the costume prior to the recital. Things tend to get lost and/or damaged.
8. Do not wash your costume. This can ruin sequins or even shrink the costume.
9. Hang costumes in a clean, dry place.
10. If bringing multiple costumes to the recital, be sure to cover them with a garment bag.

### Dancers must remember:

- No jewelry (please do not pierce ears within 2 months prior to recital).
- No toenail or fingernail polish
- No temporary tattoos
- No glitter unless specified by teacher
- No eating while in their costume**
- Keep all belongings & dancer in the assigned dressing room