one step ballroom dance

one step ballroom dance is a captivating style that has charmed dancers and audiences for generations. As a classic ballroom dance, the one step offers simplicity, elegance, and a distinct rhythm that sets it apart from other social dances. This article explores the rich history, fundamental techniques, music, and social appeal of the one step ballroom dance. Readers will discover how this dance became a cultural phenomenon, learn about its basic steps, and understand what makes it accessible for beginners and enjoyable for seasoned dancers. Whether you are interested in learning a new dance, expanding your knowledge, or exploring the art of ballroom dancing, this comprehensive guide covers everything you need to know about the one step ballroom dance while naturally incorporating relevant keywords and topics.

- · History and Origins of the One Step Ballroom Dance
- Characteristics and Style of the One Step
- Basic Techniques and Step Patterns
- Music and Rhythm in One Step Ballroom Dance
- Social and Competitive Aspects
- Benefits of Learning the One Step
- Tips for Beginners and Common Mistakes
- Conclusion

History and Origins of the One Step Ballroom Dance

The one step ballroom dance originated in the early 20th century, quickly gaining popularity in the United States and Europe. This dance style emerged around 1911, at a time when social dancing was evolving and new rhythms were introduced by American jazz and ragtime music. The one step was initially inspired by the "Turkey Trot" and other lively dances, but it adapted a simpler walking step pattern, making it accessible for the general public. The dance became a sensation in ballrooms and dance halls, largely thanks to influential performers like Vernon and Irene Castle, who helped standardize and promote it internationally. The one step's straightforward approach contributed to its widespread appeal, as it allowed dancers with little experience to participate in the social dance craze of the era.

Characteristics and Style of the One Step

The one step ballroom dance is best known for its smooth, gliding movement and easy-to-follow pattern. Unlike more complex ballroom dances, the one step is characterized by a continuous walking step executed to a brisk tempo. Dancers maintain a close ballroom hold, moving in unison around the dance floor. The simplicity of the footwork allows dancers to focus on musicality, style, and connection with their partner. The dance is typically performed to fast-paced music, often featuring syncopated rhythms and lively melodies. The one step is also adaptable, allowing for creative variations and styling as dancers become more confident.

Distinctive Elements of the One Step

- Continuous walking step with even timing
- Smooth gliding movement across the floor
- Close ballroom hold and strong partner connection
- Performed to upbeat, syncopated music
- Open to variations and improvisation

Basic Techniques and Step Patterns

Learning the one step ballroom dance begins with understanding its fundamental technique. The dance is based on a simple walking motion, making it one of the easiest ballroom dances to learn. Dancers step forward (leaders) and backward (followers) in time with the music, maintaining a consistent rhythm. The basic step pattern can be embellished with turns, promenades, and other variations as dancers progress.

How to Perform the Basic One Step

- 1. Start in a closed ballroom hold, with partners facing each other.
- 2. The leader steps forward with the left foot while the follower steps back with the right foot.
- 3. Alternate feet with each beat, matching the tempo of the music.
- 4. Maintain smooth, gliding steps and avoid bouncing or stomping.
- Keep the upper body poised and upright, with a gentle sway to the music.

As dancers become comfortable with the basic pattern, they can incorporate side steps, pivots, and

gentle turns. The key to mastering the one step is maintaining a consistent rhythm and strong connection with your partner.

Music and Rhythm in One Step Ballroom Dance

The one step ballroom dance is typically performed to fast, lively music, often in a 4/4 time signature. Ragtime tunes, early jazz compositions, and other energetic pieces are ideal for the dance. The music's tempo usually ranges between 60 and 80 beats per minute, providing an upbeat and spirited atmosphere on the dance floor.

Popular Music for One Step Dancing

- Classic ragtime pieces from the early 1900s
- Upbeat jazz standards
- Contemporary swing and pop tunes with a clear beat

Dancers listen for the strong, steady beat in the music to guide their steps. The rhythm of the one step is simple and even, making it easy to stay in time with the music and allowing both beginners and experienced dancers to enjoy the experience.

