

# How to DANCE the Big Apple



38

★ TRUCKIN' ★ PECKIN' ★ SUZI-Q ★ SHINE ★  
★ SWING-HIGH ★ SWING-LOW ★ SHAG ★ POSIN'

From the collection of Richard Powers

# THE BIG APPLE



"THE LATEST MODERN DANCE"



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## INTRODUCTION

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**W**HAT is the big apple? How is it danced? Those questions are being asked by everybody, young and old. The big apple is the latest dance craze. It is taking the country by storm. It is the old-time square dance brought up to date by modern youth. It combines, into one dance, all of the newly created popular dance steps, namely, trucking, suzi-q, the shag, swing high swing low, peckin', shine, posin, etc.

The big apple is danced by a group of persons, the more the merrier. One of the group acts as leader. It is his duty to call the different steps and direct the dance. The big apple, when properly done, is the most enjoyable and entertaining dance of the present day.



## *How a Leader Conducts*

# THE BIG APPLE

The success of the big apple depends, largely, upon the leader. He should know all of the steps. He must be "peppy" and be a real leader.

He starts the dance by calling "Let's all do the big apple." The dancers run, hop, skip, or jump to the center of the floor where they form a large circle, boys and girls alternately. The leader calls "Clap hands." (The instructions on how to clap hands, swing high swing low, and all the other dance steps that form the big apple, are clearly explained and illustrated on the following pages.) The leader then calls "Swing high, swing low, swing to and fro." He has the dancers change to the next step by calling "Truck to the right, truck on down, everybody truck, go to town." After a short time, he calls "Now turn around, truck on down, everybody truck, don't get stuck, go to town."

He follows this with "Now, suzi-q, suzi-q, everybody suzi-q. First to the right, then to the left, suzi-q." Then he calls "Come on and shine, boy, how you shine, that's the ticket, you're doing fine. You shine (pointing to a couple)! You shine!" etc., until all of the couples are doing the shine. For the next step he calls "Now it's time for posin, do your posin, you heard what I said so go ahead." The leader repeats the shine and posin several times. Then he follows with "Shag! Come on and shag. Lift your feet high, lay them down low, do it faster, you're too slow." For the next step, the leader calls "Now peck away, not too close, peck away, don't peck his nose. Now you hen peckers, turn around and everybody hop."

The leader repeats the various dances as often as he pleases and in any order that he pleases. He ends the dance by calling "Everybody truck, keep up the beat, everybody truck, right to your seat."

# THE START OF THE BIG APPLE

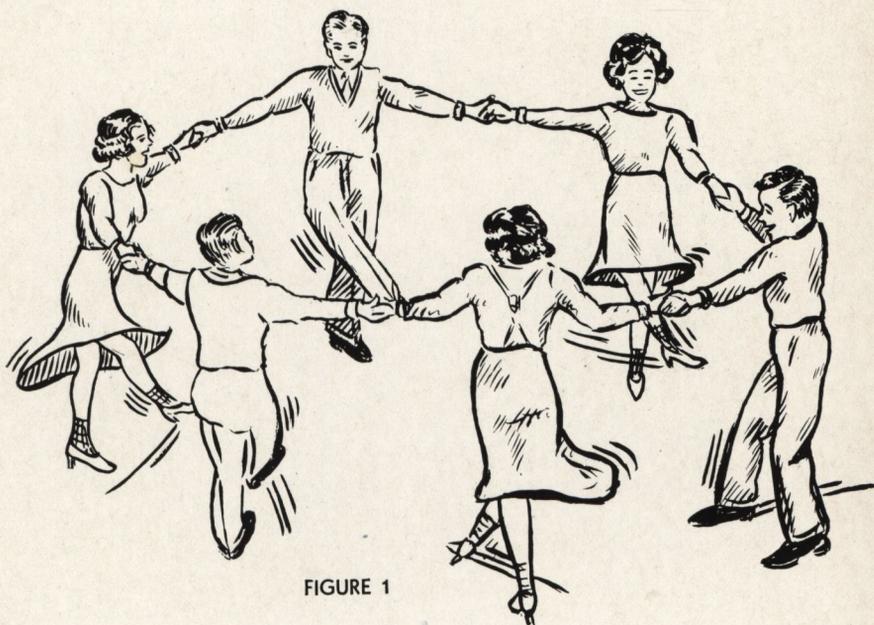


FIGURE 1

The dancers all stand and form a large circle, boys and girls alternately, facing the inside of the circle. (See Figure 1.)



FIGURE 2

*Raise Right Foot*

## CLAP HANDS

Each dancer raises and stamps the right foot to the floor and at the same time claps the hands together three times. (Figures 2 and 3.)



