

TANGO SIMPLE (traditional mode of notation)

(A Vintage Ballroom Mixer)

ORIGIN: Richard Powers brought back the tango mixer with the idea of simple party dances for everyone from Paris to the 2009 San Diego Vintage Dance Week on the Queen Mary in Long Beach, CA. Some minor changes have been made.

RHYTHM: 2/4 meter

MUSIC: Any tango music, preferable with 8-bar phrases.

FORMATION: Couples in a large circle, starting in ballroom hold with M facing LOD.

STEPS: American one-step tango: one step per beat.

NOTATIONS: M=man, W=woman, LOD=line of direction, RLOD=reversed line of direction, CW=clockwise, L=left foot, R=right foot.

Measure (2/4)	Pattern
1-2	M backs W in 3 steps in LOD and the couple makes a CW quarter turn in step 4 so that ML and WR are ready to step sideways in LOD.
3-4	Grapevine: M starts with L to L side, then R step back, L side, R forward while W starts with R to R side, then L step forward, R side, L back. (Hint: turn the body so that the steps are taken without the legs in pretzel formation).
5-6	In the Yale (almost banjo) position (M right shoulder overlapping with W right shoulder) with sufficient room between the partners to dance eye to eye, circle L in 3 steps to end up M on the outside of the large circle face facing RLOD and W on the inside facing LOD. In step 4, the partners bid farewell and proceed towards their respective new partners.
7-8	In 4 steps, M walks alone in RLOD to meet the next W walking in LOD and both circle left to the beginning ballroom position.

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Notes and errata by Lu Sham, 10/2009

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