

# Merecumbe

(Colombia)

*Merecumbe* is a couple dance for party or club. It was in fad in the 1950s, similar to the Mambo of Benny More and Perez Prado. It combines music and dance forms of the Merengue and Cumbia. Presently, it is only done by performance ensembles of Colombia. Source: Delia Zapata from Bogota, Colombia

Pronunciation:

Music: Music from Colombia, Merengue ..., EUCD 1253 4/4 meter

Formation: Cpls in open partner position, can be done face-to-face or back-to-back.

Meas Pattern

## THEME 1

- 1 Step on L to L (ct 1); step on R to R (ct 2); step on L next to R (ct 3); pause (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and turn 1/2 CCW on ct 3.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

## THEME 2—TRAVELING 4, IN PLACE 4

Ptrs facing and standing with L hips together, M has L hand on W R waist, W has L hand on M R shldr.

- 1 Step fwd on L, ptrs pivoting 1/4 CCW turn (ct 1); step on R next to L (ct 2); step fwd on L (ct 3); pause (ct 4).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 (ending back in place).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 in place, moving ft to side—looks of shldr, hip, free arm movement—*Sabor!*

## THEME 3—TURNS

Ptrs face and hold L hands.

- 1-6 Repeat the basic step in place, crossing first the L ft in front (meas 1, 3, 5) and then the R ft in front (meas 2, 4, 6).
- 7-8 M repeats meas 1-2, but lifts L arm for W to turn CW under it. W uses buzz step for turn.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

## VARIATION

- 1-5 Without holding the hand of ptr, dance 5 cross-over patterns as in Theme 3.
- 6 Stop with arm overhead, wt on R and L ft touching floor L.
- 7-8 Push or buzz turn CCW, end facing ptr.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

Presented by Susan Cashion

# Merecumbe Variations - Stockton 2000

(Colombia)

The following Merecumbe variations were taught by Susan Cashion at camp.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>Cts</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
<u>THEME 1: BASIC STEP</u>		
Open ptr pos in a circle that travels in LOD. Begin face to face with ptr (meas 1-4), then back to back with ptr (meas. 5-8).		
1	1	Step on L out to side, keeping R in place.
	&	Shift wt onto R heel.
	2	Step on L next to R.
	3	Step on R out to side, keeping L in place.
	&	Shift wt onto L heel.
	4	Step on R next to L.
2-4	.	Repeat meas 1 three more times, adding 1/2 CCW turn on last beat of meas 4 (R ft).
5-16		Repeat meas 1-4 three more times.
<u>THEME 2: TURNS</u>		
Face ptr and join L hands.		
1	1	Step on L across over R, keeping R in place behind L.
	&	Step on ball of R ft.
	2	Step on L, still crossed.
	3&4	Repeat cts 1&2, reversing ftwk and direction.
2-3		repeat meas 1 two more times.
4		<u>M</u> : Repeat meas 1 a third time (total 6 crossings), turning W two times CW under L arm. <u>W</u> : Step L (ct 1); R (ct &); L (ct 2); R (ct &).
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4.
<u>THEME 3: TRAVELING AROUND PARTNER</u>		
Ptrs stand with L hips together, M has L hand on W R waist, W has L hand on M R shldr. Free arm is active, moving to the beat.		
1	1	Step fwd on L, moving CCW around ptr.
	&	Step on R next to L.
	2	Step fwd on L.
	3	Step fwd on R.
	&	Step on L next to R.
	4	Step fwd on R.
2		Repeat meas 1, ending back in starting spot.
3-4		Repeat Basic Step, meas 1 two times, staying in place.
5-8		Repeat meas 1-4.
Repeat Themes 1,2,3 in succession as long as the music lasts. To create a mixer, during Theme 1, meas 1-2, W advances to M ahead of her in LOD, while M dances in place and allows new partner to "catch up" to him.		

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