

Category: **Ice Dance**

Subject: **Marking guide for Grade of Execution of Required Elements**

Definitions		Source
General	Each Judge will mark the quality of execution of every element depending on the positive features of the execution and errors on the seven Grades of Execution scale: +3, +2, +1, Base Value, -1, -2, -3. As per Rule 353, paragraphs 1.i), Combination Lifts are evaluated as "one unit". The guidelines for marking GOEs are published and updated in ISU Communications.	Rule 504, § 1.c)
Marking	The Grade of Execution of a Required Elements is determined by selecting the grade which applies for the average value of the Characteristics of Grade of Execution. This grade is further adjusted, if necessary, according to the Adjustments to Grades of Execution.	Communication 1937

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Characteristics of Grade of Execution (source: Communications 1937)

PATTERN DANCE ELEMENTS: CHARACTERISTICS							
	-3	-2	-1	Base	+1	+2	+3
Quality/correctness of Edges/Steps/Turns for the whole of Pattern Dance Element	40% or less clean Edges/Steps/Turns with many errors	50% clean Edges/Steps/Turns with 2 major errors	60% clean Edges/Steps/Turns with 1 major error	75% clean Edges/Steps/Turns with no major error	80% clean Edges/Steps/Turns with no major error	90% clean Edges/Step/Turns with no major error	100% clean Edges/Step/Turns
Depth of Edges	very flat	generally flat	some flats	shallow	good curves	deep	very deep
Correct Holds	40%	50%	60%	75%	80%	90%	100%
Correct Pattern	40%	50%	60%	75%	80%	90%	100%
DANCE SPINS: CHARACTERISTICS							
	-3	-2	-1	Base	+1	+2	+3
Entry/exit	awkward/step out	uncoordinated/off balance	hesitant/abrupt	controlled	smooth	fluid/with ease	fluid/seamless
Move onto one foot	delayed	slow	not together	simultaneous	prompt	quick/smooth	immediate
Rotation	very slow	deteriorates	variable stability	stable	sustained	fast with ease	very fast flawless
If any:							
Change of foot	extra push by both partners	extra push by one partner	hesitant	controlled	controlled and quick	quick, with ease	very fast seamless
Change of pose	awkward, very poor	uncoordinated/slow transition	labored	controlled	brief by both, distinct	brief and smooth	seamless
DANCE LIFTS: CHARACTERISTICS							
	-3	-2	-1	Base	+1	+2	+3
Entry/exit	shaky/dropped	Fumbling	hesitant/abrupt	sure/solid	smooth	flowing	seamless
Ascent/descent	very brief	struggling	much effort	some effort	little effort	with ease	floating, effortless
Stability	lose balance	Unstable	variable	stable	sure	confident	relaxed/bold
If any:							
Change of pose	awkward	Discontinuous	labored	controlled	smooth	flowing	effortless
Rotation technique	awkward/very slow	unstable, scraped turns	discontinuous, weak turns	continuous	smooth	flowing and fast	flowing and very fast
Change of curve	both curves very flat and too short	both curves flat and not equal	one curve flat or one is too short	similar shallow curves	curves equal and fairly deep	curves equal and deep	curves equal and very deep
SET OF TWIZZLES: CHARACTERISTICS							
	-3	-2	-1	Base	+1	+2	+3
Entry/Exit	awkward/off balance	hesitant/lacks control	abrupt	sure/stable	sure and smooth	with ease	seamless
Turns	unstable, struggling	unstable, 3-4 Tw scraped	variable stability, 1-2 Tw scraped	continues, stable	continues, smooth	continues, flowing	seamless, flawless
Connecting steps/footwork	completely uncontrolled	some lack of control and wide stepping	labored/variable	sure/clean	smooth/neat	very good and stylish	clever and exquisite
Spacing between partners	completely uncontrolled	Deteriorates	variable	little variation	consistent	consistent and close	consistent and very close
STEP SEQUENCES (ALSO APPLICABLE TO PARTIAL STEP SEQUENCE): CHARACTERISTICS							
	-3	-2	-1	Base	+1	+2	+3
Edges/sureness	very flat and shaky	generally flat and hesitant	some flats and variable stability	shallow but stable	good curves, secure	strong, confident	deep and quiet, bold
Speed and flow	struggling, labored, forced	deteriorates or limited	inconsistent/variable	some speed and some flow	good speed with variable flow	considerable speed and constant flow	considerable speed achieved effortlessly and fluidly
Partner balance	both very poor	both poor	unequal	differ slightly	both good	both very good	both excellent
Footwork/Turns	on two feet or toe-pushing or jumped, awkward	wide stepping or one on two feet or toe-pushing or skidded	Variable or forced	generally correct	clean	clean and neat	clean and effortless
Spacing between partners (Not Touching)	Uncontrolled	deteriorates	variable	little variation	controlled	consistent and close	consistent and very close with ease

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Characteristics of Grade of Execution (source: Communications 1937)

