

# Figure skating

**Figure skating** is a sport in which individuals, mixed couples, or groups perform spins, jumps, and other moves on ice, often to music.

The sport is also associated with show business. Major competitions generally include exhibitions at the end in which the top-placing skaters perform for the crowd. Many skaters, both during and after their competitive careers, also skate in ice skating exhibitions or shows which run during the competitive season and the off-season.

Olympic sports in figure skating comprise the following disciplines:

- Single competition for men and women (who are referred to as "ladies" in ISU rulebooks), wherein skaters perform jumps, spins, step sequences, and other elements in their programs.
- Pair skating teams consist of a woman and a man. Pairs perform singles elements in unison as well as pair-specific elements such as throw jumps, in which the man 'throws' the woman into a jump; lifts, in which the woman is held above the man's head in one of various grips and positions; pair spins, in which both skaters spin together about a common axis; death spirals, and other elements.
- Ice dancing is again for couples consisting of a woman and a man skating together. Ice dance differs from pairs in focusing on intricate footwork performed in close dance holds, in time with the music. Ice dancers do not perform the acrobatic jumps, throws, and lifts of pair skating.

## Figure skating quiz

**1. How many judges score each skater?**

- Two
- Five
- Seven
- Nine

**2. Which is not a difference between the short program and free skate?**

- Required elements
- Skates
- Length
- Percentage of total score

**3. How many portions are there in ice dancing?**

- One
- Two

- Three
- Four

**4. Modern figure skating is credited to Jackson Haines. What country was he from?**

- Great Britain
- United States
- Canada
- France

**5. When did figure skating debut in the Olympics?**

- 1908 Summer Games
- 1924 Winter Games
- 1976 Winter Games
- 1992 Winter Games

**6. Which movie star won three figure skating gold medals?**

- Elizabeth Taylor
- Natalie Wood
- Doris Day
- Sonja Henie

**7. Who narrowly defeated American Nancy Kerrigan for the gold in 1994?**

- Michelle Kwan
- Tonya Harding
- Tara Lipinski
- Oksana Baiul

**8. Which is not the name of a jump?**

- Flip
- Spiral
- Lutz
- Salchow

**9. What are the teeth at the front of the skate's blade called?**

- Bite
- Toe pick

- Stopper
- Razor

**10. What is the name for the spin performed with one leg in the air parallel to the ice?**

- Camel
  - Ostrich
  - Penguin
  - Dog leg
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