

CUER'S CORNER / TEACHING TIPS
NUMBER 1, 2002

TEACHING PHASE III AND IV JIVE

We are planning to send out teaching tips 4x per year. Our first set of tips this year will be on teaching Jive. We have written here two different plans on teaching Jive. We're sure that many of you have other ideas and ways of teaching Jive and other rhythms. We would love to send these along to the other teachers in ECTA so that we can all learn from each other. Please take a moment and send us anything that you would like and we will try and get this information out to our cuers.

We have used a 5-session plan for those that would like to try "short courses". Sometimes this works and helps to bring in dancers that don't want to be committed to longer sessions. Of course how much you can teach depends on how long your classes are, how often they can meet, and sometimes on the age of the dancers. Remember that each class, each couple, will be different. Even with a plan like this you will probably have to make adjustments for your own class – either faster or slower. You are the teacher and have to be able to control that. And of course you can combine the two plans to suit your own needs.

Plan A goes a "little faster" and assumes that the dancers only need a review on the phase III figures. It goes up to teaching "Man, I Feel Like a Jive."

Plan B is for if you have less time or if you are teaching dancers that have not danced any jive before. It goes up to teaching "Calendar Girl".

Plan A and Plan B are similar, but are not completely the same since they have an emphasis on different figures that lead up to a different dance. Of course you can combine the two plans if you have more time to teach and slowly go up to getting your dancers repertoire of figures to the point that they can do all the figures here.

We are also including some handouts that you can print and give to your dancers. (If anyone wants to translate these into any other language, please feel free to do that. Please just add our name to the bottom.)

List of dances to be cued or taught:

- Little Deuce Coupe
- Breaking Up Jive
- Night Train
- Boot Scootin Boogie
- Calendar Girl
- Man, I Feel Like A Jive
- Yo Mama
- Return to Sender

PLAN "A"

1) ph. III clinic

Teach figures:

- * basic
- * chasse L & R
- * fallaway rock
- * throwaway
- * link rock
- * RT fallaway
- * change R to L
- * change L to R
- * change hands behind back

2) ph. III teach

Dance teach - " Breakin' Up Jive "

Need to teach the following figures for the dance:

- * swivel walks
- * double rock concept
- * pretzel turn / unwrap (IV)
- * windmill (ph. IV)

Teach - " Breakin' Up Jive "

Add the following phase IV figures as clinic work:

- * shoulder shove
- * American spin

PLAN "B"

1) ph. III clinic

Teach figures:

- * basic
- * chasse L & R
- * fallaway rock
- * throwaway
- * link rock
- * RT fallaway
- * change R to L
- * change L to R
- * change hands behind back

(can have **dance teach here: Little Deuce Coupe** - need to explain the overturn link rock, pt. steps, jive walks, swivel)

2) ph. III teach

Dance teach - "Breakin' Up Jive"

Need to teach the following figures for the dance:

- * swivel walks
- * double rock concept
- * pretzel turn / unwrap (IV)
- * windmill (ph. IV)

Teach - " Breakin' Up Jive "

Need to teach the following figures for this next dance:

- * kick/ball change
- * jive walks

Teach "Night Train"

(This will give them more practice with the same figures + kick/ball change)

PLAN "A"

3) ph. IV clinic

Teach figures:

- * Spanish arms
- * chicken walks
- * triple wheel
- * American Spin

If time:

- * kick/ball change (for teaching flicks into breaks)

REVIEW

4) ph. IV teach

Dance teach - "Man, I Feel Like a Jive"

Need to teach the following figures for the dance:

- * mooch (V)
- * lindy catch
- * flicks into breaks (V)

5) ph. IV review & teach

Can add "windmill" and teach

"Yo Mama"

Can teach

"Boot Scootin' Boogie" (if not already)

Show overturn link rock

"Little Deuce Coupe"

- OR -

Teach figure:

- * Miami Special
- * kick/ball change sequence

Dance teach:

"Return to Sender"

PLAN "B"

3) ph. IV clinic

Teach figures:

- * shoulder shove
- * American spin

REVIEW

4) ph. IV teach

Dance teach - "Calendar Girl"

Need to teach the following figures for the dance:

- * Spanish arms
- * American Spin
- * stop & go (V)

If time also teach: "Boot Scootin' Boogie" more or less to cues

5) ph. IV review & teach

Can teach

"Boot Scootin' Boogie" (if not already)

"Yo Mama"

Show overturn link rock

"Little Deuce Coupe"

- OR -

Teach figure:

- * Miami Special
- * kick/ball change sequence

Dance teach:

"Return to Sender"