



## Edinburgh University Swing Dance Society notes on:

# The Stroll (original)



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### History:

The original Stroll appeared in the mid 1950s, and became a (USA) national craze following its 1957 appearance on the American Bandstand TV programme. It was always a contra dance, as set out here. In the UK, though, people often dance a simplified form explained on the companion sheet to this one.



Music: Usually "The Stroll" by Donnie Elbert

### Steps:

Start off standing in two contra lines, boys in one line and girls in the other, facing (see above), weight on R. Once the first verse has gone, the man at the left hand end of the man's row and lady at the R end of hers steps into the aisle to do the 'aisle walk' – a **6-beat** pattern, which will feel syncopated across the beats – and joins the other end of the line as they reach it; they always leave on the 4<sup>th</sup> beat of the basic (shown here in italics for the 2<sup>nd</sup> basic). Variations are common in the stroll, including holding for the walk bracketed below (which has the effect of reversing footwork and body rotation for each tuck).

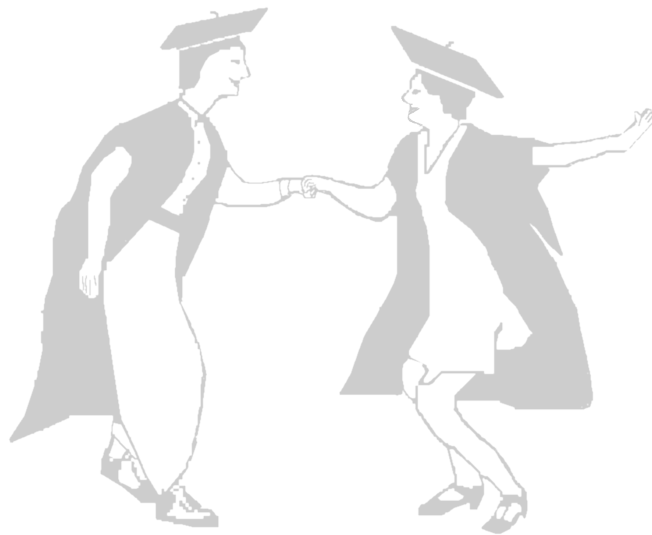
- 1 Tap R (♀L) in front of L (♀R)
- 2 Tap R (♀L) to R (♀L)
- 3 Tap R (♀L) in front of L (♀R) again
- 4 Step R (♀L) on R (♀L)
- 5 Cross on L (♀R) behind R (♀L)
- 6 Open on R (♀L) to R (♀L)
- 7 Tap L (♀R) in front of R (♀L)
- 8 Tap L (♀R) to L (♀R)
- 9 Tap L (♀R) in front of R (♀L)
- 10 Step on L (♀R) to L (♀R)
- 11 Cross on R (♀L) behind L (♀R)
- 12 Open on L (♀R) to L (♀R)

- 1 Tap R (♀L) in front of L (♀R)
- 2 Tap R (♀L) to R (♀L)
- 3 Tap R (♀L) in front of L (♀R) again
- 4 Step R (♀L) on R (♀L)
- 5 Cross on L (♀R) behind R (♀L)
- 6 Open on R (♀L) to R (♀L)
- 7 Tap L (♀R) in front of R (♀L)
- 8 Tap L (♀R) to L (♀R)
- 9 Tap L (♀R) in front of R (♀L)

*Step fwd on R (♀L) foot into lane*  
*Turning 90 deg to right (♀left), step on L(♀R) behind R (♀L)*  
*walk fwd (down lane) R (♀L)*  
*walk fwd (down lane) L (♀R)*  
*Tuck R (♀L) behind L (♀R)*  
*Step fwd (down lane) L (♀R) and repeat the walk (walk) tuck walk*

- 10 Step on L (♀R) to L (♀R)
- 11 Cross on R (♀L) behind L (♀R)
- 12 Open on L (♀R) to L (♀R)

*Comments/ Corrections to [jamie.davies@ed.ac.uk](mailto:jamie.davies@ed.ac.uk)  
Latest version can be found on <http://www.swingdoctors.org.uk>*



**Edinburgh University  
Swing Dance Society**