

Cotton Eyed Joe

(USA)

Mixer Dance Version

This dance also exists in an old [couple dance version](http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-couple-dance-version-usa.html) [http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-couple-dance-version-usa.html] (quite different from this one) and a [line dance](http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-line-dance-version-usa.html) [http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-line-dance-version-usa.html] version. The version described here is based on the [line dance](http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-line-dance-version-usa.html) [http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-line-dance-version-usa.html] , not the old couple dance. For reasons beyond my ken, this mixer dance version appears to be most popular in Europe.

Notes by Andrew Carnie, January 5, 2014; ©Andrew Carnie, 2014

Start in a circle of couples. M on the inside facing CCW, W on the outside facing CW, holding R hands with each other. The partners are slightly offset so that the men form an inner ring and the W form an outer Ring.

Part 1 (Similar to the line dance)

Bar 1: Touch R in front (or across L) (1), Kick R forward (2)

Bar 2: Moving to own Right and switching hands, so that the M ends on the outside and the W ends on the inside. Step R to R, step L behind R, Step R to R.

Bars 3-4: repeat 1-2 with opp footwork and direction.

Bars 5-8: repeat 1-4

Bars 9-16: repeat 1-8

Part 2: Progression (version 1)

Bars 1-4 Using four two-steps (RLR, LRL, RLR, LRL), Make a complete turn by the right hand all the way around.

Bars 5-8 Using four two-steps (RLR, LRL, RLR, LRL) Drop hands, pass partner by the R, Pass next person by the L shoulder, Meet the third (moving slightly in or out) and grab R hands.

Part 2: Progression (version 2 -- simpler version)

Bars 1-4 Using four two-steps (RLR, LRL, RLR, LRL), Make a complete turn by the right hand all the way around.

Bars 5-8 Using four two-steps (RLR, LRL, RLR, LRL) dance directly forward (M on the inside, W on the outside) until you meet a new partner.

