



**RULES &
CLASSIFICATION**

2025

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CLASSIFICATION HIT THE FLOOR 2025

Hit The Floor has its own unique classification system. If you have any questions about the classification of your routines, please contact us at competition@hitthefloor.ca.

TYPES OF ROUTINE*

IMPROVISATION	1 to 3 dancers
SOLO	1 dancer
DUO/TRIO	2 to 3 dancers
SMALL GROUP	4 to 9 dancers
LARGE GROUP	10 to 15 dancers
PRODUCTION	16 dancers or more

*The type of routine will be determined by the number of dancers registered.

Solo: The maximum number of solos per person is two (2) for the **Novice** and **Pre-Competitive** categories and three (3) for the **Competitive** and **Elite** categories.

Improvisation: Dancers entered in the Improvisation category must freestyle in front of the judges, to music randomly assigned to each division, for a maximum duration of 1 minute 30 seconds. Dancers will receive feedback from the judges and a score for their improvisation.

LEVELS

LEVELS	TRAINING EXPERIENCE PER DIVISION	TRAINING HOURS PER WEEK PER DIVISION
NOVICE	1 to 2 years	Less than 2 hours
PRE-COMPETITIVE	2 to 4 years	2 hours to 4 hours
COMPETITIVE	4 to 5 years	More than 4 hours
ELITE	6 years and more	-

Details on the levels:

- Note that the number of training years takes precedence over the number of hours of training per week.
- **Solo:** The maximum age for a novice soloist is 15.
- **Duo/Trio:** If dancers have different levels, the highest level should be used to classify the routine.
- **Group and Production:** A minimum of 75% of dancers at the same level is required. If more than 25% of the dancers are more experienced, the routine must be classified in the higher level.
- **Elite:** Elite routines must have an average age of 13 or over.
- If a teacher of a **Competitive or Elite** level routine and/or professional dancer is entered in the competition, the routine must be in one of the following categories:
 - For Solos, Duos and Trios, the routine must be in the **Elite** category.
 - For Groups and Productions, the routine must be in one of the following categories:
 - Competitive:** 75% of the group has less than 6 years of training.
 - Elite:** 75% of the group has 6 or more years of training.

AGE CATEGORIES*

MINI	8 years of age or less
JUNIOR	9 to 12 years of age
INTERMEDIATE	13 to 15 years of age
SENIOR	16 to 19 years of age
SENIOR +	20 to 29 years of age
ADULT	30 years of age or more

- It is important to validate the date of birth of each participant before registration.
- HTF reserves the right to combine categories, for example, to avoid having a routine compete alone.
- Each age category is automatically determined at registration based on the average age of the members in the routine. Please note that the average will be rounded to the decimal point (e.g.: 12.4 = average age is 12 and 12.5 = average age is 13).
- The ADULT category is not eligible for cash awards.

STYLES

Two panels of judges will be made up of specialists in their own division.

DIVISION 1	
CHOREO	<p>The routine demonstrates movements that allude to choreographic hip-hop and is influenced by several different dance styles, but contains a minority (50% or less of the routine's duration) in one or more of the following styles:</p> <p>Poppin // Waacking // Locking // Voguing // House // Krump // Breaking // Footwork // Litefeet // Memphis Jookin // Hustle // Dancehall // Afro // Stepping // Gumboot.</p> <p>A routine containing (less than 20%) of movements that allude to choreographic hip-hop and the dance styles mentioned above should be placed in the Open style of Division 2.</p> <p>Unlimited number of acrobatics.</p>
FOUNDATION	<p>The routine demonstrates specific and predominant expertise (50% or more of the duration of the routine) in one or more of the following styles and incorporates movements specific to its specialization:</p> <p>Poppin // Waacking // Locking // Voguing // House // Krump // Breaking // Footwork // Litefeet // Memphis Jookin // Hustle // Dancehall // Afro // Stepping // Gumboot.</p> <p>*Unlimited number of acrobatics</p>

DIVISION 2

BALLET/POINTE	<p>The routine features ballet or pointe techniques, incorporating classical movements and steps. This style is characterized by grace and precision of movement.</p> <p>*No acrobatics allowed</p>
JAZZ	<p>The routine contains jazz techniques and movements (extensions, turns, beats, etc.). This style is characterized by energy, rhythm and dynamics.</p> <p>*Maximum of 3 acrobatics</p>
CONTEMPORARY	<p>The routine contains modern movements and techniques, integrating control, balance and extensions. This style is characterized by floor passages, contractions and abstract movements.</p> <p>*Maximum of 3 acrobatics</p>
LYRICAL	<p>The routine contains a combination of jazz and ballet techniques. This style is characterized by an emphasis on emotion and storytelling elements, with particular attention paid to the song's lyrics.</p> <p>*Maximum of 3 acrobatics</p>
TAP	<p>The routine contains dynamic, percussive footwork to accentuate specific rhythmic passages. Pre-recorded sounds are not permitted. Tap shoes are mandatory.</p> <p>*Maximum of 3 acrobatics</p>
ACRO	<p>The routine contains a combination of dance and acrobatics, including control movements, gymnastics, flexibility and contortion. This style is characterized by balance, strength and/or flexibility.</p> <p>*Minimum of 5 acrobatics</p>
OPEN	<p>The routine presents a style that is not mentioned in the document or that represents a fusion of several styles from Division 2.</p> <p>*Maximum of 3 acrobatics</p>

