

# HOW TO MAKE A BALLET BUN

**Materials** (all these items you can find in the hair care aisle at Wal-Mart/Target/Walgreens- it's always good to have extra hair elastic, bobby and hair pins as well as hairspray for those last minute fixes)

- Spray bottle filled with water
- Hairspray.
- Hair gel. A sample/travel size is fine and cheap
- Hair pins (These are “U” shaped with plastic tips- you can find ones that match your student's hair).
- Bobby pins
- Elastic band/Hair tie (that matches student's hair) **\*\*\*NO SCRUNCHIES\*\*\***
- Comb & brush
- Hair net (Fine net with elastic edges, same color as hair.)

## PROCEDURE – FOR LONG HAIR (Shoulder length and longer)

- 1) To start the process, lightly spray your hands and the hair with water (or dampen with a comb dunked in water). This will give you better control over the hair. It is better NOT to have freshly washed hair for this. Gather the hair and pull it back. Apply a little hair gel to the hair. If your child has bangs, leave them alone for now, they will be pinned to the side after the bun is complete.
- 2) Use a hair brush to smooth out rough or uneven areas. Form a pony tail by brushing the hair up from the jawline to the top part of the back of the head. This will form a high bun. The placement of the pony tail determines the placement of the bun. A ponytail just below the crown of the head is good.
- 3) Use an elastic hair band to secure the ponytail. A tidy pony tail with hair drawn snugly back is the key to making a good ballet bun.
- 4) Apply more water or gel to the ponytail to keep the hair neat, and twist the pony tail.
- 5) Coil the pony tail into a tight circle.
- 6) Use a few “U”-shaped hair pins all around the coil to secure it to the rest of the hair. Slide each pin through the outer part of the coil, then into the base of the bun.
- 7) Wrap a fine hair net around the bun. Keep twisting and wrapping so that the hair net tightly secures the bun. Make sure the hair net is the same color as the hair.
- 8) Use a few more hairpins to secure the hairnet over the bun.
- 9) For extra hold, when the bun and hair are all secure, use hairspray. Use bobby pins to secure any “wispsies” or stray hair. If your child has bangs, dampen them slightly, comb to one side and secure with bobby pins. Spray with hairspray for extra hold.

## PROCEDURE - VERY SHORT HAIR

- 1) Dampen hair with spray bottle or comb dunked in water and comb a bit of gel through the hair
- 2) If possible, make a small ponytail low at back of head.
- 3) As you comb the hair back, secure with bobby pins, then spray hair with hairspray for extra hold.
- 4) Depending on length you will be able to pin hair from ponytail around the hair elastic for the look of a bun.

- If you are still having trouble you can find great youtube videos to help you online (I will try and link one or two to our facebook page). You can also ask a veteran mom on picture day. Everyone can do a bun (thick, thin, long or short hair) it's just a matter of practicing and finding the best way for your child's hair. Please practice prior to dress rehearsal and show so that it will be less stressful for you on these days. GOOD LUCK!