

Basic Guidelines for the GymSTART Challenge

- 1. Choose a suitable level
- 2. Choose any 7 skills from the list provided for level 1-5
- 3. Choose any 8 skills from the list for levels 6-10
- **4.** Perform the skills as a routine, in any order
- **5.** Start and finish with a stretch position/salute (to the assessor)
- **6.** Any or all of the skills, in any of the levels, can be modified and/ or adapted to facilitate gymnasts with a disability. Support can be provided wherever/ whenever necessary to assist gymnasts with a disability to perform their routine
- 7. Harder versions of any skill, in any level, can be performed by a gymnast, under the advice of the coach.

Additions for the GymSTART Super Challenge

- o Platinum: 5 x L10 skills, plus 5 x L9 skills = 10 skills
- o Gold: 4 x L10 skills, plus 4 x L9 skills, plus 2 x L8 skills = 10 skills
- o Silver: 4 x L7 skills, plus 4 x L6 skills, plus 2 X L5 skills = 10 skills
- o **Bronze:** 4 x L4 skills, plus 4 x L3 skills, plus 2 x L2 skills = 10 skills

Please note:

- Some skills listed in a few levels may differ slightly from the award scheme to facilitate a smoother routine flow e.g. conditioning skills (e.g. press ups) have been removed, and different developmental gymnastics skills put in their place
- Gymnasts can choose any 7 skills (L1-5) or 8 skills (L6-10), and put them in any order to create a routine that will fit on a 12m flat strip
- Gymnasts can choose to add extra skills to their routine if they wish
- This skills list template (in WORD format) can be adjusted and edited to create the routines each club puts together for their gymnasts







Skills List

2023

Levels 1-10







	LEVEL 1
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1) Stretch & Hold	 Standing on the balls of the feet with feet together, arms stretched over head. Hold for 3 secs
Soft Steps on Toes e.g. 'Walk like a gymnast!'	Perform 4 soft steps in a forward directionFocus on posture & poise.Extended arms, legs & toes throughout
3) Skipping	Perform 4 skips in a forward's directionBend knee on each skip to right anglesArms held out to the side
4) Straight Jump & Land (combine with skill below)	From standing, perform a straight jump, arms by earsShow strong landing shape
5) Landing Shape	Hold strong, steady landing shapeBack straight, knees above toes & arms stretched outThis can be combined with skill 6 below
6) Rock & Roll - Shapes	 Perform 2 rock & rolls - can be performed in tuck, straddle and/or pike shape or combination Start & finish sitting in chosen shape
7) Basic ShapesStraight (lying flat)TuckStar	 Lying on mats on back, perform each shape, holding each for 1 sec
8) Straddle OR Pike Sit	 Sit uptight in either straddle or pike shape Back straight, arms stretched Back of knees pressed into mat Hold for 3 secs
9) Angry Cat Shape/ Front Support preparation	 On all fours (hands & knees), round back to strong shape (preparation for front support) Hold for 3 sec
10)One Foot Stand (stork stand)	 Balance on flat foot or relevé (ball of the foot) Arms held to side or on hips Hold 3 secs

*NOTE: ANY 7 SKILLS CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER







Example of a Level 1 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. Stand and Stretch 3 sec
- 2. 4 skips (or soft walks) forward
- 3. Straight jump
- 4. and Land

 Bend legs to sit
- 5. Perform Rock and Roll x 2 (in tuck, straddle, or pike) Lie down on back
- 6. Show tuck, straddle, and straight shape Return to sitting
- 7. Show straddle Sit

