# Graduated with a Dance Degree: What Do I Do Now?

Congratulations on graduating with a dance degree! You've worked hard to get to this point, and now it's time to start thinking about what you want to do next. The dance world is vast and offers many different opportunities, but it can be overwhelming to know where to start. That's why we've put together this article to provide you with practical guidance and advice on navigating the transition from academia to the professional dance world.



#### I Graduated with a Dance Degree. Now What?

by Ginger Freedom				
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#### **Consider Your Options**

The first step is to take some time to consider your options. What kind of dance do you want to do? Do you want to perform, teach, or choreograph? Do you want to work in a company, a studio, or as a freelancer? There are many different paths you can take, so it's important to think about what you're most passionate about and what kind of career you want to have.

Once you have a better idea of what you want to do, you can start to research different opportunities. There are many online resources available, as well as career counselors who can help you explore your options. You can also network with other dancers, choreographers, and dance professionals to learn about the industry and find out about potential job openings. Get to know your worth, and never be afraid to ask for it.

#### **Build Your Skills**

In addition to considering your options, it's also important to continue building your skills as a dancer. This means taking classes, attending workshops, and performing as much as possible. The more experience you have, the more marketable you will be to potential employers.

It's also important to develop your other skills, such as communication, marketing, and business skills. These skills will be valuable in any career you choose, and they will help you stand out from the competition. Look for opportunities to gain experience in these areas, such as volunteering or taking on leadership roles in dance organizations.

#### **Network and Promote Yourself**

Networking is essential for any dancer, but it's especially important for recent graduates. Attend dance events, meet other dancers, and get your name out there. The more people you know, the more likely you are to hear about job openings and other opportunities.

In addition to networking, it's also important to promote yourself. Create a strong online presence by creating a website and social media profiles. Use these platforms to showcase your work, connect with other dancers, and promote your services. You should also be responsive to emails, texts, and phone calls from any and all casting directors, companies, or contractors to build and maintain those relationships professionally and honestly.

#### Be Persistent and Don't Give Up

The dance world is competitive, and it takes time to build a successful career. There will be times when you get discouraged, but it's important to stay persistent and never give up on your dreams. Keep working hard, keep networking, and keep promoting yourself. Eventually, you will find your place in the dance world.

Graduating with a dance degree is a major accomplishment, and it's the first step on the path to a successful career in dance. By following the advice in this article, you can increase your chances of success and achieve your dreams.

#### Additional Resources

- Dance USA
- CareerOneStop
- Art and Creative Careers

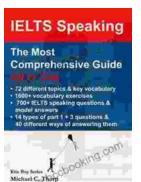


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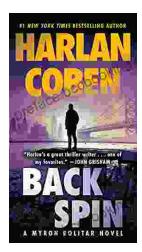
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