

NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS ALLIANCE

ENTRY LEVEL JAZZ

FIRST STEPS
FOUNDATION LEVEL 1
FOUNDATION LEVEL 2

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FIRST STEPS MODERN JAZZ

EXERCISE	FORMAT	TEACHER ASSISTANCE?
Walk & Wiggle	ALL TOGETHER	Teachers are expected
Flexi Floor	THROUGHOUT	to help and assist
Pops		candidates throughout.
Swingy Arms		Counting, calling out
Spring, Jump, Zap		of steps and
Let's Dance		demonstration all permitted.
Thank You		permitted.

EXAM TIMINGS

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	EXAM LENGTH
1 - 2	8 minutes
3 - 4	10 minutes

WALK & WIGGLE

Commence in a circle, feet together, arms held by sides.

BAR	COUNT		
1 - 2	12345678	Walk forward x 8	Free arms throughout
3 - 4	12345678	Wiggle feet apart x 8	
5 - 6	12345678	March x 8 around in	
		own circle	
7 - 8	12345678	Jump & wiggle x 4	
9 - 32		Repeat all 4 x in total	

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FLEXI FLOOR

Commence sitting on floor, facing the front, legs straight out in front of body, toes extended.

Arms held in a low V with fingertips in contact with floor.

BAR	COUNT			
1	12		Flex both feet	Hold position
	3 4		Extend both	
			feet	
2 - 4	5678		Repeat bar 1 x 3	
	1234			
	5678			
5 - 6	12345	6	H <mark>old</mark> position	Slowly raise arms outwards to
				end in high parallel, palms in
	7		Hold position	Clasp hands above head
	8		Hold position	Hold position
7	1234		Pull feet towards	Lower clasped hands over
			body bending legs	bent legs towards feet, round
				the spine lowering the head
8	5678		Release the body	Hands out to sides to end
	/		to sitting upright,	low V with fingertips in contact
13			stretching legs	with floor
9 - 32			Repeat all x 4 in	
			t <mark>ota</mark> l	

POPS

Commence facing the front, feet parallel, arms held at sides.

BARS	COUNT		
1	1	Raise R shoulder	Hold position
	2	Lower R shoulder	
2	3 4 5 6 7 8	Repeat bar x 4 in total	
3 - 4	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Repeat bars 1 & 2 L shoulder	
5	1	Raise R shoulder	
	2	Lower R shoulder	
	3 4	Repeat bar x 2 in total	
6	5	Raise L shoulder	
	6	Lower L shoulder	
	7 8	Repeat bar x 2 in total	
7	1	Raise R shoulder	
	2	Lower L shoulder	
	3	Raise L shoulder	
	4	Lower L shoulder	
8	5678	Repeat bar 7	
9 - 16		Repeat all	

SWINGY ARMS

Commence facing the front, feet together, arms held by sides

BARS	COUNT		
1 - 2	1234	Hold position	Swing R arm forward and
	5678	-	backward in low line x 4
3 - 4	1234	Hold position	Swing L arm forward and
	5678		backward in low line x 4
5	1234	Hold position	Swing both arms forward and backward in low parallel line x 2
6	5	Bend legs keeping	Swing both arms forward
		feet together	to medium parallel
	6	Hold position	Bend elbows to ½ parallel
			clench fists to shoulders
	7 8	Hold position	Hold position
7	1	Stretch the legs	Raise both arms to high
			parallel, palms in
	234	Hold position	Hold position
8	5678	Hold position	Lower the arms outwards
			to end by sides
9 - 32		Repeat all 4 x in	
9		total	

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SPRING, JUMP, ZAP

Teachers' choice of pattern and direction.

BARS	COUNT		
1 - 2	1234	Springy runs forward x 8	Free
	5678		
3	a1 a2	Jump feet together x 2	Jaxx 1 st fists clenched
	a3 (4)	Jump feet apart	Both arms high V 'star'
	a5 a6	Jump feet together x 2	Jazz 1 st firsts clenched
	a7 (8)	Jump feet apart	Both arms high V 'star'
5 - 16		Repeat all 4x in total	_



LET'S DANCE

Commence facing front, feet apart, arms held at sides.

