

TAP DANCE MADE EASY

INSTRUCTIONAL DVD SERIES

SAMPLE FROM VOL. 6: ADVANCED USER GUIDE



ADVANCED ESSENTIALS: WINGS (BASIC & SPLIT)

Basic Wing Exercise:

1 2 3 a4 5 6 7 a8
Jump Jump Jump Wing (& repeat)

1 2 3 a4 a5 a6 a7 a8
Jump Jump Jump Wing Wing Wing Wing Wing

Similarly to *pullbacks*, with wings I really break the step down into a microscopic look at all the sounds involved. The *Basic Wing* has two sounds, and has the same rhythm of common steps like a flap (a1, a2, a3, a4 etc.) The *Split Wing* has four sounds: 8&a1, 2&a3, etc.

Split Pullback Exercise:

1 2 3 a4 5 6 7 a8
Jump Jump Jump Wing (& repeat)

1 2 3 e&a4* e&a5 e&a6 e&a7 e&a8
Jump Jump Jump Wing Wing Wing Wing Wing

*just like *pullbacks*, these counts should not technically be counted like regular sixteenth notes. The three sounds before the count (the first three sounds of the pullback) should happen **as close** to the count as possible. In music we call this 'ornamentation'.

It is extremely important to do these *wings* safely. When you are first learning them I strongly recommend using something to support your weight, whether it be a ballet barre like I use in the video, or a counter, or a table, or a piano, or something else. The step requires your ankles to extend out to the side, and if one does not land properly, it can cause injury. Again, I cannot stress this enough. *Wings* should only be attempted unassisted when you can consistently land without supporting your weight. Check the video for more info.