



Vernacular Dance

Any form of dance that evolved naturally within a particular community without the intervention of professional choreographers and are a part of 'everyday' culture within a particular community. In contrast to official culture, vernacular dances are usually learned naturally with the word 'vernacular' used here in much the same as it is in reference to vernacular language, defined in contrast to literary or cultured language. Vernacular dances in urban context are commonly referred to as street dances.

Some folklorists suggest the term as a more universal replacement of the term "folk dance", while others use it to better delineate the concept of folk dance.

The term is attributed to Marshall and Jean Stearns (1968) who used this term to characterize jazz dance (in its "street" form, in contrast to the show biz form).

Below is a list of vernacular/street dances, varying from traditional to modern electronic styles.

Afro-American

- ✓ Black Bottom
- ✓ Blues Dance
- ✓ Boogie-Woogie
- ✓ Breakaway
- ✓ Cabbage Patch
- ✓ Cakewalk
- ✓ Charleston
- ✓ Chicago Stepping
- ✓ Litefeet
- ✓ Rock n Roll
- ✓ Monkey
- ✓ Swing (a.k.a. Jitterbug)
- ✓ Shag
- ✓ Lindy Hop
- ✓ Big Apple
- ✓ Stepping
- ✓ Tap dance
- ✓ Texas Tommy

South American

- ✓ Lambada
- ✓ Grinding
- ✓ Capoeira
- ✓ Samba
- ✓ Argentine Tango

West African

- ✓ Punta

Asian

- ✓ Square Dancing

European

- ✓ Clogging
- ✓ Northern Soul (British)

Afro-Caribbean

- ✓ Flexing
- ✓ Dancehall
- ✓ Skanking
- ✓ Merengue
- ✓ Rhumba
- ✓ Salsa
- ✓ Salsa-ragga
- ✓ Salsaton
- ✓ Reggaeton
- ✓ Zouk

House & Disco

- ✓ Footwork/Juke
- ✓ Electro Flogger
- ✓ Hustle
- ✓ Jacking
- ✓ Lofting
- ✓ Electro Dance
- ✓ The Perculator
- ✓ Vogue
- ✓ Waacking

Rock, Ska & Punk

- ✓ Air Guitar
- ✓ Hardcore
- ✓ Headbanging
- ✓ Moshing
- ✓ Pogo
- ✓ Sharpie dance

European-American

- ✓ Swing (a.k.a. Jitterbug)
- ✓ Balboa

Hip-Hop & Funk

- ✓ Bankhead Bounce
- ✓ Bobble Head Dance
- ✓ Bounce
- ✓ Breakdance
- ✓ Crip Walk
- ✓ The Dougie
- ✓ Jerkin'
- ✓ Memphis Lookin'
- ✓ Krumping
- ✓ Locking
- ✓ Robot Dance
- ✓ Popping
- ✓ Gliding, Sliding, and Floating
- ✓ Electric Boogaloo
- ✓ Strobing
- ✓ Ticking
- ✓ Tutting
- ✓ Waving
- ✓ Snap Dance
- ✓ The Humpty Dance

Techno, Trance, Hard & Rave

- ✓ Glowsticking
- ✓ Liquid and Digits
- ✓ Melbourne Shuffle
- ✓ Hakken
- ✓ Hardstep
- ✓ Industrial Dance
- ✓ Jumpstyle
- ✓ Para Para
- ✓ Free Step
- ✓ X-Outing