Break a leg, in other words, good luck!!!

It isn't certain from where the term came, but there are a few theories.   
One is that the term is just a metaphor for the way the actors curtsied (κάνω υπόκλιση) after a performance, the bending of the legs (placing one foot behind the other and bending at the knee "breaks" the line of the leg). In theatre, pleased audiences may applaud for an extended time allowing the cast to take multiple [curtain calls](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Curtain_call), bowing to the audience.   
An ancient Greek theory is that the audience used to stomp instead of clapping. If they stomped hard enough, they might break their leg.   
The expression reflects a [theatrical superstition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theatrical_superstition) in which wishing a person *"good luck"* is considered bad luck.The expression is now used outside the theatre. However, among [professional dancers](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dance), the traditional saying is not *"break a leg,"* but "*[merde](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Merde" \o "Merde)*" the French word for "shit".