BAR	COUNT		
1 - 2	12345678	Wiggle feet apart x 8	Free
3	123	Side close side	
	4	Jump feet together	Clap
4	567	Side close side to L	
	8	Jump feet together	Clap
5 - 8		Repeat bars 1 - 4	
9 - 10	12345678	Springy runs x 8 in any direction	
11 - 12	12345678	Jump feet together x 4	Roly poly x 4
13 - 16		Repeat bars 9 - 12	
17 - 32		Repeat bars 1 – 16 on same side	

THANK YOU

Commence facing front, feet apart, arms held at side.

BAR	COUNTS		
1 - 2	1 - 8	Wiggle feet apart x 8	
3	1 2	Step RF to side	Arms held at sides
	3 4	Close LF to RF	
4	5 6	Bow	
	78	Recover – free ending	



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FOUNDATION LEVEL 1 MODERN JAZZ

EXERCISE	FORMAT	TEACHER ASSISTANCE?
Walk, Wiggle, Wait	ALL TOGETHER	Yes
Flexi Floor	THROUGHOUT	No
Hug & Stretch		No
Pop 'N' Roll		No
Swing & Stretch		Yes
Lyrical Lines		Yes
Run, Hop, Jump		Yes
Let's Dance		Yes
Thank You		No

EXAM TIMINGS

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	EXAM LENGTH
1 - 2	10 minutes
3 - 4	12 minutes

WALK, WIGGLE, WAIT

Commence in a circle, feet together, arms held by sides

BAR	COUNT		
1	1234	Wiggl <mark>e f</mark> eet apart x 4	Free
2	567	Walk forward x 3 RLR	
		freeze position on count '7'	
	8	Hold position	Hold position
3 - 4	1 - 8	Repeat bars 1 & 2 LF	
5	1 2 3	Side close side to L	
	a4	Jump feet together	Clap
6	5 (6)	Star jump	High V
	7 (8)	Jump feet together	Free
7 - 8	1 2 3 a4	Repeat bars 5 & 6 to R	
	5 (6) 7 (8)		
9 - 32		Repeat all 4 x in total	

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FLEXI FLOOR

Commence sitting on floor, facing RDF, legs straight out in front of body, toes stretched, arms held in a low V with fingertips in contact with floor.

BAR	COUNT		
1	12	Draw RF in, foot flat, bending knee towards chest	Hold position
	3 4	Return leg to start position	
2	5678	Repeat bar 1 on L leg	
3	1234	Draw both legs in, feet flat, bending knees to chest	
4	5678	Return to start position	
5	1234	Hold position	Raise the arms outwards to high parallel, palms facing
6	5 6	Flex feet	Hold position
	7 8	Ext <mark>en</mark> d feet	
7	12	Flex feet	
	3 4	Extend feet	
8	5678	Hold position	Lower arms to start position
9 - 16		Repeat all	

HUG & STRETCH

Commence facing the front, feet parallel 2nd, arms held at sides.

BAR	COUNT		
INTRO	5678	Hold position	Raise arms to jazz 2 nd position, palms front
1	1234	Bend legs with feeling of abdominal contraction	'Hug' the arms across the chest, lower the head
2	5678	Stretch legs, releasing the contraction, recover body to upright	Lower arms in front of the body to return to jazz 2 nd position, palms facing front
3 - 4	1234 5678	Repeat bars 1 & 2	
5	1234	Hold position	Slowly raise arms sideways and up to high parallel, palms in.
6	5678	Hold position	Hold position
7 - 8	1234 5678	Release the stretch, bending knees and recover to standing, legs straight	Lower arms in front of body to return to jazz 2 nd position, palms front
9 - 16		Repeat all	

POP 'N' ROLL

Commence facing the front, feet parallel 2nd, arms held at sides.

BAR	COUNT		
1	1 2	Raise R heel 'popping' the R knee over	Hold position
		toes. Raise R shoulder.	
	3 4	Lower R heel, stretch leg. Lower R	
		shoulder	
2	5678	Hold position, roll R shoulder backwards	
		and return to place	
3 - 4	1234	Repeat bar 1 & 2 to other side	
	5678		
5 - 6	1234	Hold position, raise and lower both	
	5678	shoulders x 2	
7 - 8	1234	Hold position, roll both shoulders	
	5678	backwards and return to place x 2	
9 - 16		Repeat all rolling the shoulder forwards	

