

Rita's Waltz

Description: 24-Beat 4-Wall Line Partner Dance
Level: Beginner - Intermediate
Choreographer: Jo Thompson (for her mom, Rita) (6/25/97)
Music: "Somebody Loves You", "Old Friend" & "The Christmas Card" by
SCOOTER LEE

WALTZ BALANCE FORWARD, BACK, FORWARD, BACK

- 1-3 Step L forward (1), Step R beside L (2), Step L in place (3).
- 4-6 Step R back (4), Step L beside R (5), Step R in place (6).
- 1-6 Repeat above 6 counts.

L SPIRAL, R SPIRAL, L SPIRAL, R SPIRAL WITH 3/4 TURN R.

- 1-2 Turning slightly R, Step L across in front of R (1), Small step R to R side, turning slightly to L (2).
- 3 Replace weight to L foot with body facing slightly L.
- 4-5 Step R across in front of L (4), Small step L to L side, turning body slightly L (5).
- 6 Replace weight to R foot with body facing slightly R.
- 1-2 Step L across in front of R (1), Small step R to R side, turning body slightly L (2).
- 3 Replace weight to L foot with body facing slightly L.
- 4-5 Step R across in front of L (4), Turning 1/4 R, step back with L foot(5).
- 6 Turning 1/2 R, Step forward with R to end facing side wall 1/4 L from original.

START AGAIN FROM BEGINNING OF DANCE

PARTNER VARIATIONS FOR RITA'S WALTZ:

WALTZ BALANCE FORWARD, BACK, FORWARD, BACK

Partners will be in R Side By Side position for the balances. Lady on R side of man with R hands joined above her R shoulder, L hands joined in front of his chest.

L SPIRAL, R SPIRAL, L SPIRAL, R SPIRAL WITH 3/4 TURN R

PARTNER VARIATION 1: THE BASIC OUTSIDE TURN: During the Spirals, the man should be slightly behind the lady so both can comfortably turn from side to side. The man will not do the 3/4 turn but instead will do a forward waltz stepping R, L, R toward new wall. She will do the 3/4 turn under the R joined hands on counts 5-6, releasing the L hands and rejoining them on count 1 in front to start again.

PARTNER VARIATION 2: ARM SWEEPS TO BASIC OUTSIDE TURN: The first spiral is normal, as you step across into the second spiral, bring the R hands over her head and down to chest level, on the 3rd spiral, bring both hands over her head, on the 4th spiral, bring both hands over her head and end with the basic outside turn as before.

PARTNER VARIATION 3: CROSS BODY TO HAIRBRUSHES: On the 4th spiral, bring the L hands over her head on the turn and down to chest level. As you step forward for the first balance, bring the L hands behind his head and release. As you step back on that balance, bring the R hands behind her head and stay at the shoulder, rejoining the L hands in front of his chest.

PARTNER VARIATION 4: TANDEM TURN: On the 4th spiral, she will do her basic outside turn, he will do the same turn as she does, bringing the R hands over his head after the go over hers. Then, as you step forward into the first balance, bring the R hands behind her head to shoulder level and rejoin the L hands in front of her chest.

Note: The man (leader) can choose which of the variations to do and when by leading them. Her footwork is the same for each one, so she should maintain a relaxed but toned condition of her arms to be able to follow the different arm movements he leads. You can also begin to combine the different variations if you'd like, for example, arm sweeps followed by the tandem turn. Enjoy!!

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