*A routine presenting a fusion of styles from Division 1 (less than 20%) and Division 2 must be classified in the Open style.

ACROBATICS

Acrobatic: Any rotational movement of 360° in which a dancer has his/her feet above his/her head.

One (1) acrobatic is considered:

- Tumbling pass
- Canon of several acrobatics performed by different dancers, one after the other.
- The same acrobatic performed by several dancers at the same time

Several acrobatics include:

- The same acrobatics performed at different times in the choreography.

Acrobatics considered an exception (will not be counted):

- Front & back roll
- Rolling on elbows or with one hand
- Shoulder roll
- Partnering lift
- Cartwheel, wheel on one hand, wheel on elbows

Number of acrobatics allowed per style

Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Open, Tap | Max. 3 acrobatics

*additional acrobatics = deduction of 3 points from the final result

Ballet/Pointe | No acrobatics allowed

Choreo, Foundation, Acro | Unlimited acrobatics

IMPORTANT INFORMATIONS

After January 15, 2025, any change in the registration file resulting in a declassification of a routine will incur a fee of \$25 per routine (per occurrence).

From the start of the competition, any routine not classified in the correct category (style, level, age or type of routine) will have its score compared, internally, with those of the correct category. The routine may not be mentioned at the awards ceremony. Dancers will, however, receive the judges' scores and comments, and may be eligible for Overall awards. Medals/trophies/ribbons may be claimed at the directors' table. This will not affect the original ranking.

HTF reserves the right to cancel any competition or to move a competition to another date or venue within 50 km due to unforeseen circumstances.

HTF reserves the right to add an extra day to the 2025 Tour dates indicated, if deemed necessary.

All participants must be available for the entire event, except for reasons approved by HTF.

RULES HIT THE FLOOR 2025

All participants, directors and choreographers must follow HTF rules in order to be admitted to the competition. Any routine not complying with the rules will be subject to one or more penalties.

If you have any questions, please contact us at competition@hitthefloor.ca.

CLASSIFICATION

1.1 All HTF participants/dancers must register under the appropriate classification.

1.1.1 HTF may randomly verify the age of dancers at the event.

1.1.2 In case of any raised doubts, HTF reserves the right to modify the initial classification.

1.2 After January 15, 2025, any change in the registration file causing a change in the classification of a routine will incur a fee of \$25 per routine and per occurrence.

1.3 From the start of the competition, any routine not classified in the correct category (style, level, age or type of routine) will have its score compared, internally, with those of the correct category. The routine may not be mentioned at the awards ceremony. Dancers will, however, receive the judges' scores and comments, and may be eligible for Overall awards. Medals/trophies/ribbons may be claimed at the directors' table. This will not affect the original ranking.

1.4 HTF reserves the right to combine categories, for example, to avoid having a routine compete alone.

LENGTH OF PERFORMANCE

2.1 The music and/or performance must not exceed five (5) seconds of the allotted time.

TIME LIMIT PER CATEGORY	
IMPROVISATION (1 TO 3 DANCERS)	1 minute 30 seconds
SOLO (1 DANCER)	3 minutes
DUO/TRIO (2 OR 3 DANCERS)	3 minutes
SMALL GROUP (4 TO 9 DANCERS)	4 minutes
LARGE GROUP (10 TO 15 DANCERS)	4 minutes
PRODUCTION (16 DANCERS OR MORE)	8 minutes

2.2 If the music and/or the performance exceeds the allotted time per category by more than 1 minute, HTF will stop the music.

2.3 There is no minimum duration for the music and/or the performance.

MUSIC

3.1 Please upload your music to your school's online account in the "Music" tab before the following dates:

Gatineau | March 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

Saint-Hyacinthe | March 31st at 5:00 p.m.

Quebec | May 5th at 5:00 p.m.

3.2 Any music not uploaded by the deadline will incur a fee of \$25 per routine. The fee must be paid before the routine is performed at the competition.

3.3 A USB key must be handed in at the director's table on arrival. We ask that you also keep a USB key containing all your school's music in your possession during the event. The music will be double-checked backstage to ensure conformity.

