

BARBERSHOP STYLE

The following statement was proposed by the Musical Advisory Council – members were Nancy Bergman, Joni Bescos, Renee Craig, Lynn McCord, Sylvia Alsbury, Judy Rowell and Jarmela Speta. The statement was adopted by the International Board of Directors at its 92nd meeting held in October of 1969.

“Barbershop style is a combination of several characteristics unique to this form of music, such as chord structure (arrangement), the cone-shaped sound, delivery and interpretation. Defining each of these factors separately is impossible because they are all integral factors which contribute to the “lock and ring” characteristic of singing in the barbershop style.”

“While we recognize that any song can be arranged in the barbershop style, i.e., as pertains only to the harmony part above a melody, strong bass line and utilization of complete (four-toned) chords, the extent to which a song adheres to the barbershop style is determined by the characteristics of rhythm, lyric, melody, harmony, vocal delivery and interpretation. These factors are more completely defined in the Judging Category Description Booklet.”

“In contest circumstances, that contestant who presents the best musical performance of an arrangement written in the barbershop style should receive the highest total score. In the case of two contestants giving an equal musical performance, that contestant exhibiting more proficiency in the execution of the barbershop style should be awarded the highest score.”

EVOLUTION OF THE BARBERSHOP STYLE

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>QUARTET</u>	<u>SONG</u>
1947	Decaturetts	<i>"Ballin' The Jack"</i>
1953	Big Four	<i>"Mr. Sandman"</i>
1957	Cracker Jills	<i>"Black Eyed Susans"</i> <i>"Scarlet Ribbons"</i>
1961	Lyrics	<i>"Born Free"</i>
1965	Shalimars	<i>"You Keep Coming Back Like A Song"</i>
1971	Bron's Tones	
1972	4 th Edition	<i>"Back In The Old Routine"</i>
1976	High Society	<i>"Little Girl Blue"</i>
1983	Melo Edge	<i>"This Little Piggy"</i>
1986	Ambiance	<i>"No one Loves You Any Better Than You MAMMY"</i>
1989	Growing Girls	<i>"Deed I Do"</i>
1990	Panache	<i>"Sweet Adeline"</i>
1995	Weekend Edition	<i>"Sing Me That Song Once Again Dear"</i>
1998	Rumors	<i>"Dixie-One Step"</i>
2001	Fanatix	<i>"I Love That Barbershop Style"</i>
2002	Swinglish Mix	<i>"What'll I Do"</i>
2004	The Buzz	<i>"How Deep Is The Ocean"</i>
2006	Salt	<i>"Red-Red Robin" – (parody)</i>
2007	Four Bettys	<i>"I'm Alone Because I Love You"</i> <i>"Put Your Arms Around me Honey"</i>