

# Makeup Guidelines

One of the most important things you can do to make your dancer stand out on stage is a great makeup job. The bright lights used to illuminate the stage wash away all facial features unless you use makeup to enhance those features. Please use this guide to prepare your dancer for every performance. When you are done applying the makeup, your dancer should look like she has on too much makeup. Once those stage lights hit, all the prep work will pay off.

Please refer to the guidelines below to assist with your makeup application. There is also a very instructive video on the studio website, [www.westportdance.com](http://www.westportdance.com). The video goes beyond the application described below as it addresses the use of false eyelashes for the older dancers. If your dancer is below Jr.II ballet, you do not need false eyelashes.

## BEFORE



## AFTER



## REQUIRED MAKEUP

Foundation which matches dancer's skin tone or tinted moisturizer

Matte powder

Eyebrow pencil and/or shadow (light haired dancers please use dark brown, for dark haired dancers, please use black)

Matte white eye shadow

Matte chocolate brown eye shadow

Matte rosy red blush

Black eye liner

Black mascara

Lip liner - Red Carpet - or other red that matches lipstick (available at Faces Beautiful in Westport)

Lipstick - Scarlett Red(available at Faces Beautiful in Westport)

**NOTE:** You may purchase any brand of cosmetics you prefer with the exception of the lip liner and lipstick. These must be purchased from Faces Beautiful in Westport. Please make your purchases early to ensure you have these items available for the show.

**STEP 1** Have your hair styled for the performance and start with a clean dry face.

**STEP 2** Use a foundation of your choice that closely matches the dancer's skin tone. Please don't use your own if it doesn't match the dancer's skin tone. For younger dancers, tinted moisturizer combined with tinted mineral powder is a good substitution for traditional foundation.

**STEP 3** Use an eyebrow pencil or eyebrow shadow to fill in brow and brush up and out to shape. For dancers with fair coloring, a combination of pencil and shadow may be needed to properly define the brow.



**STEP 4** Use a bright rosy red blush. Have your dancer give you a large smile and start on the apple of the cheeks and blush up toward the hairline to the side of the eye. Apply blush heavily, then blend with tissue or makeup square to soften the edges.



**STEP 5** Use a medium chocolate brown matte eye shadow to fill in the lower portion of the eyelid. Use the natural crease as a guideline.



**STEP 6** Use a matte creamy white eye shadow to highlight the brow line of the eye. Once you have both colors on the eye, use tissue or makeup square to blend the edges together.



**STEP 7** Use a dark chocolate brown or brown/black eye pencil to line the eye completely. On the upper lid, have the line follow the lash line completely. To make application easier, gently stretch the eyelid out with gentle pressure applied to the outside corner of the eye.



For the lower lid, have your dancer look up to the ceiling with their eye. It will help them focus and keep their eye still. Use the same pencil from the upper lid and follow the lash line from corner to corner. At the outside corner, ensure the lines of the upper and lower lid meet in a slight point.



**STEP 8** Use black mascara to complete the eyes. For younger dancers, choose a mascara with a thin brush. It's easier to apply to little lashes. Start with the lower lashes and have your dancer look straight up to the ceiling. Coat all lashes completely. Give the mascara a chance to dry, then proceed to the upper lashes. This will help avoid spotting. For the upper lashes, have your dancer look straight ahead but close their eye about halfway. You will need to brush mascara on the top and bottom of the upper lashes. If you have clumps, use a lash comb and tissue to gently remove.



**STEP 9** The final step before show arrival is applying lip liner. The liner adds definition to the lips. Initially, follow the normal outline of the lips. As needed, enhance the outline to even out lip shape.

**IMPORTANT - Do not apply lipstick at home. Dressing room coordinators will apply immediately before the dancers go on stage.**

For the Nutcracker show weekend, please touch up your dancer's makeup in between shows. Your dancer should look as fresh for the second show as she did for the first. Backstage volunteers should only be re-applying lipstick to the dancers.