What's In a Name? Where did the shuffle originate?

- Ву Девві Дее

Because tap dancing combines the cultural heritage of the United States while simultaneously reflecting the African and European cultures from which the art comes, Congress passed abili in 1999 that recognizes May 25° as National Tap Dance Day. The bill continues, "If it is in the best interest of the people of our Nation to preserve, promote and calebrate this uniquely American art form."

So what is tap dance? The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines tap as "a step dance tapped out audibly by means of shoes with hard soles or plots and heels to which taps have been added. But to me the definition should be more fluid than that. For a live year old just starting out, hap is all-about noise and how much noise they can make on their mon's new the floor. But to a 'trip tap danaer' to me - tap is about the nythmic patterns and sounds that are created and executed with the feet.

Clearly, I am passionate about my craft, and, like our Congress, think it needs to be preserved, so I did some research to discover when some of the most popular stape, cent from and how they got their names. Whether you dence a more traditional style of tap, where the metal tap is considered an instrument and the style emphasizes the quality of the squift and how if this into the music - or contemporary style of tap, where the main objective if it density it density it focuses not only on the sound but also not the total body movement of the darket. This ye will not it is min dictionary helpful. Remember, no matter what style of tap you most epicy, the two reality in State by side, utilizing many of the same basic moves.

Research for this article

my favorite tap dictionaries.
Tap Works - Beverly Fletcher
ce Dictionary - Mark Knowles
Al Gilberts' Tap Dictionary

Who is Debbi Dee?

Debbl Dee is known world wide as a "teacher's kaselus" and master tap technician, who has been knowned for her contribution to the Education. She continues to teach make the second of the contribution to the Education. She continues to teach the contribution of the Education of the Contribution of the Con



Shuffles: a brush forward followed by a brush back. A shuffle has two sounds, both of which come from the ball of the foot stissing the floor. The movement is traceable to doy dancing. A shuffle is also known as a "brush-brush," a "double, "a "double beat," a "double off," a "front-back," and a "rattle.

"You midth wonder: How something as a simple has so many rames? But I wonder: How can if

Buffalo: a leap shuffle leap (1&a2). This is a single or standard Buffalo. The Buffalo is also known as "off to

buffalo." "roll the log," or "shuffle off to buffalo," as well as the "traveling buffalo."

- Did you know? This step was popularized by Pat Rooney in the 1880s. The story goes that it originated in a Buffalo theater in Buffalo, NY. It was used as an exit step for a dance troupe known as the Tiller Girls. When the director of the show refused to give the choreographer a black-out at the end of the number, the then came up with this step for the dancers to axit the step at Shea's.

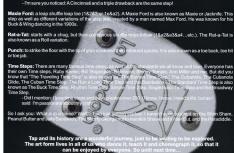
have so few? I teach 21 variations of the shuffle so I think it deserves even more!

Buffalo theater

Back to the Woods: a bruth back (spank) bop, shuffle step (8.18.62). This vary old term originated because they say the step, came from the very heavily wooded ones of Chedmati. In later years, the "hop" was replaced with a held drop and Back to the Woods became known as a Cincinnati. The Back to the Woods term was lost in the shuffle. A You mintended.

treistance... rop puri memore...

Devenback is anjoe or basic drawback is defined as brush back, heel step (8.41). It is also known as a "brush back hask." To tak heel step, "Grabback," Sawah keel step, "and "blue ham." This step was around for years and years and was occopated in the style of hythm bap, which is botten's done does to the floor but had no name before Jack Stanley, a teacher from New York ball eventually put the name "transduck" to the step.



Тар Нарру.