Social and Competitive Aspects

The one step ballroom dance has played an important role in social dance history. Its approachable style made it a favorite at parties, gatherings, and dance halls during the early 20th century. Today, the one step is still enjoyed at vintage-themed events, ballroom socials, and dance workshops. While not as prominent in modern competitive ballroom dancing as other styles like the foxtrot or waltz, the one step remains a popular choice for exhibitions, historical dance events, and recreational dancing. Its simplicity encourages participation from dancers of all ages and skill levels.

How the One Step Fosters Social Connection

- Encourages interaction between partners
- Suitable for group dances and mixers
- Provides an inclusive environment for new dancers

Benefits of Learning the One Step

Learning the one step ballroom dance offers a range of physical, mental, and social benefits. As a low-impact form of exercise, it helps improve cardiovascular health, balance, and coordination. The dance's simple patterns also make it an ideal starting point for individuals new to ballroom dancing. Beyond the physical advantages, the one step enhances musicality, rhythm awareness, and social skills. Participating in ballroom dance events provides opportunities to meet new people, build confidence, and enjoy creative expression.

Key Benefits of One Step Ballroom Dance

- Easy to learn and suitable for beginners
- Improves posture and movement coordination
- Boosts confidence and self-expression
- Provides a fun way to socialize and make friends
- Encourages appreciation of music and rhythm

Tips for Beginners and Common Mistakes

Starting with the one step ballroom dance is straightforward, but beginners should keep a few essential tips in mind. Focus on smooth, controlled movement and maintaining a strong connection with your partner. Avoid rushing the steps or bouncing in time with the music. Practicing with different partners and music tempos can help build versatility and confidence.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Stepping too large or too small, which disrupts balance
- Losing posture and collapsing the frame
- Not staying in sync with the music's rhythm
- Neglecting partner connection and leading/following cues

By focusing on fundamentals and practicing regularly, dancers can enjoy the one step ballroom dance and build a strong foundation for exploring other ballroom styles.

Conclusion

The one step ballroom dance stands as a testament to the enduring appeal of social dancing. Its straightforward technique, lively music, and inclusive nature continue to attract dancers of all ages. Whether you are drawn to its historical significance, physical benefits, or the joy of moving to music with a partner, the one step remains a classic choice within the world of ballroom dance. Explore the rhythm, embrace the movement, and experience the timeless charm of the one step ballroom dance.

Q: What is the one step ballroom dance?

A: The one step ballroom dance is a classic social dance characterized by a simple walking step in a continuous rhythm, typically performed to fast-paced, upbeat music. It originated in the early 20th century and is known for its smooth, gliding movement and ease of learning.

Q: How do you perform the basic steps of the one step ballroom dance?

A: The basic steps involve walking forward (leader) and backward (follower) with alternating feet, maintaining a steady rhythm and smooth movement. Partners hold each other in a closed ballroom frame and move together in time with the music.

Q: What kind of music is suitable for the one step ballroom dance?

A: The one step is usually danced to lively music with a clear, steady beat, such as ragtime, early jazz, and upbeat swing tunes. The tempo typically ranges from 60 to 80 beats per minute in a 4/4 time signature.

Q: Is the one step ballroom dance good for beginners?

A: Yes, the one step is considered one of the easiest ballroom dances to learn due to its straightforward walking steps and emphasis on rhythm. It is ideal for beginners and those new to partner dancing.

Q: What are the main benefits of learning the one step ballroom dance?

A: Benefits include improved posture, coordination, cardiovascular health, musicality, and social skills. The dance also offers a fun way to exercise and connect with others.

Q: Can the one step ballroom dance be performed in

competitions?

A: While the one step is less common in modern competitive ballroom dance, it is still featured in exhibitions, historical events, and recreational dance competitions.

Q: Who were key figures in popularizing the one step ballroom dance?