FIGURE 3

*Stamp Right Foot to Floor*

# How To SWING HIGH, SWING LOW



FIGURE 4

*The dancers stand in a circle, holding hands*



FIGURE 5

*Swing Right Foot Forward*

Swing right foot forward (see Figure 5).  
Bring right foot back to floor (see Figure 6).  
Tap left toe in back of right foot (see Figure 7).  
***Repeat this routine again and again.***



FIGURE 6

*Swing Right Foot Back*



FIGURE 7

*Tap Left Toe Back*

## How To Do "TRUCKIN' "

The dancers stand in a circle facing left, with right hand raised in the air and index finger pointing upward. (See Figure 8.)



FIGURE 8



**FIGURE 9**

*Slide Right Foot Forward*



**FIGURE 10**

*Turn Right Toe Out*

Slide right foot forward (see Figure 9).

Turn right toe outward (see Figure 10).

Slide left foot forward (see Figure 11).

Turn left toe outward (see Figure 12).

*Repeat routine and keep moving in a circle as in Figure 8.*



**FIGURE 11**

*Slide Left Foot Forward*



**FIGURE 12**

*Turn Left Toe Out*

## How To Do "SUZI - Q"

The dancers stand in a circle, facing the inside of the circle, each dancer clasping his hands in front (see Figure 13).

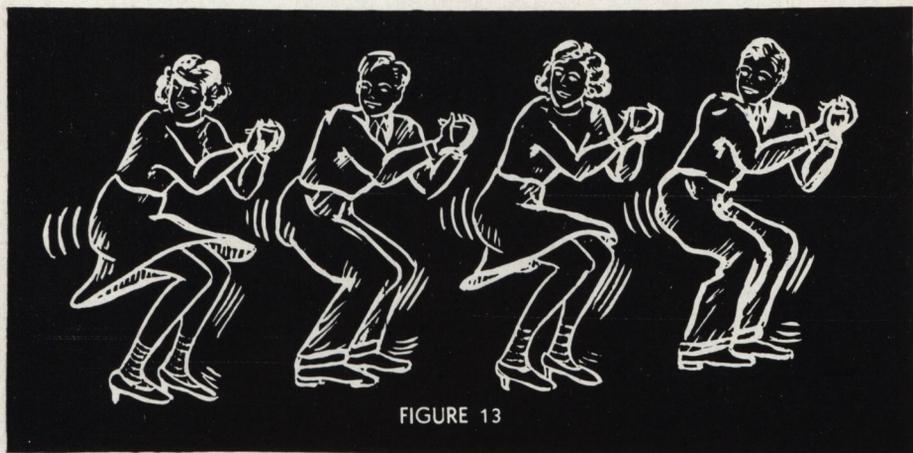


FIGURE 13

### *Suzi-Q*

Stand with both feet together (see Figure 14).

Turn on both heels towards the left (see Figure 15).

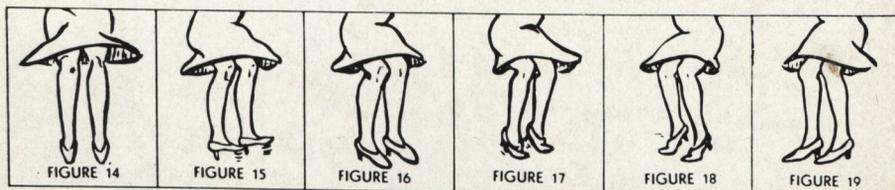
Put both toes down to the floor (see Figure 16).

Now raise both heels off the floor (see Figure 17).

Turn on both toes towards the left (see Figure 18).

Put both heels down to the floor (see Figure 19).

*Repeat this routine to the left several times and then the same number of times to the right.*



## How To Do "SHAG"

The dancers stand in a circle, facing the inside of the circle, with palm of the left hand on the stomach and the right hand raised with palm turned out (see Figure 20).



FIGURE 20

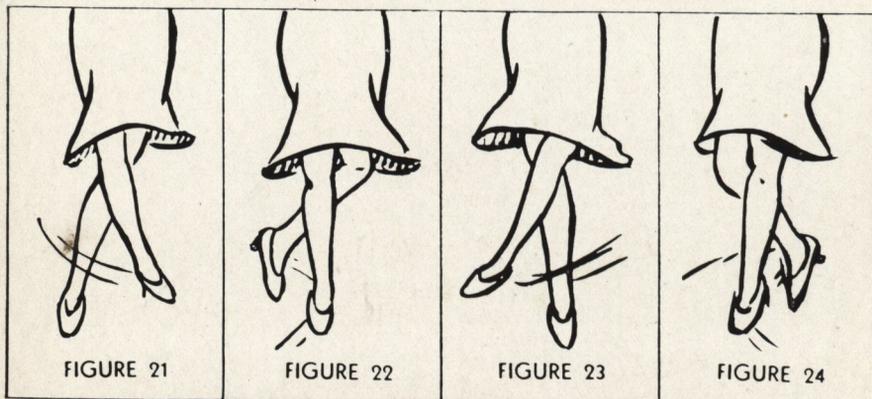
Swing right foot forward (see Figure 21).

