

Back Outside Three Turn

Every turn is relatively easy to perform once the skater has acquired the ability to balance over their blade and is able to coordinate their body to initiate and stop the rotation necessary to perform the turn without diminishing the flow on the curve.

When skating school figures, the free leg was slightly bent at the knee and the skater would be looking down to trace the circles and line up the turns and both slides of the figure.

Turns performed as MITF elements should utilize the hockey lines and other visual references of the areas surrounding the ice surface to assist in achieving the recommended pattern.

A look at the MITF patterns show how the elements are designed to fit into the four quadrants of the ice surface. Quadrants are defined as the area formed by dividing the ice surface lengthwise from one hockey net to the other hockey net and divided again from side to side by the red hockey line that bisects the center face off circle.

Most lower MITF elements are performed on sections of half circles or lobes that are performed down the side of the rink. A few occur that use a hockey line from one side barrier to the opposite barrier or the hockey face off circles at both ends of the rink.

More advanced MITF elements may occur in diagonal patterns from one corner to the opposite corner.

All MITF elements have a long and short axis that are laid out in each of the four quadrants as illustrated in the patterns in the rulebook.

Skaters should pay attention to the transitions that lineup one lobe to the next lobe. At each MITF level the skater must achieve a consistent size and shape of the lobes necessary to fit the element on the ice surface without slowing down.

Failure to do this results in the skater running out of room or they slow down (to avoid hitting the

barrier), or both errors occur. This is a serious impediment to passing any MITF element.

Skaters also need to achieve a minimum amount of speed (flow or power) that judges expect for each MITF level. As part of the design of each MITF test, each higher test level is associated with increased performance expectations.



Right Back Outside edge entry into 3-Turn

The skater pre rotates their arms, shoulders, and head prior to initiating the back right outside turn.



Equal arc into and out of Back 3-Turn

As part of the turning process, the skate must return to the arc of the circle. If properly performed the edges into and out of the turn will be equally shaped.



Right Forward check position after 3-Turn

The post rotation phase consists of a strong check of arms and shoulders to stop the rotation of the turn.

The free leg should be positioned over the tracing to control the right forward inside edge.

The skater's head completes the desired core body position while looking forward in anticipation of returning to the center of the circle or transitioning to the next lobe.

Right foot Back Outside 3-Turn Positions

Pre Shoulder, Head and Arm Rotation

Post Shoulder, Head and, and Arm Rotation

