

Viennese Waltz

Fast Facts:

The Waltz developed in Central Europe from the Austrian dance known as the Landler. The fast whirling of partners held as if in an embrace shocked polite society. The music of Johann Strauss and the famous ballrooms of Vienna popularized the faster version known as the *Viennese Waltz*.

The dance floor can get quite crowded. Watch out for couples getting boxed in as it has been known for dirty tactics to be employed for couples to try and gain an advantage on the floor.

Distinctive moves:

Sweeping turns that gracefully move around the floor characterize this dance. The Viennese Waltz is known for its rotational movement, which is simple and elegant.

There should be no foot rise on the inner turns.

Rotating and swinging spatial movements.

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Viennese waltz (International Standard, American Smooth)

The Viennese waltz is the oldest of all the ballroom dances, danced at the fast tempo that characterized the first waltzes. Later versions, such as the French and Boston waltzes, are much slower. The golden age of the Viennese waltz in Europe was the early 1800s, when Johann Strauss was composing. Its popularity has gone up and down, but it has never gone out of style. It is classic "old-school" ballroom.

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