

# Cotton Eyed Joe

(USA)

Traditional Couple Dance Version

(This dance also exists in [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>] and [mixer](http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-mixer-dance-version-usa.html) [<http://folkdancemusings.blogspot.com/2014/01/cotton-eyed-joe-mixer-dance-version-usa.html>] formats)

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

This appears to be the original dance from the 1920s.

Start in Ballroom position in a circle of couples with the men in center.

Bar 1, with outside foot (M's L, W's R), Heel (1) Toe (2)

Bar 2, In LOD, Step outside (1), close inside (&), Step outside (2)

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

Bars 5-8, using 4 two-steps (RLR or LRL), make a complete turn, turning away from your partner (start by moving in LOD)

Bar 9, Facing partner, Fall onto outside foot in LOD (1) push off on inside foot (&) repeat (2&)

Bar 10, repeat counts 1-2 of bar 9 (leave off last push, so that your weight is on your outside foot)

Bars 11-12, repeat bars 9-10 but with the opposite footwork and moving in RLOD

Bars 13-16, get back into ballroom position and do 4 polka steps turning and moving forward in LOD.