Cross right foot back to the left of left foot, at the same time sliding left foot back (see Figure 22).

Swing left foot forward (see Figure 23).

Cross the left foot back to the right of the right foot, at the same time sliding the right foot back (see Figure 24).

*Repeat routine again and again.*



## How To Do "PECKIN' "

The dancers stand in a circle, girls and boys facing each other, with the hands on the knees (see Figure 25).

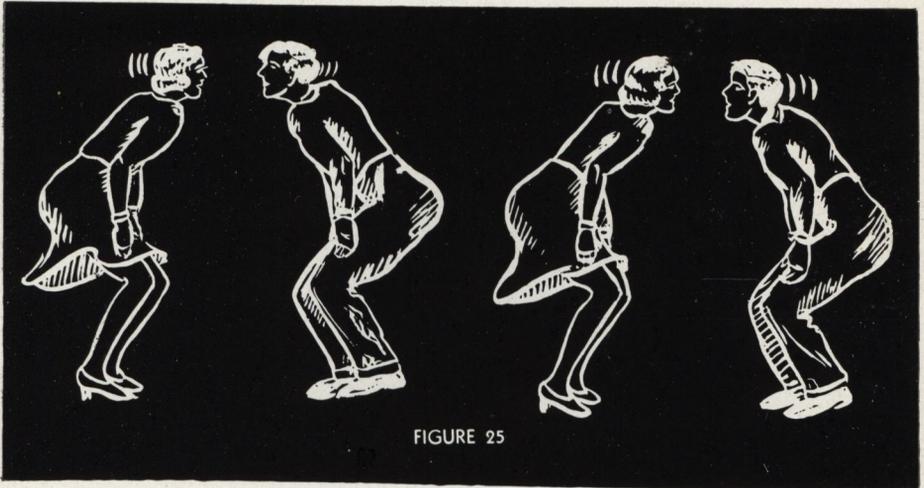


FIGURE 25

### *Peckin'*

Peckin' is done by moving the head to and fro, boys and girls peckin' at each other at least ten times. At the command of the leader, the girls face about so that all the dancers are facing in the same direction and the dancers hop on both feet around the circle (see Figure 26).

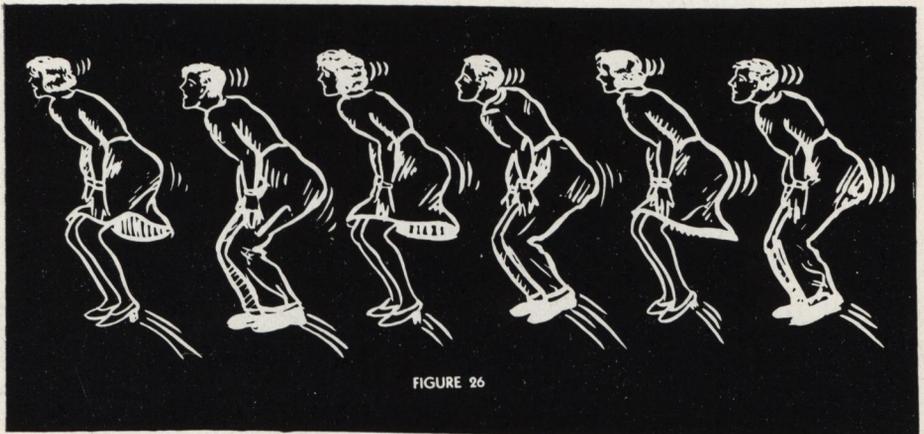


FIGURE 26

### *Everybody Does Peckin'*

## HOW TO SHINE

Shine means to do any of the foregoing dances. When the leader calls shine, he points to a couple and that couple goes into any dance—then the next couple etc. until all of the couples are “shining.” Meanwhile, the couples that are waiting to be called, clap hands and sway from side to side.

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## HOW TO DO POSIN

“Posin” means to pose. When the leader calls “posin,” the couples stop in whatever pose they are in and hold that pose until the leader calls another dance. The funnier the pose, the more amusing is the dance.

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## REMARKS

All of the foregoing dances may be performed while the dancers are standing side by side in a straight line instead of a circle. The dancers may create their own variations of the several dances, especially while doing the shine.



