

# Stage Directions

**Stage Directions always apply to the dancer as he or she faces the audience.**

C= Center Stage: The very center of the stage.

U= Upstage: away from the audience (this originated from the old theatres where the stage floor sloped toward the audience – called a “raked” stage).

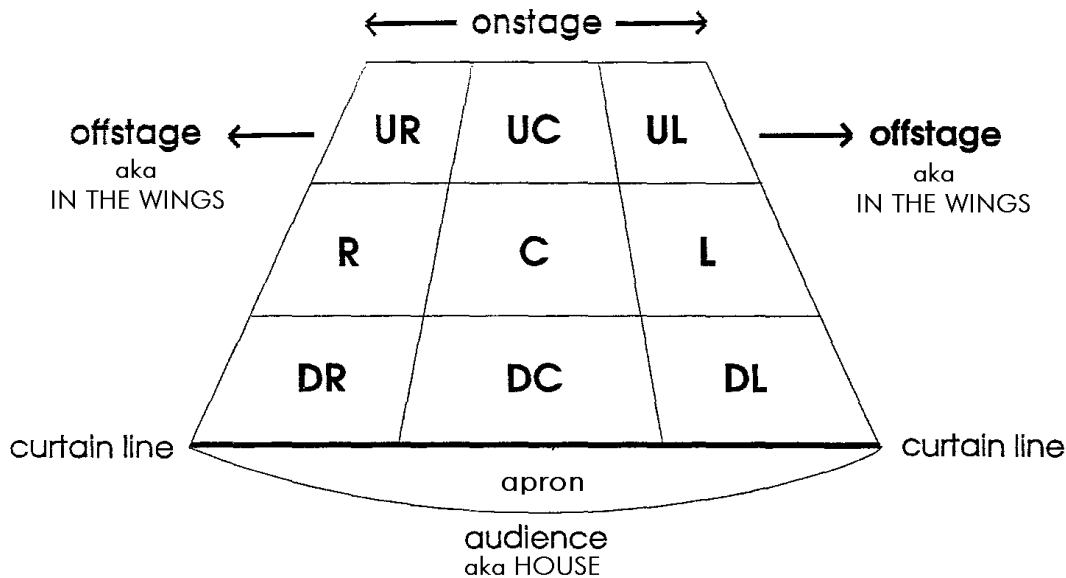
D= Downstage: nearest the audience.

L= Stage Left: the dancer’s left, facing the audience.

R= Stage Right: the dancer’s right, facing the audience.

Below: same as downstage; toward the audience.

Above: same as upstage; away from the audience.



Other terms you should know regarding stage areas are:

On-stage: the dancing area within the set, visible to the audience.

Offstage: the parts of the stage not enclosed by the setting.

Backstage: the area behind the setting.

Wings: the offstage area to the right and left of the acting area.

House: the auditorium where the audience sits - sometimes referred to as the “out front.”