3.4 HTF will not accept any requests concerning the volume of your music.

3.5 Music must not contain inappropriate, obscene or offensive language. Inappropriate, obscene or offensive language refers to any vocabulary that is profane, derogatory, disparaging and/or directed at a specific person or group of people.

ACCESSORIES AND COSTUMES

4.1 Accessories that leave no residue on the stage are tolerated.

4.1.1 No oil, make-up or any other product leaving a residue will be tolerated on the performance area after a basic cleaning, planned and performed by a member of the participating team.

4.1.2 Props can be stored backstage for a maximum of 1 hour before and 2 hours after the performance.

4.2 HTF reserves the right to consider inappropriate clothing that is too short and/or too tight, especially if certain parts of the body are overexposed. Costumes must be age-appropriate.

4.3 HTF is not responsible for any loss or damage to any accessories or costumes.

4.4 The time limit for setting up, cleaning the stage and taking down your sets and props is 2 minutes from the moment you start setting up props on stage, or when the routine is over.

CALL TIME

5.1 All dancers must be present at the event 2 hours before their performance, with the exception of the first acts of the day, who must be present at least 1 hour before their performance.

5.2 Dancers must report to the backstage entrance five (5) numbers before their performance.

5.3 Dancers must be ready backstage as soon as the number preceding them on the schedule ends.

PERFORMANCE

6.1 Elements deemed offensive, violent and/or inappropriate will not be tolerated. Offensive elements: movement, costume and/or concept deemed inappropriate for the general public.

6.2 A dancer who has not been registered cannot compete.

6.3 If an incident affects a dancer's performance, he or she will be given the opportunity to restart the routine from the beginning, but only if HTF agrees. In the case of an incident beyond the dancer's control, there will be no deduction.

6.4 The dimensions of the first stage are at least 44 feet wide x 30 feet deep. The dimensions of the second stage are at least 28 feet wide x 24 feet deep.

ELIGIBILITY

7.1 If a teacher of a **Competitive or Elite** level routine and/or professional dancer is entered in the competition, the routine must be in one of the following categories:

- For Solos, Duos and Trios, the routine must be in the **Elite** category.
- For Groups and Productions, the routine must be in one of the following categories:
 - **Competitive**: if 75% of the group has less than 6 years of training.
 - **Elite**: if 75% of the group has 6 or more years of training.

7.2 For Solos, a dancer may not perform more than one routine in the same category. Duos and Trios cannot have a routine in the same category where more than 50% of the dancers are in another routine in the same category. Groups and Productions cannot have a routine in the same category where more than 85% of the dancers are part of another routine in the same category.

7.3 Each number may be presented only once during the same competition.

7.4 Each dancer **Novice** and **Pre-Competitive** may present a maximum of two (2) solos. Each dancer in the **Competitive** and **Elite** categories may present up to three (3) solos, with the exception of a HTF authorization.

JUDGES

8.1 The organization ensures that the judges selected:

- receive 3 hours of training by a person certified by the organization
- are assigned to each division according to their respective field of dance expertise
- are not informed of the dance schools associated with each routine
- are not choreographers of a competition number
- do not receive recurring remuneration from a participating dance school
- have a minimum of 8 years of experience as a dancer and teacher in a dance style
- have a minimum of 1 year of experience in a similar job as a dance competition judge

STYLES AND ACROBATICS

9.1 Two panels of judges will be set up, each composed of judges specialized in their division.

Division 1 : Styles (2) Choreo // Foundation

Division 2 : Styles (7) Ballet/Pointe // Jazz // Contemporary // Lyrical // Tap // Acro // Open

9.2 Number of acrobatics allowed per style

Ballet/Pointe : No acrobatics allowed

Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary, Tap, Open: Maximum 3 acrobatics

Acro: Minimum 5 acrobatics

Foundation, Choreo: Unlimited number of acrobatics

9.3 In a Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary or Open routine, if a 4th acrobatic is performed, a deduction of three (3) points will be applied to the total score. For five (5) acrobatics or more, an inaccurate classification will be considered (see 1.3).

9.4 In an Acro routine, if less than five (5) acrobatics are performed, an inaccurate classification will be considered (see 1.3).

DEFENDING CHAMPIONS

10.1 The Defending Champion must present a number containing at least 50% of the same dancers the following year to defend their title at the Showcase. They must still take part in the competition and be evaluated by the judges.

10.2 Showcase Champions from Hit The Floor Gatineau and Hit The Floor Saint-Hyacinthe 2025 will receive guaranteed participation in the Hit The Floor Quebec 2025 Showcase. However, they must enter the competition in their respective categories. The group must be made up of at least 80% of the same dancers, and the same music must be used.

