HOW TO MAKE A BALLET BUN

Materials
- Spray bottle or glass filled with water
- Hairspray. A sample/travel size is fine
- Hair gel. A sample/travel size is fine and cheap ($0.99 at the drugstore)
- Hair pins (These are "U" shaped with plastic tips. You can find them in the haircare aisle of a drugstore, 100/pack, in brown and black. Buy one pack and share with 3 or 4 other dancers!)
- Bobby pins
- Elastic band/Hair tie ***NO SCRUNCHIES***
- Comb & brush
- Hair net (Fine net with elastic edges, same color as hair. Available at a drugstore)

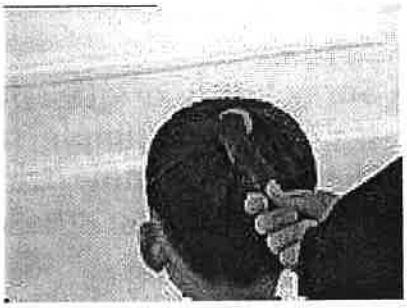
PROCEDURE - FOR LONG HAIR (Shoulder length and longer)

1) To start the process, lightly spray your hands and the hair with water (or dampen with a comb dunked in water). This will give you better control over the hair. It is better NOT to have freshly washed hair for this. Gather the hair and pull it back. Apply a little hair gel to the hair. If your child has bangs, leave them alone for now, they will be pinned to the side after the bun is complete.

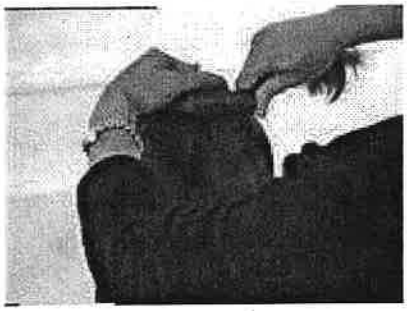
2) Use a hair brush to smooth out rough or uneven areas. Form a pony tail by brushing the hair up from the jawline to the top part of the back of the head. This will form a high bun. The placement of the pony tail determines the placement of the bun. A ponytail just below the crown of the head is good.

3) Use an elastic hair band to secure the pony tail. A tidy pony tail with hair drawn snugly back is the key to making a good ballet bun. **Optional - at this point you could also braid the hair, secure the end with an elastic hair band and then coil it into a circle. Either way, you must make a pony tail first.

4) Apply more water or gel to the ponytail to keep the hair neat, and twist the pony tail.



5) Coil the pony tail into a tight circle.



6) Use a few "U"-shaped hair pins all around the coil to secure it to the rest of the hair. Slide each pin through the outer part of the coil, then into the base of the bun.

7) Wrap a fine hair net around the bun. Keep twisting and wrapping so that the hair net tightly secures the bun. Make sure the hair net is the same color as the hair.

8) Use a few more hairpins to secure the hairnet over the bun.

9) For extra hold, when the bun and hair are all secure, use hairspray. Use bobby pins to secure any "wispies" or stray hair. If your child has bangs, dampen them slightly, comb to one side and secure with bobby pins. Spray with hairspray for extra hold.

PROCEDURE - VERY SHORT HAIR

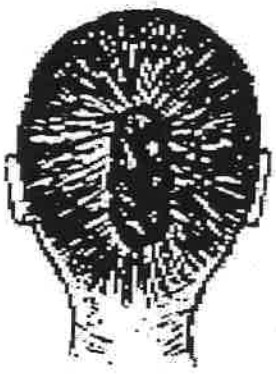
1) Dampen hair with spray bottle or comb dunked in water and comb a bit of gel through the hair

2) If possible, make a small ponytail low at back of head.

3) As you comb the hair back, secure with bobby pins, then spray hair with hairspray for extra hold.

PROCEDURE - SHORTER HAIR THAT WILL FIT INTO A SHORT PONYTAIL

Follow same procedure as for Long Hair through step three.



4) Braid ponytail as far as possible, then secure end with another covered elastic. Fold end of braid under and press it flat against head. Secure in place with hairpins.

5) Use bobby pins to secure any "wispies" and spray hair with hairspray.

PROCEDURE - FOR BOYS

1) Dampen hair and comb a bit of gel through the hair, including the bangs.

2) Part hair to one side and comb each side back, securing with bobby pins as needed. Comb hair behind the ears and secure with bobby pins as needed. You don't need a lot of pins, just enough for the hair to stay OFF the face for the entire class.