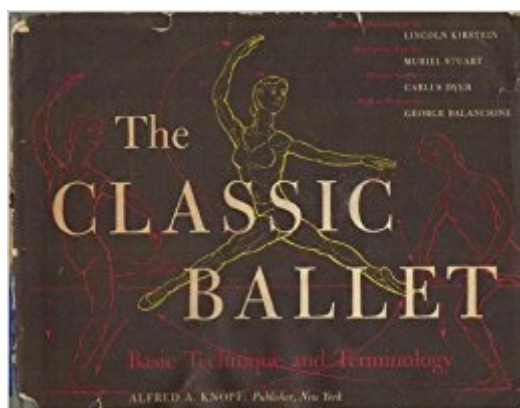


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# Classic Ballet



## Synopsis

A warm welcome back to this beloved classic! For decades the standard text for ballet technique, this book-first published in 1952-presents a beginner's guide to basic movements, steps, and terminology. Written by the staff of the School of American Ballet, it builds on the Russian tradition of Anna Pavlova and reflects the dance style of George Balanchine. The 800 masterful drawings by Carlus Dyer demonstrate proper body position, balance point, movement, and attitude of each position and step in the basic classical repertoire. As Balanchine points out in his preface, the illustrations are more accurate than photographs could possibly be because they have been corrected and recorrected until they approximate the ideal. Lincoln Kirstein (with George Balanchine) founded the School of American Ballet 1934. He became its first director and remained the driving force behind both the school and the American Ballet Theatre for thirty years. Muriel Stuart, the last student of Anna Pavlova, was ballet mistress at the school for many years. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 243 pages

Publisher: Knopf (June 27, 1952)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394408209

ISBN-13: 978-0394408200

Product Dimensions: 1 x 10.8 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,225,585 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Ballet](#) #331 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Classical](#) #39134 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music](#)

## Customer Reviews

Kirstein was one of the founders of the School of American Ballet along with George Balanchine. After debuting in 1952, this volume quickly became a standard in the field. The text and roughly 800 illustrations offer a beginner's guide to basic dance movement and terminology. This also contains a preface by Balanchine. Essential for all libraries. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"There are no short cuts to great dancing, but what is necessary to remember and unalterable in its instruction may be found in this book ... An admirable source of reference for the highest standard of practice ... Miss Stuart has done more than anyone else to make the academic dance clear to students and amateurs. I know that the drawings of Carlus Dyer are superior to any other illustrations to a training book that I have seen."-George Balanchine. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is a book of illustrations. Each page has a "plate" illustrating and also describing in words the classical ballet positions and movements as taught at Balanchine's American School of Ballet--the only school from which New York City Ballet hires dancers. However, the used book I ordered and received had a different, much less attractive cover than the brown one pictured. So, if that matters to you, inquire with the seller.

This book is a classic. It has excellent drawings and clearly demonstrates original ballet technique and style from the Russian tradition. This book contains an introduction by George Balanchine who came from this tradition and later developed his own choreographic style of neo-classical ballet. This book is a great reference tool and gives an insight into earlier ballet technique.

Got this book out from the public library and I was so impressed by its thoroughness. The picture diagrams break down each movement so that its easy to understand. I had to purchase it after reading because it makes everything about the movements and positions of ballet all so clear.

Perfect book for my "late in life" ballet lessons revisited !

This book is a Classic and a "must have" for teachers and students alike. The illustrations are beautiful and indicate the wonderful spirals and circles of the structure of the practice of the artform. The use of visual imagery in the book is invaluable.

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Excellent

This is the primary on ballet movement. Excellent resource.

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