

Slapping Leather

Choreographed by Gayle Brandon

Description: 40 count, 4 wall, beginner line dance

This step description is the exact wording of the original step sheet, as signed and distributed by the original choreographer. Notes at the end were added to cover variations that have crept in since it was choreographed in 1978

PIGEON TOE (HEEL SPLITS)

1-2 Swivel heels out, swivel heels in

3-4 Swivel toe out, swivel toe in

SIDE STEPS

5-6 Touch right side, step right together

7-8 Touch left side, step left together

1-2-3-4 Repeat 5-8

FLOOR TAPS

5-6 Touch right heel forward, touch right heel forward

7-8 Touch right back, touch right back

SLAPPING LEATHER

1 Touch right forward

2 Touch right side

3 Flick right back

Slap right foot behind you with left hand

4-5 Repeat 2-3

6 Touch right side

7 Turn $\frac{1}{4}$ left and hook right over

Slap right foot in front of you with left hand

8 Flick right back

Slap right foot behind you with left hand

GRAPEVINE

1-2 Step right side, cross left behind

3-4 Step right side, hop right side

Lift left heel up beside your right knee

5-6 Step left side, cross right behind

7-8 Step left side, hop left side

Lift right heel up beside your left knee

1-2 Step right back, step left back

3-4 Step right back, hop right back

Lift left heel to your right knee

5-6 Step left forward, step right forward

7-8 Step left forward, stomp right together

REPEAT

CHICAGO VARIATION: Dance begins on beat 5, with a foot pattern of RRLL instead of RLRL, and putting beats 1-4 at the end of the dance. Also, replace the steps done on beats 19-24 with just three steps, which happen to be the steps shown above in beats 19, 24, and 23, in that order. To

make the dance come out even, the hop on beat 36 is done twice instead of once.

SHORTER VERSIONS: In some places, the dance is shortened to 38 counts by leaving out counts 20-21. In some places, the dance is shortened to 36 counts by leaving out counts 19-22.

OTHER VARIATIONS: In fact, this dance has seen more local variations than probably any other dance. Other variations that have taken hold over the years in various places include toe taps instead of heel taps, touches to the front instead of the side, putting the $\frac{1}{4}$ turn in at a different place, and starting at various places in the dance. If you travel to different places throughout the world, expect to see this dance done several different ways.