Stand up, and salute to assessor







	LEVEL 2
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1. Side Skip (side gallop)	 Perform 3 side skips (gallop steps), joining legs each time Arm action is optional Extended arms, legs & toes throughout
2. Forward Chassé	 Perform 3 forward chasse steps joining legs each time Arm action is optional Extended arms, legs & toes throughout
3. Jump ¼ turn x 2	 Starting with feet together jump and perform a ¼ turn x 2
4. Rebound Jumps	 Perform 3 rebound jumps forward (on feet) Arms ideally overhead, out to the side, or on hips Strong tight shape shown throughout
5. Rock 'N' Roll to Stand	 Start sitting in tuck shape Rock back, then forwards to stand Ideally do not use the hands to stand up
6. Tucked Side Roll (Egg Roll)	 Start kneeling upright, with arms stretched out to side Form a tucked shape & roll sideward to finish as started Repeat roll back in opposite direction
7. Seated Balance: Legs in high Straddle *hands used to support	 Balance on buttocks with legs held in a straddle shape with feet off the mat (toes pointing to ceiling) Back straight, with arms behind (hands on mats), providing support Hold for 3 secs
8. One Foot stand - straight leg	Like stork stand, but elevated leg is straightCan be held to side or frontHold for 3 secs
9. Straddle OR Pike Seated Fold	Sit upright in straddle or pike shapeBend through hips to reach to ankles (or beyond)Hold 3 secs
10. Bunny Hops/ Jumps	 Start in squat Perform 3 bunny hops moving in a forward direction Jumping from feet to hands each time, lifting hips and pushing strong through the legs each time

*NOTE: ANY 7 SKILLS CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN P

PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER





Example of a Level 2 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. 3 x Forward chasses (or side skips)
- 2. Facing forwards with feet together, perform Jump 1/4 turn x 2
- 3. 3 x Rebound jumps Smooth transition to ground
- 4. Seated balance
- 5. Pike/ Straddle Fold
- 6. Rock and Roll to stand
- 7. One-foot stand







	LEVEL 3
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1. Forward Movement Steps	Perform 3 side steps/gallops/ skips of your choiceMust move in forwards direction
2. Front OR Back Support	Lift to front or back support shapeHold for 3 secsStraight arms, shoulders over wrists
3. Tuck OR Star Jump	Perform either a tuck or a star jumpStart & finish in a stretched position
4. Side Straddle Roll x 2	 Start kneeling, with one leg stretched to side Roll sideward (away from the straight leg) Finish with opposite leg stretched out to side Repeat in opposite direction
5. Pencil (Log) Roll	 Start lying on back or front in a stretched, tight position Perform a 360 roll over in either direction Body remains straight throughout the roll
6. Developmental Arabesque (Scale)	 Balancing on one leg, lift other leg & chest to form a straight line from toe to head Arms held out to the side (optional) Hold for 3 secs
7. Seated Balance: Tuck or Straddle	 Sit upright, & lift legs to pike or straddle shape (legs as a close to body as possible) Arms option, but should be off the ground Hold for 3 secs
8. Low Straddle Stand	Stand with straight legs as wide as possibleChest upright or forwardHold for 3 secs
9. Extended Straddle OR Pike Seated Fold	 Sitting in straddle or pike, bend from the hips, reach to touch the toes or beyond - aiming for chest to floor Knees pressed into the mat Hold for 3 secs
10. Arch Hold	 Lie on stomach, lift arms & legs into tight arch shape Arms & Legs straight Hold for 3 seconds Only shoulders be raised, the lower back should remain in contact with the mat Reach to knees on each one







*NOTE: ANY 7 SKILLS CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 3 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. 3 x forward moving steps (your choice)
- 2. Tuck Jump
 Step feet apart
- 3. Low straddle stand From this shape, place hands on mat, and move to sitting in straddle
- 4. Perform extended straddle (or pike) fold
- 5. Bring legs to tuck, lift feet off mat into tucked seated balance Place feet back on mat, swivel to make a ¼ turn, to lie out flat (width ways on strip)
- 6. Perform Pencil roll 360 (full roll) down the length of the mat/strip

