

Fashion Clownette's Costume Academy

Ballet Attire - Materials List

I'm here for you - email me with ANY questions! axel@fashionclownette.com

1. Choose a project (or two).

If you choose from list A, you will likely be able to sew multiple items in the time we have together (5 class periods). If you choose a project from list B, it will likely be your only project for this class since these are more time-consuming projects.

List A

Leotard

Unitard

Leotard with skirt

Dance trunks

Leggings - shorts or pant length

Footed Tights

Stretch pull-on "SAB" rehearsal skirt

Wrap skirt

List B

Romantic tutu

Stretch pull-on classical rehearsal tutu

Women's ballet bodice

Women's chemise/blouse

Men's tunic or shirt

2. Find a pattern

There are many patterns and designs to choose from. I've included a list of links at the bottom of this document. If you choose a "print at home" pattern, make sure to print and assemble the pattern BEFORE class.

Make sure to purchase your pattern in the correct **size range**. Many patterns come with all sizes in one, but some are split up into ranges (i.e. size 8-12 or size 14-20). Pattern sizes are based on body measurements, not ready-to-wear clothing sizes. Look for the **body measurement chart** and choose your pattern size based on your body measurements (BUST for tops, WAIST for bottoms).. **Don't worry too much at this point about perfect sizing**. We will discuss this in class together and make alterations to the pattern if needed to make sure it fits you perfectly. The most important thing at this point is that you purchase a pattern that contains the correct **size range**.

3. Fabric & Notions

Leotards, unitards, leggings, footed tights and trunks typically call for **4-way stretch** knit fabric, which means the fabric will stretch in all directions. Think spandex, lycra or mesh.

Romantic tutus will require lots of tulle. Make sure to avoid low quality tulle – the holes should be shaped like diamonds, not hexagons, and when you stretch it in either direction, it should mostly bounce back. The low quality stuff will stay stretched and distorted when you tug on it and the edges will curl. You'll also need a sturdy woven fabric for your basque (waistband), like cotton twill or coutil.

Pull-on classical rehearsal tutus will require either a 4-way stretch or power net fabric for the basque and panty. For the skirt layers, you'll need lots of net. Net is similar to tulle, but stiffer. Again, look for a diamond shape in the holes of the net.

Woven bodices and tunics will require sturdy mid-weight woven fabrics like brocade, bengaline, twill or jacquard for the outer/decorative fabric and a sturdy plain woven fabric for the lining. Stretchy bodices/tunics will typically require 4-way-stretch fabrics.

Your pattern will suggest how much of each fabric is required to make your project. This info is typically found on the back of the pattern envelope (or with the pattern instructions) in the form of yardage charts that are organized by size. Some fabrics shrink when you wash them for the first time, so getting a little extra ($\frac{1}{2}$ yard) will ensure you have enough yardage. **Please wash and dry your fabric before class according to care instructions (it is NOT necessary to pre-wash tulle or net).**

If you are making a tutu, the amount of tulle or net you need will depend on how long and/or fluffy you want it. Your pattern will make a suggestion, but feel free to get in touch if you need help figuring it out, or we can discuss it on the first day of class.

Your pattern might also call for other items, called notions, like elastic, hooks, snaps, boning or piping, etc. If you have questions, please reach out and also don't worry if you don't have all the notions on the first day of class.

4. Tools

If you are working with stretchy knit fabrics, you'll need ball-point sewing machine needles (size 70/10 or 75/11) and 100% polyester thread. For any tutus, you will also need universal sewing machine needles (size 70/10 or 75/11). Woven bodices and tunics will require universal sewing machine needles (size 80/12).

We will sew our ballet attire with regular home sewing machines. Bring yours or borrow one of mine.

Bring your favorite sharp scissors, snips, pins and sewing tools, or borrow mine.

Online sources for fabrics and notions:

Stretchy:

[Spandex World](#)

[Spandex House](#)

[Mood Fabrics](#)

[Blue Moon Fabrics](#)

Tulles, nets, and other ballet fabrics:

<https://tutu.com/pages/fabrics>

<https://www.tutunetsmidwest.com>

<https://www.tullesource.com>

<https://www.tutunetoandnotions.com>

[Tutus and Textiles](#)

Patterns:

Romantic Tutus:

https://tutusthatdance.com/products/romantic-tutu-2321?pr_prod_strat=collection_fallback&pr_rec_id=16aa6b0bf&pr_rec_pid=1516289720378&pr_ref_pid=2366645993530&pr_seq=uniform

<https://www.tutupatterns.com/Style300Princess/>

https://tutusthatdance.com/products/bell-tutu-2322?pr_prod_strat=collection_fallback&pr_rec_id=16aa6b0bf&pr_rec_pid=1516266487866&pr_ref_pid=2366645993530&pr_seq=uniform

