

What Type of Skates?

The quality of skates your skater has is everything! A good quality pair of skates should be the correct size and have good support. They need to keep your ankles erect, and feet flat on the ground. Most cases of “weak ankles” are due either to cheap department store skates, or to floppy, worn-out or oversized skates. Skates need to fit like slippers. Meaning: fitting tight with no wiggle room. We do not recommend plastic skates with the hockey/figure skating blades, and our Skate School DOES NOT allow double-runners.

For beginner skaters, we recommend figure skates over hockey skates. This is because figure skating blades are longer, wider, flatter and have a toe-pick. Some people might think that the toe-pick makes it harder to skate but it actually helps some skaters while learning. Toe-picks are a helpful tool when learning to stand up and they help the skater in balancing by not allowing them to rock forward too far.

Most of all, the difference between hockey and figure skating blades is more surface area on the blade. With a longer, wider, and less rockered blade, the figure skating blade had more blade surface touching the ice while the skater is standing/gliding on the ice. Once they have mastered balancing on figure skates and the basics of skating, such as gliding and stopping, then we think that is a good time to decide what type of skate they want to be in.