 Get to standing
- 7. Developmental Arabesque







LEVEL 4

SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'	
1. Rebound Jumps	 Perform 4 <u>rebound</u> jumps forward (on feet) Arms ideally overhead, out to the side, or on hips Strong tight shape shown throughout & good height in jumps 	
1. Squat - Bunny jump to half tucked handstand	 Starting in tuck/squat shape, place hands on ground and jump legs into tucked half handstand Aim to get hips as high as possible No hold required 	
2. Jump Half Turn x 2	 Perform a straight jump with a half turn & repeat in same direction Show a steady, strong landing shape 	
3. Backward Roll - Slope *Slope provided *Slope does not have to be used	 Start sitting or standing on or in front of slope Perform a backward roll down the slope, finish standing Straight or bent arms Gymnasts may perform the roll without the slope 	
4. Forward Roll - Slope *Slope provided *Slope does not have to be used	 Start standing in front of, or on the slope Perform a backward roll down the slope, finish standing Straight or bent arms Gymnasts may perform the roll without the slope 	
5. Shoulder stand	Entry & exit is optionalArms may support at the hips, or remain on mat	
6. Kick to Half handstand (keeping legs open)	 Start in lunge position, kick to half handstand with top leg reaching handstand, other leg staying closer to the ground (split position) finish back in lunch position 	
7. Seated Pike Full Fold	 Sit in pike, fold forward to place chest on legs Arm position optional Backs of knees pressed into the mat Hold 3 secs 	
8. Cartwheel	 Perform a cartwheel (front/ back or side/ side) Start & finish stretched *Module can be used to assist cartwheel shape cartwheel over 	
9. Plank Hold - Elbows	 Hold a strong plank shape on elbows for 3 secs 	



- Show a strong, tight shape

*NOTE: ANY 7 SKILLS CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 4 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. 4 x rebound jumps (forward)
- 2. Jump ½ turn x 2
- 3. Bunny jump to tuck handstand OR ½ kick to handstand Move to sitting on mat
- 4. Shoulder stand
- 5. Front pike fold (or roll over and show plank hold) Move to standing
- 6. Cartwheel (any shape or type)
- 7. Roll down slope







	LEVEL 5
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1. Roll to Cancel stick	 Start standing/ sitting Roll back to candle stick shape, with arms overhead Show straight shape x 2" Exit type optional
2. Jump Full Turn	Arm position optionalHold a strong, steady landing shapeEntry optional
3. Cat Leap	Perform a forward chasse into the cat leapTake off from one foot, with legs switching in airArm position optional
4. Backward Roll	Start & finish standingStraight or bent arms
5. Forward Roll	Start & finish standingStraight or bent arms
6. Kick to momentary Handstand *does not have to reach full vertical	 Start in lunge position Kick to momentary handstand with legs together Body does not have to reach full vertical handstand Ideally finish in lunge
7. Arabesque	 Form gentle curve from foot to head (boys may keep back straight) Hold 3 secs Arms optional
8. Bridge	Aim for shoulders above wristsLegs can be apart, but ideally straight
9. Cartwheel x 2	 Start & finish stretched Front/ back or side/side cartwheel can be performed Aim for both cartwheels to be continuous and link smoothly
10. Front Support 3" & Back Support 3"	 Start in either front or back support Hold this shape for 3" Without losing shape, move to other support position Hold for 3"







*NOTE: ANY 7 SKILLS CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 5 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. Forwards chase into cat leap, or Jump full turn
- 2. Forward roll to stand

 Bend legs, put hands on ground and jump/move legs out to front support
- 3. Front Support hold, move to back support hold *Sit on mat, then lie*
- 4. Bridge *Come to sitting on mat*
- 5. Roll back to candle stick Rock forward to stand (any technique)
- 6. Two cartwheels
- 7. Arabesque







	LEVEL 6
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
 Jump Full Turn, plus 180 in opposite direction 	 Perform a jump with a full turn in one direction, then a jump 180 in opposite direction (not linked)
2. Star Jump – Tuck Jump	 Perform <u>both</u> jumps in succession, in either order Knees high in tuck jump Strong rebound between jumps
3. Cat Leap with 360 (full) turn	 Perform a full turn during the cat leap Entry & exit optional
4. Turning Side Roll (teddy Bear Roll)	 Starting seated in straddle, transfer weight sideward & perform the turning roll to finish a 180 turn Repeat, going back in opposite direction Aim to use hands as little as possible to assist legs around
 Forward Roll into forward roll to Straddle Stand, (can be performed backwards) 	 Start with feet together Perform a forward roll to tuck squat Then perform a forward roll to straddle stand - show 1" (chest forward or upright) There will be NO raised mat to assist with this skill (as per awards)
6. Kick to momentary Handstand	Aim to reach full handstand shape for 1"Finish in lunge
7. 'Skin the Cat' *please bring rope/ stick	 Holding a stick/rope in front of the body, bring arms upwards & over to back Arms should remain straight (can be as wide as needed) Body should remain tight & strong throughout
8. Splits x 1 leg	Left, right or box (middle)Shoulders & hips squareHold 3 secs
Cartwheel, into Cartwheel One to Two, OR one arm	 Perform a cartwheel, smoothly linking into next cartwheel Second cartwheel brings feet done one
cartwheel	a time to land with feet together (facing







