



Edinburgh University Swing Dance
Society notes on:

6-beat Jive 2: building on the basics



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The 6-beat under-arm turn

- Beats 1,2 – rock step as normal
- Beats 3&4 – leader, as you both triple step, use your right arm to turn the lady to face you, and as she does, lift your left arm so that it makes an ‘L’ shape, with your hand between at a height above her forehead level {when you do Lindy Hop later, we will tell you something different here, but the raised arm is correct for the jive being described on this sheet}.
- Beats 5&6 – leader, as you both triple step, use your right arm to request the lady to turn around clockwise, under your left hand. When she has turned, lower your hand to hop height.

Common problems:

- 1) the lady strikes her nose or chin on the man’s hand – this is caused by the hand being too low.
- 2) The man is elbowed by the lady – this is caused by the lady not keeping for left (free) arm neatly at her side
- 3) The lady wobbles while turning – this is caused either by her trying to spin (she should still use the triple step rhythm) or by the man ‘helping’ by stirring her round with his left hand. He must not do this – the lady wants a nice solid axis above her forehead, not a big swoopy circle.

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Returning to the basic

- From the facing position attained at the end of the last move, do a rock step as normal (which starts by taking you a little further away from each other), then on the triples, the leader should shorten his left arm (by drawing the elbow back a little) and the lady will take the hint and come towards him. The leader then simply has to reach round for her hip, when she is close enough, while she puts her left hand on his right shoulder, and the couple are back in the basic. This is much simpler to do than to describe in writing!

PTO

The change of places

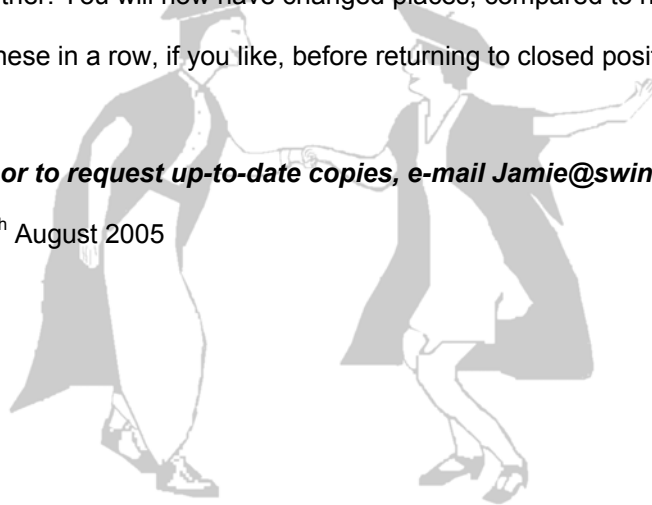
You can do this from the open position, *ie* facing one another, the man's left hand being in the lady's right, as you would be after the under-arm turn described above. A key point to bear in mind is that the follower moves directly forwards along a 'slot' and the leader has to get out of her way.

- 1,2 Rock step
- 3&4 – leader, draw the lady forward with your hand, but you triple diagonally forward and to your left so that you are out of your partner's path, and raise your left hand above her forehead. Face her all the time as she passes you. At the end of this triple she will still be facing the direction she has been all along and you will be looking at her right ear.
- 5&5 – leader, triple diagonally forward and right, and turn clockwise to face your partner. Lower your arm when she has finished turning. Follower, when you 'run out of arm', turn to face your partner. You will now have changed places, compared to how you started.

You can do several of these in a row, if you like, before returning to closed position.

To make suggestions or to request up-to-date copies, e-mail Jamie@swingdoctors.org.uk

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