

Jazz dance

Jazz dance refers to many similar dance styles. All of them come from tap, ballet, jazz music, and African-American rhythms and dance.

History

Jazz dance originated from a popular African American dance of the late 1800s to the mid-1900s. Until the middle of the 1950s, the term "jazz dance" often referred to tap dance, because tap dancing (set to jazz music) was the main performance dance of the era. During the later jazz age, popular forms of jazz dance were the Charleston, Jitterbug, Boogie Woogie, and swing dancing.

Jazz dance has since evolved on Broadway into a new, smooth style. It is known as Modern Jazz, while tap dance has continued to develop on its own.



Today, there are many different types of jazz dance. You can learn jazz dance at many dance schools and it as important part of musical theater. It is sometimes combined with other dance styles, depending on what is most appropriate for a particular show. Jazz dancing can also be seen in some music videos.