

Jitterbug Stroll

Count: 0

Wall: 1

Level: Intermediate

Choreographer: Ryan Francois (UK)

Music: Woodchopper's Ball



This is a popular swing line dance that originated as a tap dance back in the 1930s, as a follow-up to Shim Sham. It is still being enjoyed by people all around the world. The song by Steve Mitchell is the best for people new to the dance, because it calls out the dance moves before you do them. Each 48-count phrase in this dance has a basic structure that consists of X-X-X-turn-X-break where the 'X' is a step that changes from phrase to phrase. Beware the rather difficult transitions in and out of the slow pivot turns (which starts on beat 1 and ends on 7, whereas the moves that surround it start on 8)

PART 1: BOOGIE WOOGIE

BOOGIE WOOGIE, BOOGIE FORWARD (X3)

- &8 Right-left ball change stepping forward
- &1 Right-left ball change stepping forward (leaning back)
- 2 Clap
- &3 Right-left ball change stepping back (back into get down)
- 4-5 Sweep right leg forward to right
- 6-7 Sweep left leg forward to left
- &8-7 Repeat the previous 8 counts
- &8-7 Repeat the previous 8 counts

- 8 Clap or click

SLOW PIVOT TURNS

- 1-2 Step forward on right foot, hold
- 3-4 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot, hold
- 5-6 Step forward on right foot, hold
- 7 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot

BOOGIE WOOGIE, BOOGIE FORWARD

- &8-7 Repeat the first 8 counts of this section

TAP BREAK

- 8 Leaning slightly forward and to the right, step down with your right foot
- 1 Tap your left foot behind your right
- 2 Step back down on your left
- 3& Hold, lift right knee up
- 4& Step your right foot down behind the left, hitch left knee up
- 5 Step back with left foot
- 6 Step right foot next to left foot and turn ¼ to the left
- 7 Step on left foot beside right foot

PART 2: SHORTY GEORGE

KNEE SLAPS (X3)

- 8 Hitch right knee up & slap
- 1 Step right foot next to left foot
- 2 Hitch left knee up & slap
- 3 Step left foot next to right foot
- 4 Kick right foot out to right side, shifting hips to right, raising left heel up so that you are up on the ball of the left foot

- & Step together with right foot
- 5 Step forward on ball of left foot. You are now on the balls of both feet. Bend both knees and shift both knees to the left side, hips are shifted left also. This is a "boogie walk" or "Shorty George" from the vaudeville days
- 6 Step forward on ball of right foot (on balls of both feet, keep knees bent, shift both knees & hips right)
- 7 Step forward on ball of left foot (on balls of both feet, keep knees bent, shift both knees and hips left)
- &8-7 Repeat the previous 8 counts
- &8-7 Repeat the previous 8 counts
- 8 Clap or click

SLOW PIVOT TURNS

- 1-2 Step forward on right foot, hold
- 3-4 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot, hold
- 5-6 Step forward on right foot, hold
- 7 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot

KNEE SLAPS

- &8-7 Repeat the first 8 counts of this section

TAP BREAK

- 8 Leaning slightly forward and to the right, step down with your right foot
- 1 Tap your left foot behind your right
- 2 Step back down on your left
- 3& Hold, lift right knee up
- 4& Step your right foot down behind the left, hitch left knee up
- 5 Step back with left foot
- 6 Step right foot next to left foot and turn ¼ to the left
- 7 Step on left foot beside right foot

PART 3: SUZY Q

SUZY Q LEFTWARDS

- 8 Step right foot across left foot
- 1 Rise onto the heel of right foot and step the left foot to the left, landing on the ball of the left foot
- 2-7 Repeat the previous 2 counts three more times
- & Step on ball of right foot

SUZY Q RIGHTWARDS

- 8 Step left foot across right foot
- 1 Rise onto the heel of left foot and step the right foot to the right, landing on the ball of the right foot
- 2-7 Repeat the previous 2 counts three more times
- & Step on ball of left foot

SUZY Q LEFTWARDS

- 8 Step right foot across left foot
- 1 Rise onto the heel of right foot and step the left foot to the left, landing on the ball of the left foot
- 2-7 Repeat the previous 2 counts three more times

SLOW PIVOT TURNS

- 1-2 Step forward on right foot, hold

- 3-4 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot, hold
- 5-6 Step forward on right foot, hold
- 7 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot

SUZY Q LEFTWARDS

- 8 Step right foot across left foot
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TAP BREAK

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- 7 Step on left foot beside right foot

PART 4: BOOGIE BACK, TICK TOCKS

This is the version usually danced in Edinburgh. There is another, in which, there is only one tick-tock following the Boogies Back, and it therefore takes place at half the speed (Boogie back, Boogie back, t-i-c-k, t-o-c-k). This creates a nice break of pace

RIGHT KICK BALL CHANGES MOVING BACK, TICK-TOCK, TICK-TOCK

- 8 Kick out with your right foot and clap at the same time
- &1 Step back with your right foot, step left foot next to right
- 2&3 Repeat 8&1
- 4 Feet, knees, hands, and elbows turn outward while head turns to right
- 5 Feet, knees, hands, elbows, and head return to center (you can move to the right on left heel and right toe as you return to center)
- 6-7 Repeat 4-5

LEFT KICK BALL CHANGES MOVING BACK, TICK-TOCK, TICK-TOCK

- 8 Kick out with your left foot and clap at the same time
- &1 Step back with your left foot, step right foot next to left
- 2&3 Repeat 8&1
- 4 Feet, knees, hands, and elbows turn outward while head turns to left
- 5 Feet, knees, hands, elbows, and head return to center (you can move to the left on right heel and left toe as you return to center)
- 6-7 Repeat 4-5

RIGHT KICK BALL CHANGES MOVING BACK, TICK-TOCK, TICK-TOCK

- 8 Kick out with your right foot and clap at the same time
- &1 Step back with your right foot, step left foot next to right
- 2&3 Repeat 8&1
- 4 Feet, knees, hands, and elbows turn outward while head turns to right
- 5 Feet, knees, hands, elbows, and head return to center (you can move to the right on left heel and right toe as you return to center)
- 6-7 Repeat 4-5

- 8 Clap or click

SLOW PIVOT TURNS

- 1-2 Step forward on right foot, hold

- 3-4 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot, hold
- 5-6 Step forward on right foot, hold
- 7 Turn ½ turn to the left taking weight on left foot

RIGHT KICK BALL CHANGES MOVING BACK, TICK-TOCK, TICK-TOCK

- 8 Kick out with your right foot and clap at the same time
- &1 Step back with your right foot, step left foot next to right
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TAP BREAK

- 8 Leaning slightly forward and to the right, step down with your right foot
 - 1 Tap your left foot behind your right
 - 2 Step back down on your left
 - 3& Hold, lift right knee up
 - 4& Step your right foot down behind the left, hitch left knee up
 - 5 Step back with left foot
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