A: Vernon and Irene Castle were instrumental in bringing the one step to mainstream popularity, helping to standardize its steps and promote it internationally.

Q: What are common mistakes to avoid when dancing the one step?

A: Common mistakes include taking uneven steps, losing posture, bouncing to the music, and failing to maintain a strong connection with your partner.

Q: How can beginners improve their one step ballroom dance skills?

A: Practicing regularly, focusing on smooth movement, listening to the music's rhythm, and working with different partners can help beginners build confidence and skill.

Q: Is the one step ballroom dance still popular today?

A: While not as prevalent as other ballroom styles, the one step remains popular at vintage-themed events, dance socials, and among enthusiasts of historical and social ballroom dancing.

One Step Ballroom Dance

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One Step Ballroom Dance: A Beginner's Guide to Effortless Elegance

Are you dreaming of gliding across the dance floor with effortless grace? Do you envision yourself confidently navigating the world of ballroom dancing, but feel intimidated by the complexity of other dances? Then the One Step ballroom dance might be the perfect starting point for your journey. This beginner-friendly dance is surprisingly versatile, offering a foundation for more advanced styles while remaining incredibly enjoyable to learn. This comprehensive guide will walk you through everything you need to know to master the One Step, from basic steps and rhythm to variations and tips for improvement.

Understanding the One Step's Charm

The One Step, sometimes called the "box step" or simply the "slow waltz," is a fundamental ballroom dance characterized by its simplicity and elegance. Its straightforward structure makes it ideal for beginners, while its adaptability allows for creative expression. It's a social dance, perfect for parties and social gatherings, and provides a solid foundation for learning more complex dances like the Waltz, Foxtrot, and even some aspects of the Rumba.

The Basic Steps: Breaking Down the One Step

The core of the One Step is a simple box pattern created with four steps. Let's break it down:

Step 1: The Forward Step

Begin with your feet together. Step forward with your right foot, shifting your weight onto it.

Step 2: The Side Step

Step to the side with your left foot, bringing it alongside your right foot.

Step 3: The Backward Step

Step backward with your right foot, returning it to the starting position.

Step 4: The Side Step

Step to the side with your left foot, completing the box pattern.

This sequence is repeated, typically to slow music with a 1-2-3-4 rhythm. The steps are fairly small, emphasizing smoothness and control over large movements. Remember to maintain good posture – shoulders back, chest up, and a relaxed but engaged core.

Rhythm and Music: Finding Your Groove

The One Step is usually danced to music with a moderate tempo and a clear 4/4 time signature. Practice listening to the music and stepping with the beat. It's crucial to develop a sense of rhythm to execute the steps gracefully and consistently. There are countless songs suitable for the One Step; explore various genres to find your preferred style. Classic waltz music is a natural fit, but you can also use slow pop songs or even some instrumental pieces.

Adding Variations and Flourishes

Once you've mastered the basic steps, you can introduce variations to enhance your dancing. These could include:

Changing the Footwork:

Experiment with leading with the left foot instead of the right to increase your versatility.

Adding Turns:

Gentle turns can add a touch of elegance. Start with small, controlled pivots.

Incorporating Arm Movements:

Arms are an essential part of ballroom dance. Maintain a graceful, open posture, using your arms to enhance the movement and create a flowing motion.

Changing the Step Size:

Adjusting the size of your steps can affect the overall feel of the dance, moving from a more intimate close-hold to a wider, more expansive feel.

Practicing and Improving Your One Step

Like any skill, consistent practice is key to mastering the One Step. Here are some tips for effective practice:

Practice regularly: Even short, regular practice sessions are more effective than infrequent, long ones.

Practice with a partner: The One Step is best learned and enjoyed with a partner. Learning to lead and follow is crucial for a successful partnership.

Focus on posture and rhythm: Maintaining proper posture and a steady rhythm are essential for elegant execution.

Record yourself: Watching yourself dance can help identify areas for improvement.

Take classes: Professional instruction can provide valuable feedback and accelerate your progress.

