

HOW TO MAKE A BUN FOR RECITAL

What You Need:

- Hair brush with nylon or natural bristles that are close together
- Large, thick covered hair elastic (matching hair color)
- Nylon hair net (matching hair color)
- "U" shape hairpins and bobby pins
- Hair spray
- Hair gel

How to Make a Bun:

1. Brush hair smooth and free of tangles. You may also want to wet hair to help manage stray hairs and bumps.
2. Apply hair gel generously to wet or dry hair, especially around the hairline on the top, sides, and underneath. This helps create a smooth, polished look and tames flyaways.
3. Part hair over the left eye, brushing the hair to the right (this is your dancer's left and right).
4. Pull hair back neatly into a ponytail at the back of the head, using a brush to avoid "lumps and bumps". A tidy, very secure ponytail drawn snugly back is crucial for a bun that stays put. Placement of your ponytail determines the placement of your bun; ballet buns should typically be at the middle of the head (not on top and not on the nape of the neck).
5. Secure the ponytail tightly with a hair elastic. For thick hair, use two elastics for extra hold.
6. Use hairspray to eliminate any "wisps" around the head, smoothing any remaining bumps of hair.
7. Twist the ponytail tightly as you gradually wrap it around the hair elastic, creating a flat, coiled circle. Insert the U-shaped hair pins through the bun and into the base hair as you wrap to anchor it securely. Ensure the pins catch hair from both the bun and the head for a close hold. Use plenty of pins (12-16 on average, or more if needed for thick hair). The goal is a bun tightly coiled and firmly secured to the head.
8. Once the bun is formed, wrap the hair net around it as many times as possible for a snug fit.
9. Secure the hair net in place with bobby pins, also using them to tuck in any remaining stray hairs.
10. Spray the entire head generously with hair spray to control flyaways and set the style.
11. Troubleshooting Tip: If the finished bun feels loose, don't hesitate to add more U-shaped pins, making sure they go through the bun and anchor well into the base hair near the scalp.

Hint - Practice Makes Perfect:

Remember that practice is key to mastering anything, including ballet buns. Practice this several times before your dancer's big day to ensure you're comfortable with the process.

