



Definitions for Week 1

ALLEMANDE LEFT: Starting formation – any position where dancers can conveniently turn 90° or less to face their corner. Dancers face their corner and turn by the left forearm. Each dancer places their hand on the inside of the arm of the person with whom they are to work. The fingers and thumb are held in close. Releasing armholds and stepping forward, each dancer ends facing their partner.

BEND THE LINE: Starting formation – any line with an even number of dancers. Dancers in each half of the line must be facing in the same direction. The center dancers in the line drop hands with each other. With each half of the line working as a unit, the ends move forward while the centers back up until both halves of the line are facing.

CALIFORNIA TWIRL: Starting formation – couple (man and lady). Partners join hands (man's right with lady's left) and raise them to form an arch. The lady walks forward and under their joined hands making a one half (180°) left-face turn while the man walks around the lady in a clockwise direction one half (180°). Dancers have exchanged places and are both facing in the opposite direction from which they started.

CIRCLE LEFT/RIGHT: Starting formation – two or more dancers. Dancers join hands to form a circle, face slightly left or right as directed and move forward around the circle the distance directed. When left or right is not specified for circle, it is a circle to the left.

COURTESY TURN: Starting formation – couple, facing dancers. The man (left hand dancer) takes the lady's (right hand dancer) left hand (palm down) in his left (palm up) and places his right hand on the small of the lady's back. Working as a unit, the couple turns around with the left hand dancer backing up and right hand dancer walking forward. Unless otherwise specified, the couple faces the center of the set or the center of the formation in which it is working.

DOSADO: Starting formation – facing dancers. Dancers advance and pass right shoulders. Without turning, each dancer moves to the right passing in back of the other dancer. Then moving backwards, each passes left shoulders returning to starting position. Arms are held in a relaxed position at dancers' sides.

FORWARD AND BACK: Starting formation – single dancer. Each dancer steps forward one to three steps and pauses while bringing the free foot forward and touching it to the floor without transferring weight. Each steps back one to three steps beginning with the free foot and pauses while touching the free foot beside the weight-bearing foot.

GRAND SQUARE: Starting formation – square. This call has 32 steps. Half the square does one pattern for 16 steps and a second pattern for another 16. The other half of the square does the two patterns in the other order. The caller will designate some dancers to face their partner (e.g., "sides face"). The first 16 steps for these dancers is to back away from their partner, turn one quarter (90°) on the fourth step to face their original opposites, walk forward 4 steps, turn one quarter to face original partner, walk forward into the center, turn one quarter to face opposites, and back up to home. Meanwhile the other dancers (heads in this example) move forward into the square 4 steps, turn one quarter on the fourth step to face partners, back away to the sides of the square 4 steps, turn one quarter to face their original opposites, back away to the corners of the square 4 steps, turn one quarter to face original partners and walk forward to home 4 steps. At this point no dancers turn, and the action is reversed. All dancers retrace their steps, doing the part the other dancers did for the first 16 steps.

HALF SASHAY: Starting formation – couple. The dancer on the left sidesteps to the right, passing behind the dancer on the right, who meanwhile sidesteps to the left, passing in front. The partners have exchanged places without changing facing directions.

LADIES CHAIN: Starting formation – facing couples (man on left, lady on right). The ladies step forward, extend right hands to each other and pull by. Each man steps forward and to the right, turning slightly left. The lady extends a left hand to the man for a courtesy turn. Couples end facing each other.

FOUR LADIES CHAIN: Starting formation – square or circle of 8 dancers. All four ladies step forward, extend right hands to each other and form a right hand star. They turn the star halfway around to their opposite men. All courtesy turn to face the center of the set.

FOUR LADIES CHAIN THREE QUARTERS: As in four ladies chain except turn the star 3/4.

PASS THRU: Starting formation – facing dancers. Dancers move forward, passing right shoulders with each other. Each ends in the other's starting position, but neither dancer changes facing direction.

PROMENADE/REVERSE PROMENADE: Starting formation – promenade or reverse promenade. As a unit the couple walks forward around the circle—counterclockwise for Promenade, or clockwise for Reverse Promenade. The man is on the left, hands palm up, right forearm over the lady's left arm. The lady is on the right, hands palm down in man's the hands. Unless otherwise specified (e.g., "Promenade 1/2"), they promenade forward, without backing up, until reaching the man's home position. At the end of the promenade the couple turns, as a unit, to face the center of the set. If only some couples are promenading, the others step in to the center of the square to get out of the way, then step back at the end of the call.

RIGHT AND LEFT GRAND: Starting formation – square or any position where dancers may conveniently turn 90° or less (if necessary) to face opposite sex, men facing counterclockwise, ladies clockwise. If necessary, dancers turn to face opposite sex, join right hands (if not already joined) and pull by. Each moves ahead, around the circle, giving the left hand to the next, a right to the next and a left to the next until each dancer meets the person with whom they started.

RIGHT AND LEFT THRU: Starting formation – facing couples. Dancers step forward, join right hands with the dancer directly ahead and pull by. Each couple then does a courtesy turn to face the other couple.

STAR THRU: Starting formation – facing dancers (man and lady). Man's right hand is placed against the lady's left, palm to palm with fingers up, to make an arch. As the dancers move forward the lady does a one quarter (90°) left face turn under the arch, while the man does a one quarter (90°) turn to the right moving behind the lady. They end side by side with the lady on the man's right. Hand grip should be readjusted to couple handhold after the move is completed.

TRADE: Starting formation – any wave, line or column. Any two directed dancers exchange places by walking forward in a semi-circle ending in the other dancer's starting position, reversing their own original facing direction. If the trading dancers start facing in the same direction, they pass right shoulders when they meet.

PARTNER TRADE: Starting formation – couple, miniwave. Two dancers next to each other exchange places as in trade. If starting as a couple, dancers will end in a couple facing the opposite direction.

COUPLES TRADE: Starting formation – line or two-faced line. Working as a unit, each couple exchanges places with the other couple in the same line. Couples, as a unit, pass right shoulders with each other if necessary.

TURN PARTNER BY THE RIGHT: Starting formation – wherever dancers may conveniently turn 90° or less to face their partner. Dancers turn to face partner if necessary, step forward to join right forearms, and turn halfway.

VEER LEFT/RIGHT: Starting formation – facing dancers, facing couples, mini-waves or two-faced lines. Two facing couples or two facing dancers move to the left (right) and forward to end in a two-faced line or mini-wave, respectively. From a mini-wave or a two-faced line, each dancer, or couple working as a unit, moves forward and left (right) to end back-to-back with the other dancer or couple, respectively.

WEAVE THE RING: A Right and Left Grand without touching hands.

WHEEL AND DEAL: Starting formation – line of four or two-faced line. Each couple turns 180° toward the center of the line with the center dancer of each couple acting as the pivot point for that couple. If both couples started facing the same direction, the couple that started on the right half of the line wheels in front of the other couple, and both couples end facing the same direction as each other with the original left-hand couple standing behind the original right-hand couple. If the couples started facing opposite directions—in a two-faced line—they end facing each other.