Stretch Pull-on Classical Rehearsal Tutus:

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/copy-of-2312-stretch-rehearsal-tutu-and-briefs>

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/pull-on-rehearsal-tutu>

SAB/Stretch/Mesh rehearsal skirts:

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/sab-skirt-2324>

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1657529837/sewing-pattern-academy-ballet-skirt?ga_order=most_relevant&ga_search_type=all&ga_view_type=gallery&ga_search_query=ballet+sewing+patterns&ref=sr_gallery-1-14&dd=1&content_source=4e3dc651d42ec7f3c8d7c75d9fc6b32475618a92%253A1657529837&search_preloaded_img=1&organic_search_click=1

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1499385154/sewing-pattern-high-low-ballet-skirt?click_key=fad3bb3579dce196e5cc26e88bcc486286ed801%3A1499385154&click_sum=c38fcb7d&ref=shop_home_recs_2&cr=1

Wrap Skirts:

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1306027698/ballet-wrap-skirt-simple-mini-skirt?ga_order=most_relevant&ga_search_type=all&ga_view_type=gallery&ga_search_query=ballet+sewing+patterns&ref=sr_gallery-1-2&dd=1&content_source=a497e5f4d489c01936bde9a433e5db94c9fd0d41%253A1306027698&search_preloaded_img=1&organic_search_click=1

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1351369280/plus-size-ballet-wrap-skirt-simple-mini?click_key=444d3042c7c1db8dfe34745ef3a2b4adbb3e1d6f%3A1351369280&click_sum=cc367be0&ref=shop_home_recs_3

Women's Bodices:

<https://tutusthatdance.com/collections/bodices>

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/bodices>

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/5001-stretch-bodice>

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/5008-stretch-bodice>

<https://www.tutupatterns.com/Patterns/>

Women's Chemise Tops:

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/chemise-1>

https://www.etsy.com/listing/855178039/ladies-tutuballet-chemise-pattern-2?click_key=4d57b914abb51846b143c74c19df6501c533ef9e%3A855178039&click_sum=fa76558b&ref=user_profile&sts=1&dd=1

Women's Leotards:

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1255322902/leotard-bra-cup-sewing-pattern-yoga?ga_order=most_relevant&ga_search_type=all&ga_view_type=gallery&ga_search_query=kwik+sew+leotards&ref=sr_gallery-1-11&dd=1&content_source=be7dcfd0af0420a51f0451a59f50737a2f90baba%253A1255322902&organic_search_click=1

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1360060670/vintage-leotards-digital-sewing-pattern?click_key=32256710a919f7a6b3fb7faada29690ad30bc02e%3A1360060670&click_sum=7c54cbbc&ref=shop_home_active_3

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1429908904/bodysuit-digital-sewing-pattern-90s?click_key=7a013fd5a9ee3210b6caf17e791c71829d3fd46a%3A1429908904&click_sum=15649a2b&ref=shop_home_active_16

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1534243002/basic-leotard-sewing-pattern-block-4-leg?click_key=5cc83c5e8083bb20e58d9770154eda4190112c9d%3A1534243002&click_sum=24d16641&ref=shop_home_active_1&pro=1

Women's Unitards:

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/women-s-unitard>

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1354267488/catsuit-digital-sewing-pattern-designed?click_key=56f15fef5bb8946d0486e5c1fdde9c6c2a10f8db%3A1354267488&click_sum=7d176ac4&ref=shop_home_active_37

Women's Leggings:

<https://simplicity.com/simplicity/s8424>

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/unisex-tights>

Women's Trunks:

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/dance-briefs>

Men's Tunics:

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/bodices>

<https://tutusthatdance.com/collections/men>

Men's Unitards

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/men-s-unitard>

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1543363520/mens-catsuit-seamless-front-sewing?click_key=a9430b79d5e19a4e2c9aacc812ff64b215b7e15d%3A1543363520&click_sum=675e1bd4&ref=shop_home_active_1&pro=1

Men's Trunks:

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/mens-trunk>

Men's Leotards:

<https://tutusthatdance.com/products/mens-or-boys-leotard>

https://www.etsy.com/listing/469381755/mens-leotard-bodysuit-sewing-pattern?click_key=b0e2ec5387ee83db84a14faa3507f05a8841ca4a%3A469381755&click_sum=724ec350&ref=shop_home_active_2&pro=1

Men's Footed Tights/Leggings:

https://www.etsy.com/listing/942010567/mens-basic-tights-leggings-sewing?click_key=8b7a3f87808588cb43cfb27eecedac77f91f868%3A942010567&click_sum=dc0c2a02&ref=shop_home_active_6&pro=1

<https://www.rachelfinzen.com/unisex-tights>

There are many many more patterns to be found online! Any questions, please email me!