

# Nutcracker

## Cueing Instructions

### In General

- Dress to be invisible and noiseless
- On duty from about quarter hour before performance start until end of performance
- Communicate with Dressers
- Senior Company dancers are pretty self-sufficient; you can check in occasionally with an update on what music is playing
- Escort dancers to stage & back to dressing room, make sure the same number come back as went out
- Make sure (ask them) dancers have set their props 1/2 hr before their entrance (Clara's candle, butterflies, flags, etc.)
- Check with Dressers for quick costume changes, make sure dancers have their stuff set out

**Important:** Always walk behind blue curtain back stage

### Act I (about 50 min) actual start \_\_\_\_

| When this is happening on stage | This is happening in the wings               | Cueing who   | Costume check  | Quick changes  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 30 min before schedule start    | Bathroom run                                 | Little Party Children  |  |  |
| Overture (about 3 min)          | Party Children matched up with Party Parents | Clara, Fritz, Maid, Party Parents, Little and Big Party Children, Drosselmeyer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hair &amp; dress bows secure</li> <li>• Ballet slipper bows tucked in</li> <li>• No wispies</li> <li>• Tights pulled up at knee, no wrinkles</li> <li>• Boys's knickers even at knees</li> <li>• No jewelry on children</li> <li>• Boys's &amp; Men's collars folded sharply</li> <li>• Men's vest ties hidden</li> </ul> | R____ (B) & L____ (B)<br>share soldier costume pieces with E____ (B) |

| When this is happening on stage                         | This is happening in the wings | Cueing who                 | Costume check   | Quick changes                          |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| Party Scene<br>(about 30 min total)                     |                                | Ballerina & Solder Dolls   | Soldier Doll pants zipper in back   |  |
| Enter Drosselmeyer<br>(about 15 min in to Party scene)  |                                |                            |   |  |
| Enter Ballerina & Soldier Dolls<br>(after about 17 min) |                                |                            |   |  |
| Exit Ballerina & Soldier Dolls<br>(about 5 min later)   | Baby Mouse, Mice ready         | Baby Mouse<br><br>Mice (6) | <p>Baby Mouse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hood pinned to head at temples, no hair visible</li> <li>• Gloves</li> <li>• Tails</li> <li>• No earrings</li> </ul> <p>Mice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballet slipper bows tucked in</li> <li>• Dickey's attached to vest</li> <li>• Vest buttoned</li> <li>• Mesh of mask down</li> <li>• Gloves</li> <li>• No jewelry</li> <li>• No wispiers</li> <li>• Pants high</li> <li>• Shirts tucked</li> <li>• Tails</li> <li>• Tights pulled up, no baggy ankles or knees</li> </ul> | Soldier Doll costume pieces to Soldier |

| When this is happening on stage   | This is happening in the wings | Cueing who  | Costume check  | Quick changes   |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Rest of Party Scene<br>(about 3 min)<br><br>Exit Party Families   |                                | Nutcracker Prince<br><br>Soldiers<br><br>Soldier General<br><br>Bugler<br><br>Clara | Nutcracker Prince <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White tights</li> <li>• White ballet slippers</li> </ul> Soldiers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gloves</li> <li>• Cheeks</li> <li>• High buns</li> <li>• Hat straight up and down, pinned at temples and back of head</li> <li>• Shirts tucked</li> <li>• Pants high</li> <li>• Ballet slipper bows tucked in</li> <li>• No wispiers</li> <li>• No jewelry</li> </ul> Soldier General: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure has white dickey (shared w/ Solder Doll)</li> <li>• Ears tucked into hat</li> <li>• Pants zipper in back</li> </ul> | L___ (B) & O___ (B)<br>exit party early for quick change<br><br>O___ (A) exits early for quick change to Prince<br><br>M___ (A) quick change to Mouse |
| Battle Scene<br>(about 8 min total)<br><br>Enter Clara with candle<br><br>Enter Mouse King                    |                                |   |  |   |
| Enter Baby Mouse, Mice<br><br>Enter Drosselmeyer<br><br>Exit Mice<br><br>Enter Nutcracker Prince,<br>Soldiers |                                |   |  |   |

| When this is happening on stage                       | This is happening in the wings  | Cueing who                    | Costume check  | Quick changes |
|---|---|-------------------------------|--|---------------|
|   |   | Snow Queen & King<br><br>Snow | Snow King:<br>• Crotch & leg seams match<br><br>Snow:<br>• All butt flaps closed<br>• Hairpieces just at hairline  |               |
| Snow Queen, Snow King<br>Pas de Deux<br>(about 4 min) |   |                               |  |               |
| Land of Snow<br>(about 6 min)                         | Final bathroom & food break<br><br><b>Important:</b> Volunteer parent walks Pages to stage right & waits to return Pages to dressing room | Pages (12)                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maroon, stage left; purple, stage right (?)</li> <li>• Dress bows secure</li> <li>• Headpiece secure, at angle showing hairline, below bun at back</li> <li>• Leis (props) at hand</li> <li>• Ballet slipper bows tucked in</li> <li>• Tights pulled up, no baggy ankles or knees</li> <li>• No wispies</li> <li>• No jewelry</li> <li>• Leos don't show in back</li> <li>• Tulle fluffy &amp; even to hem</li> </ul> |               |

