

# COMDANCE™

## GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF DANCE

### RAD to COMDANCE TRANSITIONS IN CLASSICAL BALLET

The main difference is that a COMDANCE dancer is stronger particularly from Grade 1/2 and is recommended that the candidate is best be on the older scale by the time they arrive at this level.

For the initial change-over we suggest if they have passed PRIMARY RAD then the next grade will be COMDANCE GRADE 1 etc. Students enter the Examination (4) students at a time.

The scale below allows you to see the difference between RAD AND COMDANCE of the same Grade name/level. Male dancers are well considered but the syllabus is designed with simple male changes in exercises for easy teaching particularly in the Graded examinations, from Grade 6 there are the introduction of male exercises.

<u>Age</u>	<u>RAD GRADES</u>	<u>COMDANCE GRADES</u> Known as "Graded Examinations" Pre-Primary to Grade 6 And "Major Examinations" Sub-Elementary to Premier Danseur	<u>COMDANCE TRANSITION INFORMATION</u>
5-6	Pre-Primary	Pre-Ballet	6 SET Exercises and (1) Dance, Choreographed by you, the Teacher. This is an Examination not an assessment, every child gets a written report and grading as for Primary and other grades, Gr. 1 and above.  <i>Students receive a beautiful medal at the conclusion of the Examination presented by the Examiner as instant recognition of their achievement.</i>
6-7	Primary  <b>Transitioning from Pre- Primary RAD to Primary COMDANCE</b>	Primary	Comdance examination has less content, introduction of Barre work, plus Centre work & to perform 2 short dances, a Classical dance & a Demi-Character dance. As the dances are choreographed by the Teacher, the Teacher may increase the content/difficulty of steps to bridge this gap or may be happy for less of a commitment for their students. Dances must show a minimum of 5 classical steps from the Primary curriculum or may include steps from Grade 1 if you'd like to increase your students class content.  <i>Students receive a beautiful medal at the conclusion of the Examination presented by the Examiner as instant recognition of their achievement.</i>

7-8	Grade 1  <b>Transitioning from Primary RAD to Grade 1 COMDANCE</b>	Grade 1	Quite challenging in the allegro section compared to RAD, students need to be stronger. Spring Points, Pose Temp Leve in attitude devant, Galops, Polka & Sautés are the requirements. This vocabulary is so useful at concert/competition time as they have some great content for dances. A well-balanced examination, finishing with a Demi-Character dance Choreographed by the Teacher. NO CHARACTER WORK.
8-9	Grade 2  <b>Transitioning from Grade 1 RAD to Grade 2 COMDANCE</b>	Grade 2	A well-Balanced examination, consisting of 6 Barre Exercises (Grand Plie is introduced), Centre including Port de bras, Adage, Allegro, Free Movement & Classical Dance Choreographed by the Teacher. The introduction of the knowledge of Alignments & Allegro Steps including a very easy unseen allegro enchainment which is the start of building this knowledge for Major work. A Classical ballet dance is choreographed by the Teacher introducing the years allegro steps, Glissades devant & derriere, Changements & Polka. NO CHARACTER WORK.
9-10	Grade 3  <b>Transitioning from Grade 2 RAD to Grade 3 COMDANCE</b>	Grade 3	A similar format to Grade 2, but work progresses well and at times can be quite challenging. This perfects attitude and arabesque line a'terre in the Adage section and the allegro section comprises of (3) Studies/enchainements, incorporating many steps. The allegro vocab includes Pas de Chat, Echappe Sauté, Glissades Under & Over. There is an unseen allegro section, which is simple. It is good to build on step knowledge little by little every year. A Classical ballet dance is choreographed by the Teacher. NO CHARACTER WORK.
10 - 11	Grade 4  <b>Transitioning from Grade 3 RAD to Grade 4 COMDANCE</b>	Grade 4	We now ask theory questions and work is performed in 5 <sup>th</sup> Position. Adage is now taken en'lair. Allegro steps include Pas de Bourrée, Sissone Ouverte, Assemble, Soubresaut. Still in the same Examination format as Grade 3 & the unseen section builds & includes the new vocab from the allegro section. A Classical ballet dance is choreographed by the Teacher. NO CHARACTER WORK.
11 - 12	Grade 5  <b>Transitioning from Grade 4 RAD to Grade 5 COMDANCE</b>	Grade 5	Allegro steps are variations of those in Grade 4 otherwise a more mature feel is required at this level and student should be demonstrating their work with extra dance & performance quality. Demi-pointe work is included to get students ready for pointe work and should have elements of this incorporated into your classical dance. The classical dance is quite long at this level and CHARACTER DANCE is also required to be performed. So (2) dances are required for Grade 5.  NOW TO INCLUDE (2) DANCES – CLASSICAL BALLET & A NATIONAL/CHARACTER DANCE, both are the Teachers choice.
12 - 13	Grade 6  <b>Transitioning from Grade 5 RAD to Grade 6 COMDANCE</b>	Grade 6	This is where we need to look at the equivalent grades. If you teach Grade 6 RAD at your studio already this transition works (GRADE 5 RAD to GRADE 6 COMDANCE) but as many only do to Grade 5 RAD and then commence majors we suggest you move from Grade 5 RAD to Sub-Elementary

	<b>OR</b> <b>Grade 5 RAD to SUB-ELEMENTARY COMDANCE (First Major Examination)</b>		<p>COMDANCE initially as this will make more sense to your clientele.</p> <p><b><i>If your clientele will support you, the best suggestion is to transition your Grade 5 RAD students, to Grade 6 COMDANCE, as their next examination.</i></b></p> <p>For some making the change, they are transitioning their students from Gr. 5 RAD to Sub-Elementary (with a 2-year training period) or thinking ahead to Elementary and planning a 2-year preparation period to allow student to mature a little more at this point. Whatever you decide majors should ideally commence around 13 to 14years.</p> <p>There are many options for a smooth transition here and this will be different for each studio we feel.</p> <p>Note-: Sub-Elementary COMDANCE is harder than Intermediate Foundation RAD.</p> <p>See description for Grade 5 as it is similar to Grade 6 in its format.</p>
13 - 14	Intermediate Foundation  <b>Transitioning from Intermediate Foundation RAD to Sub-Elementary COMDANCE</b>	Sub-Elementary	This is the ideal transition, but you will see there are a few options here. See above Grade 6.
14 -15	Intermediate or Adv Foundation  <b>Transitioning from Intermediate or Ad Foundation RAD to Elementary COMDANCE</b>	Elementary	Elementary is the pre-requisite for a Teachers Certificate in Classical Ballet (from 17 years)
15 - 16	Advanced 1  <b>Transitioning from Advanced 1 RAD to Intermediate COMDANCE</b>	Intermediate	Intermediate is the pre-requisite for a Teachers Diploma in Classical Ballet (from 20 years)
16 - 17	Advanced 2	Advanced	

	Transitioning from Advanced 2 RAD to Advanced COMDANCE		
17 - 18	Solo Seal  Transitioning from Solo Seal to Premier Danseur COMDANCE	Premier Danseur	To qualify you must have passed Advanced COMDANCE with Highly Commended, Honours or Honours Plus and apply through the Executive Committee for approval.

**There are opportunities to take a performance examination after Advanced which is (3) dances performed for the Examiner and a theatre audience in full costume, we call this our Martin Rubenstein Award.**