Conclusion

The One Step ballroom dance is a delightful introduction to the world of partner dancing. Its simplicity makes it accessible to beginners, while its versatility offers room for creativity and expression. By following this guide and dedicating time to practice, you can develop a confident and graceful dance style that you'll enjoy for years to come. So put on your dancing shoes, find a partner (or a willing friend!), and start stepping your way to elegance!

FAQs

- Q1: Do I need special shoes to dance the One Step?
- A1: While not strictly necessary, comfortable shoes with smooth soles that allow for easy pivoting are recommended. Avoid shoes with high heels or rough soles.
- Q2: Can I learn the One Step by myself?
- A2: While you can practice the steps individually, learning with a partner is highly recommended to understand leading and following dynamics. Videos can help, but in-person instruction is ideal.
- Q3: How long does it take to learn the One Step?
- A3: With consistent practice, you can grasp the basic steps within a few sessions. Mastering variations and developing fluidity takes more time and dedication.
- Q4: Is the One Step suitable for all ages and fitness levels?
- A4: Yes, the One Step is generally adaptable to different ages and fitness levels. Adjust the speed and intensity to your comfort level.
- Q5: Where can I find music to practice the One Step?
- A5: Search online music platforms for "slow waltz music," "slow foxtrot music," or even "music for ballroom dancing beginners." Many playlists are available to get you started.

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Essential Guide to Ballroom Dance offers a comprehensive study of the main ballroom dance styles, including the Waltz, Foxtrot, Quickstep and Tango. Topics covered include a brief history and development of ballroom dancing; a beginner's guide to partnerships, positioning and footwork; dance-specific techniques, steps and routines; the mechanics, application and fundamentals of movement; musicality and choreography and, finally, exercises, diet and nutrition. With clear step-by-step instructions, 150 colour photographs, and a foreword by Anton Du Beke, this is an ideal companion for the beginner ballroom dancer. Janet Cunningham-Clayton is a former Senior British Ballroom Champion and has over twenty-five years of dancing experience, and Malcolm Fernandes has over thirty years experience in the ballroom dance industry with a particular specialism in music.

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questions that every new ballroom dancer has while learning the dance. There are questions provided that, if asked, will provide you (the student) with some insight about your instructor's knowledge of ballroom dancing. This is critical because an instructor cannot correct your dancing if they do not understand how to do it correctly themselves. Finally, the book has been written in an effort to raise awareness of good ballroom dancing. It is open to interpretation and vulnerable to criticism as well as other dancers' opinions. Keep in mind, every ballroom-dance organization has dissenters in their organization about how things should be done. This, in part, is what creates different styles of dance. The end result is improved dancing knowledge for all concerned. Always keep one thing in mind: If what you are doing hurts, stop doing it. Dancing correctly will not hurt.

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started on the dance floor. The classic ballroom dances included - the social foxtrot, waltz, quickstep, modern tango, slow foxtrot, the Viennese waltz and the jive - are then explained with easy-to-follow lessons. The basic routines are built up in step-by-step movements with a simple and clear teaching system to study at home.

one step ballroom dance: Dance with Me Julia A. Ericksen, 2011-11 Click here to listen to Julia Ericksen's interview about Dance with Me on Philadelphia NPR's Radio Times Rumba music starts and a floor full of dancers alternate clinging to one another and turning away. Rumba is an erotic dance, and the mood is hot and heavy; the women bend and hyperextend their legs as they twist and turn around their partners. Amateur and professional ballroom dancers alike compete in a highly gendered display of intimacy, romance and sexual passion. In Dance With Me, Julia Ericksen, a competitive ballroom dancer herself, takes the reader onto the competition floor and into the lights and the glamour of a world of tanned bodies and glittering attire, exploring the allure of this hyper-competitive, difficult, and often expensive activity. In a vivid ethnography accompanied by beautiful photographs of all levels of dancers, from the world's top competitors to social dancers, Ericksen examines the ways emotional labor is used to create intimacy between professional partners and between professionals and their students, illustrating how dancers purchase intimacy. She shows that, while at first glance, ballroom presents a highly gendered face with men leading and women following, dancing also transgresses gender.