SWING & STRETCH

Commence facing front, feet parallel 2nd, arms held at sides

BAR	COUNT		
1	1234	Hold position	Swing R arm forward and
			backward low line x 2
2	5678		Repeat L arm
3	1234		Swing both arms forward and
			backward low line x 2
4	5	Bend legs	Swing both arms forward to
			medium parallel, palms in
	678	Hold position	Hold position
5	1&2	Hip bump to R x 2	Wrist flicks to R side x 2
	3&4	Repeat to L, R, L	Repeat L, R, L
6	5&6 7&8		
7	1234	Bend and stretch legs	Swing both arms in
			co-ordinated circle to R to end both
			arms high parallel, palms in
8	5678	Bend and stretch legs	Release upward stretch lowering
			arms in front of body to end by
			sides
9 - 16	/	Repeat all	

LYRICAL LINES

Commence facing front, feet together, arms held at sides

BAR	COUNT		
1	123	Hold position	Raise R arm forward to medium parallel, palm up, eyeline follows hand
2	4 5 6		Open R arm to jazz 2 nd , palm up, eyeline follows hand
3	123		Turn the palm down maintain arm jazz 2 nd
4	456		Slowly lower R arm to R side, head front
5 - 8	1 - 12		Repeat Bars 1 – 4 on L side
9	123		Raise both arms medium parallel, palms up
10	456		Open both arms 2 nd palms up
11 -12	123456	Bend & stretch legs	Lower both arms sides continue across the body to end wrists crossed in front of chest
13 -14	123456	Bend & stretch legs	Release arms to end jazz 2 nd palms down
15 -16	123456	Hold position	Slowly lower arms to sides
17- 32		Repeat all	

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RUN, HOP, JUMP

Teachers' choice of pattern and direction.

BAR	COUNT		
1 - 2	1234	Step hop in parallel	Free arm action
	5678	retire x 4	
3 - 4	123456	Long run x 6	
	a7(8)	Jump feet together	
		travelling forward	
5 - 8		Repeat all	



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LET'S DANCE

Commence facing front, feet together, hands on waist, fingers together.

BAR	COUNT		
1	a1a2a3a4	Sideways galop to R x 4	Hold position
2	5	Close LF to RF bend knees	'Slap' thighs
	6	Hold position	Repeat
	7	Stretch legs	Clap
	8	Hold position	
3	1	Extend LL diagonally	Extend clasped
		forward, heel to floor, toes	hands over
		flexed, bending RL	working leg
	2	Close LF to RF straight legs	Pull hands to
			chest
4	3 4 5 6 <mark>7</mark> 8	Repeat bar 3 to R, L, R	Repeat
5 - 8		Repeat bars 1 - 4 on other	
		side	
9	1&2	Step RF to side hip bump &	Wrist flick x 2 to
		rock to R	R
10	3&45&6 <mark>7&</mark> 8	Repeat L, R, L	Repeat L R L
11	1234	Commencing RF march x 4	Low V
		turning to R to face front	
12	567	Jump feet together x 3	Jazz 1 st
	8	Hold position	Hold position
13 - 16		Repeat bars 9 - 12 on other	
		side	

THANK YOU

Commence facing front, feet together, hands on waist, fingers together.

BAR	COUNT		
1	a1a2a3a4	Sideways galop to R x 4	Hold position
2	5	Close LF to RF bend knees	'Slap' thighs
	6	Hold position	Repeat
	7	Stretch legs	Clap
	8	Hold position	
5	12	Step RF to side	Lower arms to
			sides
	3 4	Close LF to RF	
6	5 6	Bow	
	7 8	Recover	
7 - 8		Repeat bars 5 & 6 to L	

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FOUNDATION LEVEL 2 MODERN JAZZ

EXERCISE	FORMAT	TEACHER ASSISTANCE?
Walk, Wiggle, Wait Flexi Floor	ALL TOGETHER THROUGHOUT	NO. CANDIDATES ARE EXPECTED TO PERFORM WITHOUT
Bend, Breathe, Release Isolations		ASSISTANCE.
Reach & Pull Circles & Swings		
Travel & Jump Triplets		
Let's Dance Thank You		

EXAM TIMINGS

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES	EXAM LENGTH
1 - 2	12 minutes
3 - 4	14 minutes

