

1920s Lindy Hop

(United States)

This Lindy Hop is the transition from the Charleston to the Lindy Hop as danced by Shorty Snowden and fellow Savoy Ballroom dancers in the late twenties.

Music: Charleston or 1920s classic jazz

Rhythm: 4/4 time TEMPO: approximately 100 bpm.

Formation: Couples in closed Ballroom position (the man may hold her R hand close to his left side, near his spleen).

Steps and Styling: Basic Charleston Lindy Step: M steps side L (cts 1-2); cross R closely behind L, rocking back on it (ct 3); return weight to L ft in place (ct 4). S-QQ timing. Repeat to the other side, beginning side R. Woman begins with side R. This may slightly turn in place CW or CCW.

Turning Basic: Turn as a couple a full rotation clockwise. W steps straight fwd on R between his ft, in Closed Position (ct 1); W no longer rocks behind on cts 3-4, but does two quick running steps traveling around M, side L and slightly crossing R over L. W's 2nd meas is the Basic above, with the rock step.

Push-Pull: On cts 7-8 (rock step), push back away from ptr with hands, keeping other arms in Closed Position.

Sidekick: Same as the Push-Pull, but the M kicks his L foot out to the left side on ct 7 instead of doing the rock step.

Heel Rock: On cts 7-8, M lets go of W with his R arm, keeping held hands, as they both rock back onto their heels, in swing-out position (at arms-length) M may throw his R wrist up.

Brush-Off: M turns solo 3/4 to his L as W goes around his back CW. Return to Closed Position for the rock step. As M leads W around himself, his L hand wraps around his own neck or shldr before letting go.

Scissors: On ct 5, M twists sharply to his L, opening W away to the R, crossing his R over his L, wt on both ft evenly. M slides or jumps into second position (feet apart) on count 4, with wt mostly on his R.

Charleston Kicks: On ct 3, M lifts his R fwd to the R side as W swings her L back. This replaces the rock step. On ct 7, M kicks his L back as W swings her R forward. This may turn in place CCW.

Presented by Richard Powers

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