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material described in each chapter. Readers will grow as performing artists as they analyze the principles of both acting and dance and discover how deeply the two art forms are intertwined. An excellent resource for students of acting, musical theatre, and dance courses, Foundations for Performance Training encourages a strong foundation in creative analysis, technique, artistic expression, and self-care to cultivate excellence in performance.

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primarily within the context of couples social dancing, the popularity of salsa today, and the broader social meanings and implications of their multicultural origins from the 1600s to the present. The historic connection between exhibition Latin dance and American modern dance through vaudeville is explained as well.

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one step ballroom dance: The South African Dictionary of Sport J. Alswang, 2003 This title is a collection of information on probably every sport that has been played in South Africa. It brings us the rules, the method of play, the specifications and layout of playing area of a multitude of sport.

one step ballroom dance: Dance Music Nicolae Sfetcu, 2014-05-09 Dance music is music composed, played, or both, specifically to accompany dancing. It can be either the whole musical piece or part of a larger musical arrangement. Dance music works usually bear the name of the corresponding dance, e.g. waltzes, the tango, the bolero, the can-can, minuets, salsa, various kinds of jigs and the breakdown. Other dance forms include contradance, the merengue, the cha-cha-cha. Often it is difficult to know whether the name of the music came first or the name of the dance. Although dance is often accompanied by music, it can also be presented alone (Postmodern dance) or provide its own accompaniment (tap dance). Dance presented with music may or may not be performed in time to the music depending on the style of dance. Dance performed without music is said to be danced to its own rhythm. An introduction to classical and modern dance including hip hop dance, what is dance, and the dance music (electronic music, rock and roll, disco, house, techno, trance, etc.)

one step ballroom dance: <u>Stepping Stones</u> Ingemar Lindh, 2021-11-18 Stepping Stones is the book of a practitioner. It documents the work of a laboratory-based practice that investigated the principles of collective improvisation as a performance practice.

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one step ballroom dance: Dancing Till Dawn Julie Malnig, 1995-05 Malnig examines exhibition ballroom dance as both a theatrical genre and a cultural and social phenomenon, promoting new cultural standards, including the emancipation of women and a new casualness and spontaneity between the sexes. A lively and thorough account of a dance form that has found renewed popularity

in recent years.

one step ballroom dance: Table for Two, Mr Sparrowhawk? Stephen B. Charles, 2022-06-30 Imagine going on a luxury cruise holiday around South America where your fellow passengers turn out to be a beautiful blonde ex-Miss World from Switzerland, a ventriloguist's dummy, an Italian mobster and his wife, a Blackpool Landlady, a 1960s Beat Combo, Sea Legs & Co - a troupe of sexy girl dancers, an eccentric Lord, four undercover cops, a suitcase full of guns and a seven foot tall angry Scottish chef. What could possibly go wrong? If diamonds are a girl's best friend, why does Susan think Fanny has a screw loose? Why do Big Sharon and Randy Mandy have it in for Steve? What does our hero conceal under Doris Downing's blue rinse syrup at the Disco? Is professional dance host Vlad "Terry" Rasputin really a Russian, or is he actually from Preston? Why was that man wearing a thong in the ballroom? Will the Talent Show ever be the same again? Totti is a super sexy Italian lady dripping with diamonds. Carlo and Mario wear shiny silk suits and have thin ankles. Danny is an enigma and Lord Toucan wears a top hat and tails every day. But which one of them has a big secret connected to the Royal Gilbert Hall? Follow Steve Sparrowhawk's hilarious daily adventures, mishaps, romps and japes on board the ship as he leaves a trail of chaos and destruction in his wake. Will he succumb to the temptations of the flesh? Will he disembark the ship as a multi-millionaire? Will he survive the cruise? Will anyone care?

