

# EDUCATION - RUMBA CROSS By RICHARD & JO ANNE LAWSON

As chairpersons of education for the coming year, we have been asked to review Rumba Cross as our first undertaking. The best description that we have found appears in "The Revised Techniques" by Alex Moore. We will copy that description for you and then give our comments on execution of the figure. Alex Moore's Rumba Cross is described under Quickstep. We Round Dancers would use it in almost any rhythm, but extensively in Waltz.

## RUMBA CROSS

(after 1-5 of Nat Trn ended facing LOD)

Step	Feet Position	Alignment	Amount Of Turn	Rise & Fall (body)
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### MAN

- |   |   |                              |   |                  |
|---|---|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1 | L.F. Fwd, long step   | Facing LOD                   | Slight Trn to R at end of step                  | Rise e/o step 1  |
| 2 | R.F. crosses behind L.F.                                    | Facing Wall                  | 1/4 to R between steps 1 & 2                    | Up.              |
| 3 | L.F. to side & slightly back. End with R.F. fwd in C.B.M.P. | Backing LOD. End facing LOD. | 1/4 between 2 & 3. Continue to turn a 1/2 on 3. | Up. Lower e/o 3. |

FOOTWORK: 1. H.T.; 2. T.; 3. T.H.T.

C.M.B. Nil. SWAY: S.R.S. (see note below) RHYTHM: QQS

Note: A sway to L. is used on the preceding step (5 of Natural Turn).

This sway may be held at the beginning of the first step of the Rumba Cross.

### LADY

- |   |  |                              |  |                  |
|---|--|------------------------------|--|------------------|
| 1 | R.F. back, long step                                 | Backing LOD                  | Slight Trn to R. at end of step.                                   | Rise e/o 1       |
| 2 | L.F. Crosses in front of R.F.                        | Backing Wall                 | 1/4 between 1 & 2  | Up.              |
| 3 | R.F. Fwd between partner's feet. End with L.F. back. | Facing LOD. End backing LOD. | 1/4 between 2 & 3. Continue to turn a 1/2 on 3. (Pivoting action). | Up. Lower e/o 3. |

FOOTWORK: 1. T.; 2. T.; 3. T.H.

C.B.M. Nil. SWAY: S.L.S. RHYTHM: QQS

Now, let's discuss just how we would execute the Rumba Cross. We will talk about the man's part first. In CP LOD, fwd L with heel/toe action beginning right turn. Turn right 1/4 turn between 1 & 2. Step 2 on R is a crossing step rather than a sharp locking step because the man has already turned 1/4 right face which allows his R foot to cross in back of L without a distinct locking action. As he steps on his R toe he takes a pivoting action to a maneuver position, to CP RLOD. Step 3 will be back L with THT action pivoting right face 1/2 to CP LOD. In waltz we would dance 1/2, 2, 3; with the 4th step being forward on R to LOD on beat 3.

Ladies, your steps will be Back/Lock, Pivot, 2,. As you step back on R toe you will begin to turn right 1/4 to face COH. The step on L will be more of a crossing action because you have turned your body to allow the L to cross in front of R without a sharp locking action. You will continue to turn right 1/4 between steps 2 & 3 to face LOD. Step 3 will be fwd R turning right face 1/2 with pivoting action to end backing LOD (facing RLOD). Step 4 will be back on L to LOD on beat 3 of waltz measure.

**THINGS TO REMEMBER:** The Rumba Cross should be a smooth, Right Turning figure which is really only 3 steps. We in Round Dancing have added the 4th step to make it fit our choreography, and well done. It is better to understyle than to overstyle. Too much sway into and out of the Rumba Cross makes it look choppy. Think of the Rumba Cross as Trn/Lk(Manuv), Pivot, 2; to face LOD.