WALK, WIGGLE, WAIT

Facing front, feet together, arms held at sides

BAR	COUNT		
1	12	Walk forward x 2 R,L	Free
	3 4	Wiggle feet apart x 2	
2	5 6	Side close to R	
	a7-	Jump feet together	
3 - 4	1 - 8	Repeat all commencing LF	
5	1234	4 steps on spot	Finger snaps
6	5	Jump feet together	Clap
	6	Jump feet apart	Hands to thighs
	7 8	Rib and shoulder isolation	
		to R & L	
7	12	Step to R touch LF behind	Reach arms up to
			L, drop across to R
8	345678	Repeat step touch to LRL	
9 - 32		Repeat all 4x in total	

FLEXI FLOOR

Commence sitting on floor, facing RDF, legs straight out in front of body, feet extended, arms held in a low V with fingertips in contact with floor.

BAR	COUNT		
1	12	Flex R foot	Hold position
	3 4	Stretch R foot	
2 3 - 4	5678	Repeat bar 1	
3 - 4	1 - 8	Repeat bars 1 & 2 LF	
5	1234	Slowly flex both feet	
6	5678	Slowly stretch both feet	
7 - 8	1 - 8	Repeat bars 5 & 6	
9 - 12	1 - 16	Low leg raise and lower R,L,R,L	Slight backward placement of hands and body
13	1234	Recover body to upright sitting position	Slowly raise outwards to high parallel to recover, palms facing
14	5678	Hold position	Hold position
15 🧲	1234	Draw feet in, flat on the floor, bending knees towards chest.	Release the stretch, lowering in 5th over legs to feet
16	5678	Recover body to upright sitting position, stretching legs and extending feet	Release to sides end low V fingertips in contact with floor
17 - 32		Repeat all	

BEND, BREATHE, RELEASE

Commence facing front, feet in wide parallel 2nd position, arms low V; palms in

BAR	COUNT		
1	123	Side bend to R	Hold position
2	456	Recover body to upright	
3 - 4	123456	Repeat bars 1 & 2 to L	
5 - 8	1 - 12	Repeat bars 1 - 4 to R & L	
9 - 10	123456	Hold position	Raise outwards through high V to end in high parallel, palms in
11	123	Release body, bend and stretch legs	Swing forward, down and behind body, lowering head
12	456	Bend to recover body to upright position	Swing down and upward to end high parallel palms in
13	123	Hold position	Upward stretch RA
14	456		Repeat bar 13 on L
15	123		Recover to high parallel palms in
16	4 5 6	Hold position	Lower outwards to low V palms in
17 - 32		Repeat all	

ISOLATIONS

Commence facing front, feet wide parallel 2nd, arms held at sides

BAR	COUNT		
1	123	Raise R shoulder	Hold position
2	456	Lower R shoulder	
3 - 4	123456	Roll R shoulder backwards and return to place	
5 - 8	1 - 12	Repeat bars 1 – 4 on L side	
9	1	Raise R shoulder and R heel 'popping' the R knee over toes	Head left
	23	Hold position	
10	4	Return to start position	Head centre
	5 6	Hold position	
11 - 16	1 - 18	Repeat bars 9 & 10 to L, R, L	7
17 - 32		Repeat all rolling shoulders forwards	

REACH & PULL

Commence facing front, feet in parallel 2nd, arms low V, palms in.

BAR	COUNT		
INTRO	5 6	Hold position	Raise 2 nd position, palms down
INTRO	78		Jazz 1 st , fists clenched
1	1	Bend legs	Sharp extension RA forward to medium parallel extend fingers, palm down
	2	Stretch legs	Return to jazz 1 st , fist clenched
	3	Bend legs	Sharp extension LA forward to medium parallel extend fingers, palm down
	4	Stretch legs	Return to jazz 1 st , fist clenched
2	5678	Repeat bar 1	Repeat bar 1 extending R & LA to jazz 2 nd palm in
3	1	Upward stretch	Shoot both upwards to high parallel, palms to front, eyeline lifted
1	2	Maintain upward stretch	Clap, clasping hands above head, eyeline lifted
	3	Recover body to upright position	Pull clasped hands down in front of chest, bending elbows, lower the head
	4	Hold position	Jazz 1 st fists clenched
4	5	Hip rock to R	Both arms to jazz 2 nd , palms down, fingers extended
	6	Hip rock to L	Jazz 1 st fists clenched
	7	Open both arms to 2 nd , palms down, fingers stretched with hip rock to R	Both jazz 2 nd , palms down, fingers extended
	8	Hips to neutral	Jazz 1 st fists clenched
5 - 16		Repeat all x 4 in total	