EVALUATION CRITERIA - COMPETITION

11.1 The judges' decision is final. You will receive a copy of each evaluation and the judges' comments in your school file.

11.2 In the event of a tie, the highest technical score will be given preference. If the technical score is also equal, the highest performance score will be given preference.

EVALUATION CRITERIA - COMPETITION	
TECHNIQUE 1 (15%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Musicality2. Synchronism, timing
TECHNIQUE 2 (30%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Execution / control / quality of movement2. Difficulty of execution3. Authenticity of dance style / understanding of style
PERFORMANCE (35%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Showmanship (intensity, confidence, presence, team spirit)2. Entertainment
CHOREOGRAPHY (20%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Using the stage2. Training3. Changing levels4. Creativity (movement, music, transitions)5. Artistic approach (choreographic writing)

SELECTION OF TOP PICKS

12.1 All groups and productions in the **Competitive** and **Elite** levels that have received a Hit of The Day are eligible to be part of the Showcase's Favorites section. Among these, eight (8) will be selected to participate in the Showcase.

12.2 The selection is based on the judges' overall appreciation and not on the results obtained during the competitions.

12.3 The Favorites selected to participate in the Showcase must present the same routine as the one performed during the competition.

12.4 The announcement of these routines will be made during the final awards ceremony before the Showcase.

EXHIBITION

13.1 Among the Solos, Duos, and Trios at the **Elite** level, two (2) routines will be invited to perform in the Artistic Showcase.

13.2 Among the Groups and Productions in the Mini/Junior age category at the **Competitive** level, one (1) routine will be invited to perform in the Artistic Showcase.

13.3 The announcement of these routines will be made during the final awards ceremony before the Showcase.

EVALUATION CRITERIA - SHOWCASE

14.1 All competition judges will re-evaluate the Top Picks' routines according to the above criteria. The percentages allocated for Technique and Performance are not the same as during the competition.

EVALUATION CRITERIA - SHOWCASE	
TECHNIQUE 1 (10%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Musicality2. Synchronism, timing
TECHNIQUE 2 (25%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Execution / control / quality of movement2. Difficulty of execution3. Authenticity of dance style / understanding of style
PERFORMANCE (40%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Showmanship (intensity, confidence, presence, team spirit)2. Entertainment
CHOREOGRAPHY (25%)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Using the stage2. Training3. Changing levels4. Creativity (movement, music, transitions)5. Artistic approach (choreographic writing)

PARTICIPANT POLICY

15.1 All participants, directors, dancers, choreographers and spectators are expected to behave responsibly and courteously at HTF events. Rude, disrespectful, discourteous, physically or psychologically harassing behaviour will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Anyone breaching this rule may be removed from the site.

15.2 For any situation involving a parent or a participant, HTF reserves the right to communicate only with school officials.

15.3 Registration fees are non-refundable.

15.4 Our job is to support the dancers and provide a safe and healthy environment for all participants. This is a priority for us. We encourage dance and we listen to the community. If our participants are going through a difficult situation or need help, we're there for them: famille@hitthefloor.ca.

PENALTIES AND DEDUCTIONS

16.1 All decisions concerning deductions and penalties are final.

15.1.1 The competition judge coordinates the judges' tasks and is responsible for deductions.

16.2 There is no limit to the number of points that can be deducted for a single routine.

16.3 All points are deducted from the total score, out of 100.

16.4 Deductions are applicable during both the competition and the Showcase.

PENALTIES AND DEDUCTIONS		
CLASSIFICATION	Dancer under the age recorded on the registration form / per occurrence	2
TIME LIMIT	The music and/or performance exceeds the allotted time by more than 5 seconds	2
MUSIC	Music containing inappropriate words	2
ACCESSORIES AND COSTUMES	Use of accessories that leave residues on the stage after basic cleaning (residues must be cleaned by the dancers after their performance)	2
	Costume considered inappropriate	3
	The time taken to prepare, remove props and clean residues exceeds the 2-minute limit	2
ACROBATICS	Routine presenting one (1) acrobatic move more than permitted in the style presented	3
CALL TIME	Dancers not ready to go backstage at the end of the number preceding them on the schedule	3
PERFORMANCE	Movements considered offensive, violent and/or inappropriate	3
	Dancer not included in the registration file who took part in the competition	3
	Resumption of a routine due to an incident for which the dancer or dance school is responsible *On approval of the HTF organization	3
SHOWCASE	Defending champions present a number containing less than 50% of the same dancers as the previous year. *Deductions will ONLY apply during the Showcase.	2



**HIT THE FLOOR IS COMMITTED
TO PROVIDE A FAIR AND EQUITABLE EVALUATION.**