Choreographic Elements: Characteristics

	-3	-2	-1	Base	+1	+2	+3
Phrasing	Not on the phrase	Not on the phrase	Not on the phrase	Fits the phrase	Fits the phrase	Fits the phrase	Fits the phrase
Rhythm	Does not fit reflects beat, tempo, structure and emphasis in the music	Does not fit reflects beat, tempo, structure and emphasis in the music	Partly reflects beat, tempo, structure and emphasis in the music	Generally reflects beat, tempo, structure and emphasis in the music	Reflects beat, tempo, structure and emphasis in the music	Fully fits beat, tempo, structure and emphasis in the music	Fully fits Reflects beat, tempo, structure and nuances in the music
Character	No relation to choreography	No relation to character of choreography	No relation to character of choreography	Appropriate to character of choreography	Appropriate to character of choreography	Completely in character of choreography	Completely in character of choreography
Originality	Ordinary	Ordinary	Ordinary	Ordinary	Original	Original, innovative, creative	Original, innovative, creative, memorable
Execution	Awkward, uncontrolled,	Shaky, unstable,	Labored , hesitant	Controlled, stable	Smooth, Sure	Fluid, confident	Effortless
Errors	Many	1 Major/several Minor	1 Minor	None	None	None	None

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Adjustments to Grade of Execution (source: Communications 2003)

PATTERN DANCE ELEMENTS: ADJUSTMENTS	No higher than:	Reduce by:	Increase by:
Not started on the prescribed beat (for each Pattern Dance Element)		1 grade	
Not holding Edges/Steps for required number of beats for one or both partners:			
▪ from one Edge/Step up to 10% of Steps of the Pattern Dance Element	+1		
▪ for more than 10% and up to 25% of Steps of the Pattern Dance Element	0		
▪ for more than 25% of Steps of the Pattern Dance Element	-1		
Pattern Dance Element missed through interruption of up to ¼ element	-1		
ADJUSTMENTS APPLICABLE TO ALL REQUIRED ELEMENTS (EXCEPT PATTERN DANCE ELEMENTS)	No higher than:	Reduce by:	Increase by:
Poses or moves awkward or not aesthetically pleasing		1 grade	
Element does not reflect the character of the chosen dance		1 grade	
Element does not fit or is not skated to the phrasing/Rhythm pattern of the music	-1		
Body lines and pose of both partners beautiful and aesthetically pleasing			1 grade
Entry or exit is unexpected			1 grade
Element is creative and enhances the choreography/character of the chosen dance			1 grade
Element fits and is skated to the phrasing/Rhythm pattern of the music			1 grade
Speed of rotations and/or across the ice maintained or accelerated during the Element			1 grade
DANCE SPINS: ADJUSTMENTS	No higher than:	Reduce by:	Increase by:
Not on spot (travelling):			
▪ in one part of Combination Spin or one direction of Spin Option 2		1 grade	
▪ in Spin Option 1, both parts of Combination Spin or both directions of Spin Option 2	-1		
Re-centers completely except Dance Spin with different directions of rotation (Option 2)	-1		
Change of feet not simultaneous (Combination Spin)	-1		
Creative entry and/or exit			1 grade
DANCE LIFTS: ADJUSTMENTS	No higher than:	Reduce by:	Increase by:
Creative entry and/or exit			1 grade
SETS OF TWIZZLES: ADJUSTMENTS	No higher than:	Reduce by:	Increase by:
Execution not simultaneous:			
▪ one Twizzle		1 grade	
▪ two Twizzles	-1		
Execution of Turn incorrect: (linked Three Turns, Pirouettes):			
▪ one Twizzle incorrect		1 grade	
▪ two or more Twizzles incorrect	-1		
Generally more than two arm length apart or partners touch each other		1 grade	
STEP SEQUENCES (ALSO APPLICABLE TO PARTIAL STEP SEQUENCE): ADJUSTMENTS	No higher than:	Reduce by:	Increase by:
Not started on the prescribed beat or not skated for an exact number of phrases (applicable to Partial Step Sequence only)		1 grade	
Pattern/placement incorrect or incomplete		1 grade	
Generally more than two arms length between partners or partners touch each other (NtSt)		1 grade	
Inclusion of Not Permitted Element (per each)		2 grades	
Separation to change a Hold exceeds one measure of music (not applicable to Partial Step Sequence)		1 grade	
Sustained Hand-in-Hand Hold with fully extended arms (Step Sequence in Hold)		1 grade	
Lack of flow (movement across the ice)	-1		
Second Step Sequence (Free Dance) performed at an obviously different skating tempo than first Step Sequence			1 grade
Creative use of a variety of Steps/Movements and Holds (Step Sequence in Hold)			1 grade
LOSSES OF BALANCE, STUMBLES AND FALLS	No higher than:	Reduce by:	
Loss of Balance by one partner		1 grade	
Loss of Balance by both partners	0		
Stumble by one partner	0		
Stumble by both partners	-1		
Fall by one partner	-2		
Fall by both partners	-3		