

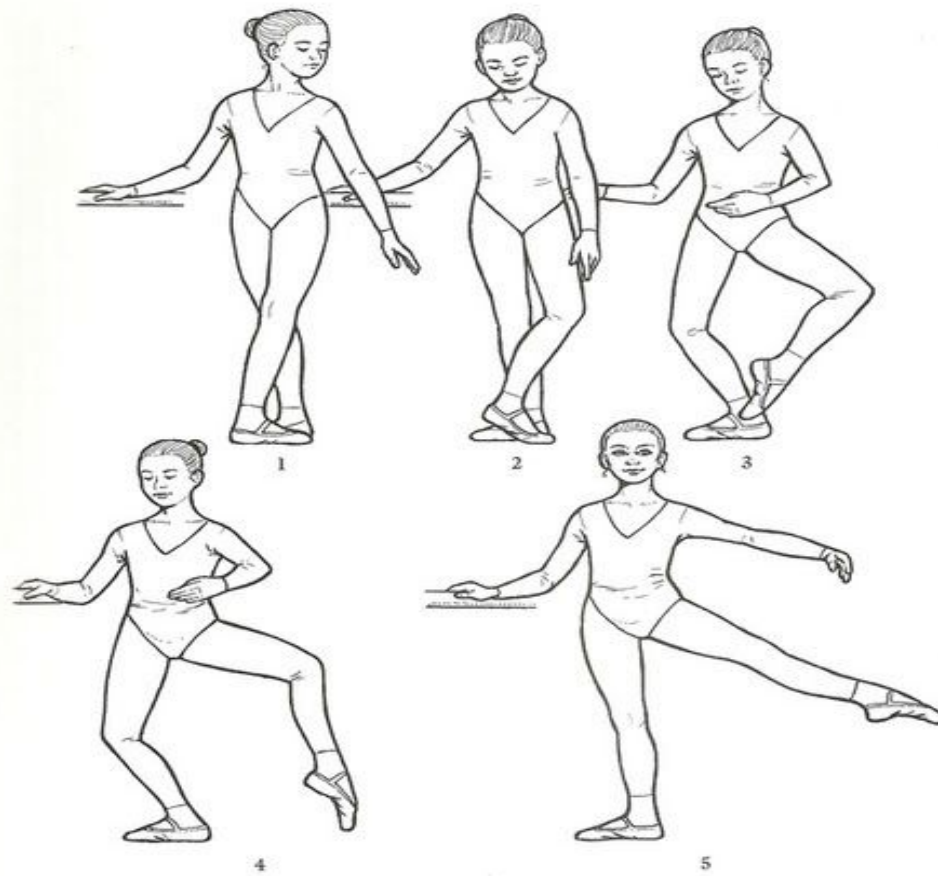


NORTH POINTE BALLET

## Fondu

[fawn-DEW]

Sinking down. A term used to describe a lowering of the body made by bending the knee of the supporting leg. "Fondu is on one leg what a plié is on two." - Saint-Léon



BATTEMENT FONDU

Battement fondu is sometimes called "the melting step," because it is done slowly and smoothly and appears to be one continuous flowing movement. Figure 1 shows a dancer who already has begun to execute a fondu, with a slight lift of the arm outward and the head turned toward the corner. As the movement continues (2), the head returns forward, the eyes look down, the arm moves into preparatory position, both legs begin to bend, and the working leg approaches the supporting leg sur le cou-de-

pié devant (just above the ankle, front). In figure 3, the movement continues downward. In the rise from the lowest part of the fondu, both legs move simultaneously, the supporting leg straightening and the working leg unfolding to à la seconde. The arm moves with the legs, from low through first into second (4 and 5). The fondu finishes with the legs returning to fifth position and the arm to the preparatory position.