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CIRCLES & SWINGS

Commence facing front, feet together, arms held at sides

BAR	COUNT		
1	123	Bend & stretch legs	Swing to low opposition, RA forward
2	456	Repeat bar 1	Repeat Bar 1 swinging LA forward
3 - 4	123456	Slowly bend & stretch the legs	Swing to medium opposition, RA forward
5 - 8	1 - 12	Repeat bars 1 - 4	Commence LA
9	123	Bend legs	Lower to sides
10	456	Stretch legs	Hold position
11	123	Step RF to natural 2 nd 'sway 'transferring weight to RF through demi plie	Low co-ordination to R
12	456	Repeat bar 11 to	
13	123	Repeat bar 11 to R	Medium co-ordination to R
14	456	Close LF to RF, legs straight	Continue to circle arms to R to end high parallel palms in
15 -16	123456	Hold position	Lower outwards to end by sides.
17 - 32		Repeat bars 1 - 16 on other side	

TRAVEL & JUMP

Commence in either RDB or LDB. The example below commences from LDB

BAR	COUNT		
1	&1 &2	Commencing RF galop x 4 to 2 nd travelling sideways to	
	&3 &4	RDF facing LDF	
2	&5 &6	Making ½ turn to R galop x 4 to 2 nd travelling sideways	
	&7 &8	to RDF facing RDB	
3	123	Jump feet together in parallel 1st x 3 turning ¾ to R to face RDF	
	4	Clap	
4	5678	Commencing RF split run x 4 travelling forwards upstage	

From RDB – as above commencing galop to 2nd on LF travelling to LDF

TRIPLETS

Teacher's free choice of triplet plus any other appropriate content, in any pattern and direction.

LET'S DANCECommence facing front, feet together, hands on waist, fingers together.

BAR	COUNT		
1	12	Jump feet parallel 1st x 2	Low 'V' palms to front
	3	Jump feet parallel 2 nd	Hands to thighs
	4	Hold position	Hold position
2	5678	Repeat bar 1	
3	1234	Rib isolation x 4 RLRL	
4	5a6 7a8	Tap RF diagonally forward,	Wrist flicks to R & L
		raise R knee, step forward onto	
		RF Repeat LF	
5	1	Hip to R	Extend LA forward to
			medium parallel, clench fist,
			RH in clench fist to waist
	2	Hi <mark>p</mark> to L	Repeat RA
	3	Hi <mark>p</mark> to R	Repeat LA
	4	Hold position	Hold position
6	5678	Repeat bar 5 to L	
7	1234	4 steps on spot	Finger snaps
8	5678	March x 4 making 1 full turn to R	Finger snaps
9	&1 &2 &3 &4	Galop x 4 sideways to R	Natural parallel swing
10	5678	Bend and extend L leg,	Punch hands alternately
		'pump <mark>ing</mark> ' LF into floor x 4 turn	towards floor, fists clenched
11	1	Bend RL, extend LL diagonally	Extend L arm to wide low V
		forward, heel to floor, toes	point L index finger to LF,
		flexed	RH on waist fist clenched
	2	Close feet together	LH waist fist clenched
	3	Bend LL, extend RL diagonally	Extend RA to wide low V
		forward, heel to floor, toes	point R index finger to RF,
		flexed	LH on waist fist clenched
	4	Close feet together	LH to waist fist clenched
12	5678	Repeat bar 11	
13 - 16	1 - 16	Repeat bars 9 -12 other side	
17 - 32		Repeat all	

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THANK YOU

Commence facing front, feet together, arms held at side.

BAR	COUNT		
1	1 & 2	Step RF to natural 2 nd , with	Wrist flicks x 2 to R
		hip rock & bump	
	3 & 4	Step LF to natural 2 nd , with	Wrist flicks x 2 to L
		hip rock & bump	
2	5678	Single hip rock to R L R L	Wrist flick to R L R L
3	12	Step RF to side	Open arms to jazz 2 nd
			palms up
	3 4	Close LF to	Lower arms to sides
		RF	
4	56	Bow	
	78	Recover body to upright	
		position	

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