

Cross-Step Waltz Mixer

Choreographed by Richard Powers and Angela Amarillas

Music: Any cross-step waltz tune with continual eight-bar phrases.

In a large circle, couples do a turning basic cross-step waltz traveling LOD for 4 bars (two full rotations), opening up to face the center of the room with the Follow on the right side, by the end of the fourth bar.

All take hands in a large circle and take a waltz step forward (step-close-close, beginning with his right, her left), for one bar, and back (step-close-close with the opposite foot), for one bar. A sociable tradition is to glance at your next partner-to-be on the forward step and glance at the partner you are leaving on the backing step.

Note: The in and out steps are a good opportunity to fix the circle, if there are any spacing issues. If the circle is getting smaller, take larger backing steps to spread the circle out again.

The Lead turns the next Follow (at his left side) under his raised left arm with a counterclockwise (inside) turn: she cross-steps left over right, places her right shoulder forward under the arched arms and turns under counterclockwise while he cross-steps right over left and passes behind her back into her place while facing her (one bar). Counts 2 and 3 are “open-open,” tracking your partner.

Then both take a cross-step (his left, her right) toward the outside wall. She passes strongly in front of him and pulls her right shoulder back to take waltz position at the last moment, both facing LOD.

Repeat from the beginning with this new partner.

Note: **Cross-Step Waltz Rueda** refers to a Cross-Step Waltz Mixer that has different cross-step waltz variations added, lead-follow freestyle, in place of the four bars of cross-step waltz Turning Basic.