

STEPPING OUT

AMERICAN

What makes this a novelty dance is the interval of silence—the dancers continue the dance while the record spins in silence. Learned at the Maine Folk Dance Camp.

Record: Blue Star 3-1528.

Steps: Step, brush, step-brush.

Formation: Groups (couples, trios, foursomes, etc.) side by side holding hands, all facing counterclockwise.

Timing and Rhythm: Two beats per step brush, one beat per step (8-beat introduction on BS 3-1528).

PATTERN:

PART I: Step on L; brush R straight forward; brush R backward across and in front of L, brush R forward.

Moving sideward to the right, take 4 steps (R, L, R, L; stepping for the L behind R).

Step on R, brush L forward, brush L backward across and in front of L, brush L forward.

Moving sideward left, take 4 steps (L, R, L, R; R behind L).

Full turn around (either right or left) with 4 step-brushes (step L, brush R, step R, brush L, step L, brush R, step R, brush L, brushing forward each time).

In place, step L, brush R forward, brush R backward across L, brush R forward. Then do 3 steps in place (R, L, R).

Repeat all of Part I.

PART II: Moving forward, step L, pause, step R, pause, step L, pause, step R, pause, snapping fingers on each pause.

Step forward on L, and make a big circle to the side with R foot, starting backwards and bringing it around along the floor to the front (CCW). (Some groups do the circling CW.)

In place, step R, L, R.

Repeat all of Part II.

PART III: Same as Part I. (Do only one time.)

NOTE: When dancing the entire pattern (Part I twice, Part II twice, Part III once) the first time, there is music throughout. The second time there is no music, just rhythm. The third time there is just silence during Part I (twice) and Part II (twice). If you keep dancing a steady rhythm, when the music picks up again near the end, you'll step down with it on the left foot ready to do Part III.