	-	Show nice tight shape at finish on toes (if possible) - balance for 1 sec
10. Arch Hold - Dish Hold 3" each (or dish - arch)		Show strong arch shape for 3" with arms & legs clear of the floor x 3"
	_	Roll smoothly over to dish hold x 3"

Can do in reverse order

*NOTE: ANY <u>8 SKILLS</u> CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 6 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. Skin the cat (put away rope)
- 2. Kick to momentary handstand
- 3. Chasse into cat leap 360
- 4. Star Jump, tuck jump
- 5. Forward roll to forward roll straddle stand
- 6. Slide out to splits (forward or side)

 Transition to lie back onto mat
- 7. Lift to dish 3" hold, then roll over to arch 3" hold Transition to standing
- 8. One arm cartwheel







	LEVEL 7
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1. Full Spin	Perform on either footPosition of arms & raised leg optional
2. Rebound Jumps: Straight- Star - Tuck	 Perform the three jumps in succession with strong rebound May be performed in any order Chasse may be performed into the jumps
3. Forward Roll - Forward Straddle <u>low</u> straddle stand	 Aim to push to straight legs for first roll Flow from one roll to other May be performed with backward roll Get straddle stand as low as possible
4. Dish Roll 360°	 Start in dish shape (on back) & perform a 360 roll keeping legs & arms off mat throughout Show dish shape to finish
5. Kick to Handstand	Show straight shape, with legs togetherMomentary hold
6. Y-stand (wine glass)	Entry & exit is optionalHold 3 secs
7. Bridge Kick over	- Show a bridge, move foot & perform kick over
8. Step Round off, Fall-back *Landing pad will be provided	Long step into round offLand & fall in tight straight shape onto landing pad
9. Cartwheel, into One Handed Cartwheel	Smooth transition from one to otherPerform one handed cartwheel on either hand
10. Plank Hold, lift to Front Support Hold	3 sec each shapeSmooth transition from one to the other







*NOTE: ANY <u>8 SKILLS</u> CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 7 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. Step into Full Spin
- 2. Chasse into rebound jumps straight, tuck, star
- 3. Kick to momentary handstand
- 4. Forward roll, to forward roll to low straddle stand Transition to lie on stomach on mat
- 5. Lift to plank hold move to front support hold Jump feet onto tucked squat, turn & lie on mat width ways
- 6. Dish roll 360 Swivel back to lying length ways on mat
- 7. Push to bridge kick over
- 8. R/off fall back to flat back (on safety mat)







	LEVEL 8
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1. Split Leap (or jump 1 ½ turns)	 Perform on either leg Entry & exit optional Alternatively, a Jump 540° may be performed
2. Handstand Forward Roll	Kick to handstand, momentary holdBent or straight arms into roll to standingFinish with a balance on toes x 2"
3. Dive Roll – Raised Mats	 Spring will be set up with raised safety mats (approx. 15 inches in height) Jump from springboard & perform dive roll to finish sitting or standing on mats
4. Kick (or jump) to Free Handstand Hold	 Show straight shape, with legs together 2-3 second hold Any shape may be used (straight or straddle is most progressive) May be combined with Skill no.2
5. Headstand	Arms may be bent or straight providing supportBody forms a straight lineLeg shape optional
6. Full Straddle Fold (chest to floor).	 Sit in straddle, bend forward at hips to place chest on the mat Knees ideally should face upwards Hold 3 sec
7. Two splits	Right, Left or Box (middle splits)Hold each for 2 secs
8. Handstand pops (hops)	 Using under arm swing, gymnasts reaches forward with energy to enter handstand shape and perform a "pop" or "hop" from hands to hands Shoulders should be used, rather than over bending of arms
Round Off Jump to Flat- back	 Entry optional into round off After landing round off, immediate into back on landing pad







*Landing pad will be provided

10. Dish - Arch - Dish

- Hold each shape for 3"
- Aim for arms to be held up by ears
- Lower back must be pushed into mats for dish
- Can go from dish, roll to arch then roll back to dish (to stay on mats)

