

Little Brown Gal - Hula

(Hawaii)

Commentary: This hula is one of the most famous and popular of all Hawaiian folk dances. One of the reasons it is so popular is because its hand movements are easy to learn and understand. "Little Brown Gal" combines slower traditional movements with modern lyrics.

Formation: Any number of dancers on stage facing audience.

Basic Step: Vam - with knees flexed, gently swaying hips, opposite foot carrying weight. Step R to side, close L, step R to side, touch L foot at side of R, step L to side, close R, step R to side, touch R foot at side of L. Repeat throughout dance unless instructed otherwise.

Lyrics and Hand movements.

Measure Vamp

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|-------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | R | "It's not the island fair..."
Raise arms flowingly and cross wrists overhead. |
| 2 | L | "...that are calling to me..."
Hands to mouth, hands to chest. |
| 3 | R | "...It's not the balmy air..."
Circle hands overhead. |
| 4 | L | "...Or the tropical sea..."
Move hands in an up and down motion below waist. |
| 5 | R | "But it's a Little Brown Gal..."
Wave hands down sides of body, starting at head. |
| 6 | L | "In a little grass skirt..."
Brush both sides of skirt with fingers. |
| 7 | | "In a little grass shack..."
Point fingertips together to form an inverted V (shack). |
| | 1 | Point R foot in front. |
| | 2 | Bring R foot back to side of L. |
| | 3 | Point L foot in front. |
| | 4 | Bring L foot back to side of R. |
| 8 | L | "...In Hawaii..."
Arms straight out in front, palms up, move them slowly out to sides. |
| 9 | R | "It isn't Waikiki..."
Move hands up and down waist. |
| 10 | L | "Or Kamehameha's Pali..."
Fingertips up, move both hands slowly upward to L side (steep cliff). |
| 11 | R | "...Or the beach boys free..."
Lift hand on hip, snap R fingers two times, in an up and down motion. |
| 12 | stand still | "With their ohaimali mali..."
Blow on fingertips of R hand and pretend to shine them in a stroking motion on R shoulder (flirting). |
| 13-16 | | Repeat measure 5-8.
"But it's a Little Brown Gal in a little grass skirt, in a little grass shack in Hawaii."
"Through that island's wonderland..." |
| 17-18 | 1 | Step fwd R. |
| | 2 | Step fwd L, palm up, moving hands alternately. |
| | 3 | Step fwd R, R, L, R, L move hand out to side. |
| | 4 | Step fwd L. |

- 19-20 Stand still and make two circles with hips to R, each taking one measure.
 "She's broken all the kane's hearts."
 Fists together as if breaking a stick; wave hands gently over heart.
- 21 R "It's not hard..."
 Bend L arm across body, rest R elbow on back of L hand - shake R index finger along side of cheek.
- 22 L "...To understand..."
 Hands in same position; point R index finger to temple.
- 23 R "For that wahine..."
 Wave hands down the sides of body, starting at head.
 Stand still and make gentle circles to the R with hips.
- 24 "Is a gal of hearts..."
 Bring hands quickly up overhead.
- 25 Vamp to R slightly twd back of stage.
 "...I'll be leaving soon..."
 Point R thumb back over R shoulders
- 26 L "But the thrill I'll enjoy..."
 Cross hands over chest.
- 27 R "...It's not the island moon..."
 Make hands round like a moon above head and to R side.
- 28 L "...Or the fish and the poi..."
 Slap L palm with 2 R fingers then bring them to mouth.
- 29-32 Repeat measure 5-8.
 "But It's a little brown gal in a little grass skirt, in a little grass shack in Hawaii."
- 31-33 Repeat measures 5-7.
 "But it's a little brown gal, in a little grass skirt in a little grass shack..."
- 34 1 Stand still "...In Hawaii."
 2 Stand still, arms out to side, shoulder-height.
 3 Stand still, bring arms together to meet.
 4 Point R toe fwd, bend at waist bowing.