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one step ballroom dance: <u>Musicking in Twentieth-Century Europe</u> Klaus Nathaus, Martin Rempe, 2020-12-16 Music has gained the increasing attention of historians. Research has branched out to explore music-related topics, including creative labor, economic histories of music production, the social and political uses of music, and musical globalization. This handbook both covers the history of music in Europe and probes its role for the making of Europe during a long twentieth century. It offers concise guidance to key historical trends as well as the most important research on central topics within the field.

one step ballroom dance: Moving History/Dancing Cultures Ann Dils, Ann Cooper Albright, 2013-06-01 This new collection of essays surveys the history of dance in an innovative and wide-ranging fashion. Editors Dils and Albright address the current dearth of comprehensive teaching material in the dance history field through the creation of a multifaceted, non-linear, yet well-structured and comprehensive survey of select moments in the development of both American and World dance. This book is illustrated with over 50 photographs, and would make an ideal text for undergraduate classes in dance ethnography, criticism or appreciation, as well as dance history—particularly those with a cross-cultural, contemporary, or an American focus. The reader is organized into four thematic sections which allow for varied and individualized course use: Thinking about Dance History: Theories and Practices, World Dance Traditions, America Dancing, and Contemporary Dance: Global Contexts. The editors have structured the readings with the understanding that contemporary theory has thoroughly questioned the discursive construction of history and the resultant canonization of certain dances, texts and points of view. The historical readings are presented in a way that encourages thoughtful analysis and allows the opportunity for critical engagement with the text. Ebook Edition Note: Ebook edition note: Five essays have been redacted, including "The Belly Dance: Ancient Ritual to Cabaret Performance," by Shawna Helland; "Epitome of Korean Folk Dance", by Lee Kyong-Hee; "Juba and American Minstrelsy," by Marian Hannah Winter; "The Natural Body," by Ann Daly; and "Butoh: 'Twenty Years Ago We Were Crazy, Dirty, and Mad',"by Bonnie Sue Stein. Eleven of the 41 illustrations in the book have also been redacted.

one step ballroom dance: Ebony , 1961-08 EBONY is the flagship magazine of Johnson Publishing. Founded in 1945 by John H. Johnson, it still maintains the highest global circulation of any African American-focused magazine.

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updated and revised edition is the authoritative guide to foreign words and phrases used in contemporary British and American English. Drawn from over 40 languages, the 6,000 entries detail the history of each word or phrase and provide selected quotations to clearly illustrate their use in the English language.

one step ballroom dance: History of Dance Gayle Kassing, 2007 History of Dance: An Interactive Arts Approachprovides an in-depth look at dance from the dawn of time through the 20th century. Using an investigative approach, this book presents the who, what, when, where, why, and how of dance history in relation to other arts and to historical, political, and social events. In so doing, this text provides a number of ways to create, perceive, and respond to the history of dance through integrated arts and technology. This study of dancers, dances, and dance works within an interactive arts, culture, and technology environment is supported by the National Standards in dance, arts education, social studies, and technology education. History of Dance: An Interactive Arts Approachhas four parts. Part Iexplains the tools used to capture dance from the past. Part Ilbegins a chronological study of dance, beginning with its origins and moving through ancient civilizations and the Middle Ages through the Renaissance. Part IIIcovers dance from the 17th to the 20th century, including dance at court, dance from court to theater, romantic to classical ballet, and dance in the United States. Part IVfocuses on 20th-century American dance, highlighting influences on American ballet and modern dance as it emerged, matured, and evolved during that century. History of Dance: An Interactive Arts Approachincludes the following features: -Chapter outlines that present topics covered in each chapter -Opening scenarios to set the scene and introduce each time period -Explorations of dancers, choreographers, and other personalities -Explorations of the dances and significant choreography and dance literature of each time period -History Highlight boxes containing unusual facts, events, and details to bring history to life -History Trivia, providing insights into how dance relates to the history, art, and society of the time period -Web sites to encourage further exploration -Developing a Deeper Perspective sections that encourage students to use visual or aesthetic scanning, learn and perform period dances, observe and write performance reports, develop research projects and WebQuests (Internet-based research projects), and participate in other learning activities -Vocabulary terms at the end of each chapter Each chapter in parts II through IV provides an overview of the time period, including a time capsule and a historical and societal overview. Each chapter focuses on major dancers, choreographers, and personalities; dances of the period, including dance forms, dance designs, accompaniment, costuming, and performing spaces; and significant dance works and dance literature. The chapters also feature a series of eight experiential learning activities that help students dig deeper into the history of dance, dancers, and significant dance works and literature. These activities are presented as reproducible templates that include perceiving, creating, performing, writing, and presenting oral activities infused with technology. Teachers can use these activities as optional chapter assignments or as extended projects to help apply the information and to use technology and other integrated arts sources to make the history of dance more meaningful. History of Danceis an indispensable text for dance students who want to learn the history of dance and its relationship to other arts of the times using today's interactive technology.

