

COTTON-EYED JOE MIXER

Texas

This is a gender-neutral (M and W interchangeable) dance mixer for a circle of couples derived from the traditional Cotton-eyed Joe dance pattern. Any Cotton-eyed Joe music can be used (that doesn't get too fast). Ours is modified from a live rendition by the popular Texan dance hall band Asleep at the Wheel. Notes by Yvonne Couvillion.

FORMATION: Circle of couples: W facing CW in outer ring, M facing CCW in inner ring. R palms together near R shoulders. Both start with right foot.

BASIC STEP: Two-step: step-together-step (quick, quick, slow). Feels like taking two steps to right, then two steps to left. Boots should scoot close to floor.

METER: 4/4

INTRODUCTION: 2 measures before main melody (in our music)

Measure FIGURE A. – *Toe, Kick; Turn Around*

- 1 Cross R toe in front of L (ct 1), kick R fwd (still L and clear of partner!) (ct 2), use one two-step (R-L together-R), pulling back R shoulder to turn CW halfway around, changing to L palms together with partner (ct 3&4).
- 2 Repeat Meas. 1 with opp. feet: L toe, kick and turn CCW back to place.
- 3-4 Repeat Meas. 1-2.

FIGURE B – *Turn Partner Right*

- 5-6 Turn partner by the R once around in 4 two-steps back to place and prepare to pass them by R shoulders.

FIGURE C – *Chain to New Partner*

- 7-8 In a brief chain (4 two-steps): pull by partner R, pull by next L, and meet new partner with R palms together, ready to repeat dance.