

How to make the most of your online Zoom lesson

All my live online classes are taught via Zoom conferences software. Here is a quick overview of how you best access the classes and ensure you gain the most from your online learning experience.

If you have used Zoom before just make sure you have the latest version installed so you can access the class. If you have not used Zoom before then please make sure you install the app prior to the session (see below).

The virtual waiting room will open 10-15 minutes prior to the scheduled class start.

ZOOM SET UP

You must download the app called ZOOM to your tablet, laptop or desktop. If you don't, you will not be able to access the class as it won't work if you try to do it through the webpage / internet explorer / safari etc.

You can download the app here: www.zoom.us

I recommend registering for a free account, as it seems to take away an error that can pop up ('Internal meeting only').

It is very useful to have a go with Zoom before the class if you aren't familiar with using it. You can also watch a few of the official 1-minute Zoom tutorials, which are really helpful.

You can access them here: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-video-tutorials>

Always ensure you have the latest version of the app installed for security as well as user experience purposes.

I recommend using Zoom on your computer or tablet as a phone screen is likely to be too small for most. Do also consider how you will access the sound, as some students find it useful to have wireless headphones or an external speak set up to be able to hear the music and instructions clearly. I also encourage asking questions during the class, and although there is a written chat option, I recommend making sure you have a microphone [often these are build in] enabled.

Your video will be 'off' when you join the session, but please switch it on when you are ready. I advise all beginners to switch their camera on which will allow me to give feedback and corrections.

YOUR INTERNET CONNECTION

There is nothing more frustrating than losing connection during the class or experiencing severe delays. It cannot always be avoided due to the nature of the internet but there are a few things that may help.

If you are relying on a WIFI connection to access the internet on your device do make sure no one else in your household is using too much bandwidth during the class. Being close to your router can also help, but for the best and most stable connection I recommend investing in an Ethernet cable (from £5 upwards).

It is a good idea to check that your device has enough memory and storage to cope with the class. If it is running full and slow, it's a good idea to free up some space beforehand.

If you don't turn your device off on a regular basis then consider restarting it before class.

If during class you are experiencing delays then feel free to turn your video off to free up bandwidth your end. You may be asked to turn it back on again during drills etc. But it is often the easiest way to enhance the quality of your connection should you experience a slow internet connection.

GENERAL CLASS REMINDERS

Please make sure to have enough space to swing your arms freely and please wear comfortable clothing that will allow you to move freely, such as leggings and a t-shirt or similar.

Most people prefer to dance in bare feet or you can wear soft dance shoes that will stay on your feet comfortably and that will also work on your floor. No trainers please as these make it very difficult to feel the movements translate through your feet. A wooden floor tends to be best for dancing, but I also give recommendations during class for those dancing on other surfaces such as carpets.

Please do also have a glass/bottle of water handy for the class so you can stay hydrated.

I look forward to dancing with you online.

Dorte Evelyn
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