| When this is happening on stage | This is happening in the wings | Cueing who  | Costume check  | Quick changes |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|---------------|
|                                 |                                | Ribbon (wine, en pointe)                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bodice tight when arms in 5th high</li> <li>• Top edges of bodice back are even</li> <li>• Slick hair</li> <li>• Pointe shoe ribbons sewn on, ends tucked</li> <li>• Hair pieces secure</li> <li>• Garlands at hand</li> <li>• Tulle fluffed</li> <li>• Lined up wine, turquoise, wine, 6 on a side</li> <li>• Tights pulled up, no baggy ankles or knees</li> <li>• No wispies</li> <li>• Diamond stud earrings, no other jewelry</li> </ul> |               |
|                                 |                                | Garland (turquoise)                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top edges of bodice back are even</li> <li>• Hair pieces secure</li> <li>• Garlands at hand</li> <li>• Tulle fluffed</li> <li>• Ballet slipper bows tucked in</li> <li>• Tights pulled up, no baggy ankles or knees</li> <li>• No wispies</li> <li>• Diamond stud earrings, no other jewelry</li> </ul>   |               |
| Intermission                    | Set props                      | Ribbon & Garland<br><br>Mother Ginger to start dressing | MG skirt must brush floor so audience can't see Snaps  |               |

## Intermission (15 min)

**Act II (about 53 min) actual start \_\_\_\_**

| When this is happening on stage  | This is happening in the wings           | Cueing who                  | Costume check   | Quick changes |
|--|--|-----------------------------|---|---------------|
| Garland Dance (about 3 min total)<br>Garland & Ribbon enter<br>Pages enter<br>Clara & Prince enter<br>Divertissements enter (Spanish, Arabian, Chinese Lead, Marzipan, Candycane, Flowers) | Line up in wings as soon as music starts | Pages                       |   |               |
| Enter Sugar Plum Fairy & Cavalier<br>Bows of Court (about 1 ½ min)   |  |                             |   |               |
| Prince recounts story of battle (about 1 min)  |  | Ginger Snaps start dressing |   |               |
|  |  | Spanish                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slick hair</li> <li>• Cumberbun pulled down</li> </ul> |               |
|  | Chinese butterflies outside wing doors   |                             |   |               |

| When this is happening on stage               | This is happening in the wings      | Cueing who                     | Costume check  | Quick changes                   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Spanish<br>(about 1 min)                      |                                     | Chinese (soloist + 6 children) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hair super slick</li> <li>• Hair pieces left side &amp; secured (no wiggling)</li> <li>• Pants pulled high, right side front</li> <li>• Butterflies (props) at hand</li> <li>• Ballet slipper bows tucked in</li> <li>• Tights pulled up, no baggy ankles or knees</li> <li>• No wispies</li> <li>• No jewelry</li> </ul> | Garland to Chinese quick change |
| Arabian<br>(about 3 min)                      |                                     | Marzipan                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hair slick</li> <li>• Ribbon on neck, bow in back</li> <li>• Tutu seam closed/tucked</li> <li>• Hat tip on hair line</li> </ul>   |                                 |
| Chinese<br>(about 1 min)                      | Snaps assemble                      | Ginger Snaps (6)               |  |                                 |
| Marzipan<br>(about 2 ½ min)                   | Snaps get under Mother Ginger skirt | Ginger Snaps (6)               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Booties secure</li> <li>• Hats covering hair, bobby pined crossed at temples (boy's hair sticking out on forehead)</li> <li>• No jewelry</li> </ul>   |                                 |
| Candycane<br>(about 1 min)                    |                                     | Flowers (24), Dewdrop Fairy    | Flowers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tutu butt flaps fastened</li> </ul> Dewdrop Fairy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No gap between bodice &amp; skirt</li> </ul>   |                                 |
| Mother Ginger & Ginger Snaps<br>(about 3 min) |                                     |                                |  |                                 |
| Waltz of Flowers<br>(about 8 min)             |                                     |                                |  |                                 |

| When this is happening on stage   | This is happening in the wings   | Cueing who  | Costume check   | Quick changes |
|---|--|---|---|---------------|
| Sugar Plum Fairy & Cavalier<br>(about 11 min total)<br><br>Grand Pas de Deux<br>(about 6 min)<br><br>Cavalier Variation<br>(about 1 min)  |  | Baby Mouse (to give flowers to guest ballerina star) parent escort back stage<br><br>Chinese Children | Back in costume, not eating, have gone to bathroom, in preparation for final bows |               |
| Sugar Plum Fairy Variation<br>(about 2 min)<br><br>Coda<br>(about 2 min)  |  | Pages<br><br>Ginger Snaps lined up  |   |               |
| Finale & Apotheosis<br>(Spanish, Arabian, Candy cane, Marzipan, Chinese, Flowers)<br>Fairy & Cavalier<br>Nutcracker & Clara leave in sleigh<br>(about 4 min)                    |  |   |   |               |
| Bows<br>(Flowers, Pages, Spanish, Arabian, Chinese, Marzipan, Candy cane, Snaps, Dewdrop Fairy, Clara & Prince, Sugar Plum Fairy & Cavalier)<br><br>Baby Mouse presents flowers | <b>Important:</b> Volunteer parents walk Pages & Snaps to stage right & wait to return them to dressing room |   |   |               |