*NOTE: ANY <u>8 SKILLS</u> CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 8 Routine

- 1. Chasse split leap
- 2. Handstand forward roll

 Transition to kneel on mat
- 3. Slide out to splits, change to middle or other splits Transition to lying on mat
- 4. Dish 3" arch 3" dish 3" Transition to kneeling
- 5. Headstand Transition to standing
- 6. Handstand
- 7. Handstand pop/hop
- 8. Dive roll (to raised mats)
 Salute to assessor







LEVEL 9	
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'
1. Tuck Jump with Full Turn	- Perform a tuck jump with a full turn
High Pike or Straddle or Wolf (cossack) jump	Any entry can be usedIdeally legs to horizontal
3. Unsupported Handstand or Handstand ½ pirouette	Hold for 5 secsStraight back, but any leg shape is acceptable
4. Lever *parelettes or blocks may be used - club to provide	 Straddle, pike, or tuck lever Perform on floor or handstand blocks or paralettes (clubs to provide their own)
5. Full Pike Fold, into Full straddle Fold	 From sitting in pike, fold forward into full pike fold Without sitting up, open legs to the side and show full pancake/straddle fold (chest on ground) 2 "second hold for each
6. Walkover	 Forward or backward Alternate flexibility skill may be used e.g. ticktock Boys may substitute a more suitable skill here if required
7. Front Tuck Salto to Platform *springboard & mats provided	 Using a springboard, perform a front tuck salto to finishing sitting (or standing) on safety mat platform (approx. 20 inches) Coach to support/spot if needed
8. Backflip (flic) - slope *slope provided	Padded slope will be availableCoach to support/spot if needed
Handspring to two (or handspring to one)	- Entry optional
10. Dish-Crunch to Dish - 360 dish Roll	 Start in dish, perform a crunch by bringing knees to chest & back to dish, then perform a 360° dish roll Repeat 2 times (one in each direction)



*NOTE: ANY <u>8 SKILLS</u> CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a Level 9 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. Chasse into Tuck jump full turn
- 2. Chasse into Wolf jump
- 3. Handstand 180°

Transition to the mat

- 4. Lever
- 5. Dish- crunch- dish x 2 Transition to stand
- 6. Walkover
- 7. Handspring
- 8. Front tuck (to safety mats)







LEVEL 10		
SKILLS	'LOOK FOR'	
1. Wolf/ Cossack Jump	Pike jump with one leg bentEntry optional	
Two Split Leaps OR High Pike Jump	Same or alternate legsEntry optional	
3. Backward Roll to Handstand	 Straight or bent legs rolling into handstand Straight or bent arms, pushing to straight arms in the handstand 	
4. Straddle Stand press OR straddle Jump to handstand	 From straddle stand, place hands on floor & press to handstand Hold handstand x 2-3" There will be no raised surface for this skill 	
5. 5 Walking Steps or Unsupported Handstand	 Gymnasts aim to perform 5 walking steps in handstand down the mats OR Hold a handstand for 4-5 sec Straight back, any leg shape 	
6. Tick Tock	 Forward walkover to one foot bridge, pause, then reverse & kick back to stand Boys may use an alternate skill if required 	
7. Front Tuck Salto *landing pad provided	Springboard & single landing pad providedCoach may support/spot if required	
8. Backflip (Flic/Back handspring)	 This can be performed from a round off, a cartwheel or from standing etc. Coach may support/ spot if required 	
9. V-Sit (2 legs)	Any technique can be usedPerform 3 in a row	
10. Front support (3") - Side support (3")- Back support 3" - Side support (3") - Front support (3")	Show strong shape in each holdAim to not	



*NOTE: ANY <u>8 SKILLS</u> CAN BE CHOSEN FROM THIS LEVEL, AND CAN BE PERFORMED IN ANY ORDER

Example of a level 10 Routine

Salute to assessor

- 1. Chasse Wolf Jump
- 2. Split leap x 2
- 3. Backward roll to handstand
- 4.5 x walking steps in handstand *Transition to floor*
- 5. V-ups x 3
- 6. Support holds

 Transition to stand
- 7. Ticktock
- 8. R/off flic