one step ballroom dance: Cross-Step Waltz Richard Powers, Nick Enge, Melissa Enge, 2019-11-23 Cross-Step Waltz is one of the newest social dance forms, spreading quickly because it's easy to learn yet endlessly innovative, satisfying for both beginners and the most experienced dancers. It rotates and travels like the original waltz, but the addition of the cross-step opens up a wide range of playful yet gracefully flowing variations. In this comprehensive dancer's guide to Cross-Step Waltz, you will learn: ● How to dance more than 250 variations of Cross-Step Waltz, including basics, turns, grapevines, pivots, Tango-inspired figures, variations in cradle and shadow position, and ways to conclude a dance with flair. ● How to become a better dance partner, whether you dance as a Lead, a Follow, or both. ● How to dance more musically, and how to create your own Cross-Step Waltz variations. ● How to dance Cross-Step Waltz to a wide variety of music, and how to transition between Cross-Step Waltz and other dances. ● Finally, in a series of essays by our

students, you'll learn how dancing Cross-Step Waltz can change your life! In addition to being fully described in writing, each of the 250+ variations is illustrated by a demo video on a companion website.

one step ballroom dance: Vernon and Irene Castle's Ragtime Revolution Eve Golden, 2007-11-30 Vernon and Irene Castle popularized ragtime dancing in the years just before World War I and made dancing a respectable pastime in America. The whisper-thin, elegant Castles were trendsetters in many ways: they traveled with a black orchestra, had an openly lesbian manager, and were animal-rights advocates decades before it became a public issue. Irene was also a fashion innovator, bobbing her hair ten years before the flapper look of the 1920s became popular. From their marriage in 1911 until 1916, the Castles were the most famous and influential dance team in the world. Their dancing schools and nightclubs were packed with society figures and white-collar workers alike. After their peak of white-hot fame, Vernon enlisted in the Royal Canadian Flying Corps, served at the front lines, and was killed in a 1918 airplane crash. Irene became a movie star and appeared in more than a dozen films between 1917 and 1922. The Castles were depicted in the Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers movie The Story of Vernon and Irene Castle (1939), but the film omitted most of the interesting and controversial aspects of their lives. They were more complex than posterity would have it: Vernon was charming but irresponsible, Irene was strong-minded but self-centered, and the couple had filed for divorce before Vernon's death (information that has never before been made public). Vernon and Irene Castle's Ragtime Revolution is the fascinating story of a couple who reinvented dance and its place in twentieth-century culture.

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one step ballroom dance: The Ballroom Dance Pack Walter Laird, 1994 Whether your style is Strictly Ballroom or you have just started to Come Dancing, discover how to master the six most popular ballroom dances with this fantastic guide. Step-by-step instructions will take you through the modern classics as well as the sexy Latin moves of the Rumba and Tango. With a specially recorded accompanying CD to ensure you keep in tempo and detachable dance step cards to help guide you round the dancefloor, you'll be certain to waltz your way to dancing perfection.

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