

## THE TANGO

The Tango evolved in its present form in Argentina in the early 1900's, although Europeans had been dancing it for at least 200 years. It became the rage in the United States shortly after Rudolph Valentino danced it in the movie *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* in 1921.

In no other dance is there a more definite, marked musical beat. Keeping time to Tango will not only develop a finer sense of rhythm but will also train your feet to respond, almost automatically, to melody. In addition, the slow and quick counts used in the Tango patterns will teach the muscular control you need for graceful change of weight. When you dance, a "slow" count takes two beats, a "quick" count takes one.

### The Forward Promenade in the Tango

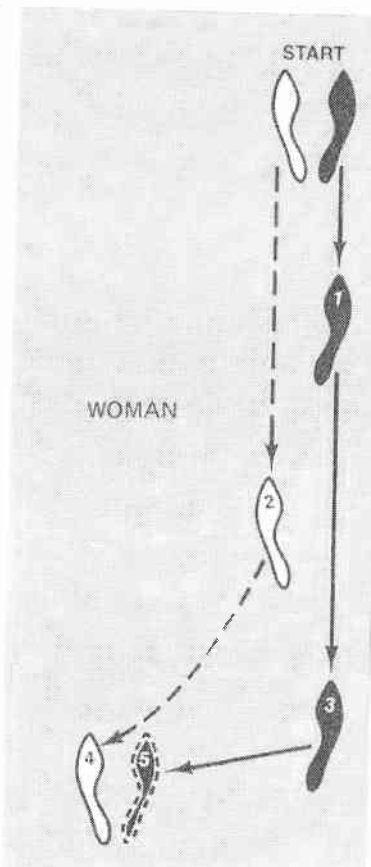
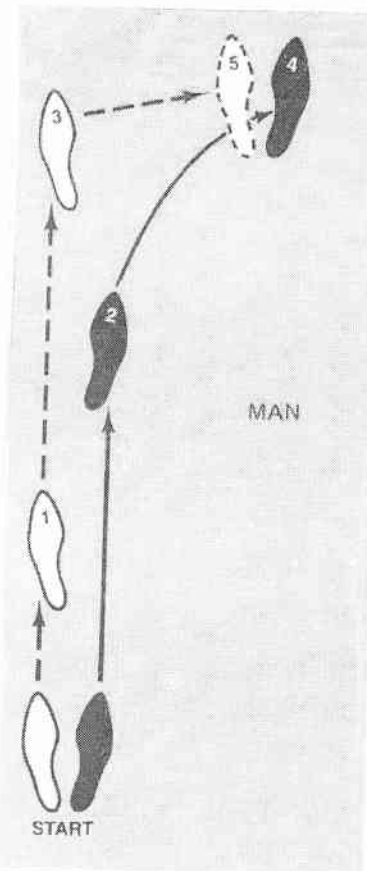
The Forward Promenade is a basic Tango step pattern. The foot movements are easy to learn, but you must concentrate on the correct count of slow, slow, quick, quick, slow. Count aloud, taking twice as long for a "slow" as for a "quick." When doing forward steps lead with the heel, much as you would do in a normal walking step. *Remember:* Do not place your weight on a foot when its print is dotted in the diagram.

#### MAN'S PART

1. Step forward with left foot (slow).
2. Step forward with right foot (slow).
3. Step forward with left foot (quick).
4. Step to right with right foot (quick).
5. Bring left foot next to right foot, no weight on left foot, and pause (slow).

#### WOMAN'S PART

1. Step back with right foot (slow).
2. Step back with left foot (slow).
3. Step back with right foot (quick).
4. Step to left with left foot (quick).
5. Bring right foot next to left foot, no weight on right foot, and pause (slow).



### The Corté in the Tango

The Corté (pronounced Cor-tay) is a dip step that is taken backward by the man. His entire weight is placed on the back-stepping foot with the knee slightly bent. Again, the count is slow, slow, quick, quick, slow. Do not overemphasize the dip; this will make you look clumsy and perhaps cause you to lose your balance.

#### MAN'S PART

1. Step back with left foot, bending left knee slightly and placing entire weight on left foot (slow).
2. Step in place with right foot (slow).
3. Step forward with left foot (quick).
4. Step to right with right foot (quick).
5. Bring left foot next to right foot, no weight on left foot, and pause (slow).

ance—to take a firm hold with your left hand just in back of your partner's right shoulder. You will then find it easy to dip forward lightly.)

1. Step forward with right foot (keeping weight over foot—do not lean forward), bending right knee slightly and placing entire weight on right foot (slow).
2. Step in place with left foot (slow).
3. Step back with right foot (quick).
4. Step to left with left foot (quick).
5. Bring right foot next to left foot, no weight on right foot, and pause (slow).

#### WOMAN'S PART

(Remember rule one for good bal-

