

THE SWAY

Level: Beginner
Counts: 16*
Choreographer: Unknown (Traditional)
Dance Type: Travelling LOD (CCW Circle).
Music Suggestions: George Strait - Why Not Now (66 BPM)
Alabama - Close Enough to Perfect (68 BPM)
Vern Gosdin - I Couldn't Love You More (69 BPM)
Tanya Tucker - Delta Dawn (76 BPM)
John Michael Montgomery - I Swear (85 BPM)
Pam Tillis - Spilled Perfume (86 BPM)
Alan Jackson - Here In the Real World (87 BPM)
Tish Hinojosa - Closer Still (87 BPM)
Crystal Gayle - Once In a Very Blue Moon (89 BPM)
Faster alternative: John Arthur Martinez - The River of Love (El rio amor) (110 BPM)
Corresponding Line Dance: None
Starting Position: Indian facing outside circle
Footwork: The same for both man and woman

Three Sways, Quarter Turn, Kick

- 1-2 Step Left Foot to the left; Touch Right foot together. Sway gently to the left while doing this
3-4 Step Right Foot to the Right; Touch Left foot together. Sway gently to the right while doing this
5-6 Step Left Foot to the left; Touch Right foot together. Sway gently to the left while doing this
7-8 Step Right foot to the right while making a 1/4 turn (CW - Now facing RLOD); Kick Left foot forward

Two Steps Back, Quarter Turn, Half Turn, Courtesy, Step, Half Turn, Cross Behind

- 9-10 Step back on Left foot; Step back on Right foot
Note: Some people bend the knees slightly in a dip (or courtesy) on count 10.
11 Make a 1/4 turn (CCW - Now facing outside) on the ball of the right foot and step Left foot to the left
12 Release Left hands; Make a 1/2 turn (CCW - Now Facing inside) on the ball of the Left foot and step Right foot to the Right
13 Cross Left leg behind Right and Touch Left foot diagonally back; Bend knees in a dip (or courtesy)
14 Take weight on the Left foot and step Right foot to the Right**
15 Make a 1/2 turn (CW - Now facing outside) on the ball of the Right foot and step Left foot to the left** ; Rejoin Left hands
Note: An option for a smoother and more fluent dance is to make a 1/4 turn (CW - Facing LOD) to the right on count 14 while stepping right and another 1/4 turn (CW - facing outside) on count 15 instead of the full 1/2 turn.
16 Cross the Right foot behind the left**

Start Over

NOTES:

MISCELLANEOUS:

The counts 15 and 16 in conjunction with counts 1 and 2 is really nothing more than a left grapevine with a touch (and a sway).

LOCAL VARIATIONS:

* This dance has been subject to a lot of local variations. Here are some of them:

Some people add two extra counts to the end of the dance making it 18 counts long. The steps are: 17 - Step Left Foot to the Left; 18 - Touch Right foot together. This can be a rather tough balance act.

Some people insert two extra counts between counts 14 and 15 for an 18 count dance. The steps are: 14a - Cross Left foot across Right; 14b - Step Right foot to the Right. This is a small weave before the turn.

Again some do both these things and wind up with a dance that's 20 counts long. However, the most commonly danced version is the 16 count version done exactly as described above in the step sheet.

A 10 count version also exists (how boring can that be?). I've never seen it danced, but now you know...

VARIATION SUGGESTIONS:

** The lady can substitute counts 14 through 16 with three half turns on the balls of the feet making for a 1 1/2 turn under the mans right arm ending up facing outside circle.