



Cowboy Charleston

(a.k.a. Charleston Touch, Charleston Cha-Cha, Charleston Cowboy)

Choreographed by Clarisse Voegelé

Description: 16 count, 4 wall, line dance

Music: **New York, New York** by Frank Sinatra [111 bpm / CD Single / Available on iTunes]

(This Thing Called) Wantin' And Havin' It All by Sawyer Brown [221 bpm / CD: Nashville Collection V.2]

Sold by John Michael Montgomery [120 bpm / John Michael Montgomery / Greatest Hits / CD: Country Fun / Available on iTunes]

Jambalaya (On The Bayou) by Eddy Raven & Jo-El Sonnier [125 bpm / CD: Line Dance Fever 8 / Cookin' Cajun]

Rompin' Stompin' by Scooter Lee [192 bpm / High Test Love / Available on iTunes]

Any fairly fast western swing music

This dance adapts the fun Roaring Twenties Flapper Dance, the Charleston, into a great Country and Western Line Dance. It is fairly unique in that it can be done to music which is fairly fast. It is sometimes done with a straight step forward and back pattern. However, the most fun way to do it is with the real Charleston foot pattern and arm movements as it is done in the Carolinas where the Charleston originated, and where it is widely done.

The classic Charleston step includes moving the right foot forward and out and around in a 1/2 circle to touch forward on Count 1. At the same time, the arms are moved first to the right to compensate for the movement of the right foot out around to the front and back in to touch forward. When done fast, the arm movements are almost unavoidable. On the "& Count", one swings the right foot back out to the right and to the back, shifting weight to the right foot on Count 2, with the arms now going to left.

On the next "& Count", begin swinging the left out around and to the back to touch on Count 3, with arms again going right.

On the final "& Count", one swings the left foot forward out to the left and forward, shifting weight to the left foot on Count 4, with the arms now going to left.

The Straight version given below makes a great beginner's dance. The 4-wall Charleston-style version makes a great showpiece dance. Both can be picked up by experienced line dancers by just walking up and trying it. Try it both ways. Both foot work styles are included below.

For a while, this choreography was attributed to Jeanette Hall & Tonya Miller, but Tonya has reported that while she and Jeanette taught the dance, they did not write it.

CHARLESTON STEPS

Charleston Style

1-2 Sweep/touch right forward, sweep/step right back

3-4 Sweep/touch left back, sweep/step left forward

5-6 Sweep/touch right forward, sweep/step right back

7-8 Sweep/touch left back, sweep/step left forward

Option: Straight Style

1-4 Touch right forward, step right back, touch left back, step left forward

5-8 Repeat 1-4

TWO RIGHT TOE TOUCHES TO RIGHT SIDE, SAILOR STEP

9-10 Touch right side, touch right side

11&12 Cross right behind, step left side, step right side

TWO LEFT TOE TOUCHES TO LEFT SIDE, SYNCOPATED VINE RIGHT AND ¼ TURN RIGHT

13-14 Touch left side, touch left side

15&16 Cross left behind, turn ¼ right and step right forward, step left together

Option for Charleston Touch version: Modified Sailor Step

15&16 Cross left behind, step right side, turn ¼ right and step left together

REPEAT

Print layout ©2005 - 2014 by Kickit. All rights reserved.