

SILENCIO TANGO

Source: A selection of ballroom Argentine Tango steps, arranged in sequence and described by Glenn Stubblefield from steps taught by John Preston and Celia Bissell.

Music: Columbia 36357 "Silencio"—2 measures introduction.

Timing and Style: The Basic Tango step is easily acquired by counting as a —slow —slow -quick -quick —slow rhythm. Slow is a slow walk using one count; quick is a step using one-half count. The music will suggest a basis for style: a slow, softly flowing movement with a sharp distinction of the progressive and the side-ward, closing and draw steps.

Positions: Closed Tango Position: partners facing, M RH in center of W back, M LH at eye level flat against W RH, both pointed up and fingers not entwined, but tips of M's fingers may be folded over W's; W LH on M upper R arm or shoulder but not over shoulder or around neck.

Semi-open Tango Position: M body at a slight "V" angle to W, M LH joined with W RH in flat horizontal position, M H underneath, fingers not clasped and extended, LOD (CCW); M RH and W LH as in closed position. W steps forward with M but on opposite foot.

Open Tango Position: both facing LOD, M RH flat against palm of W RH resting on W R hip, M LH extended forward palm up, L elbow slightly bent, and joined with W LH palm down, fingers not clasped. MR and WL hips are adjacent, MR shoulder resting back of WL. Both step on same foot.

Formation: Couples moving CCW. Directions are for M, W does counterpart unless indicated.

Cues follow Pattern name and punctuation will indicate —(slow) -(quick) and in description S(slow) Q(quick).

P A T T E R N

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Counts
1, 2, 3 & 4 | I BASIC TANGO: Closed pos. —slow —slow -step -side —draw
SL fwd, SR fwd, QL fwd, QR swd to Rt, SL draw to R (no weight on L) |
| 1
2
3 & 4 | II DIP BACK (Corté): Closed pos. —dip —recover -step -side —draw
M dips back SL, toe out, bending L knee; R leg is straight (W fwd on R)
S recover; transfer wt to RF in place, L toe touching in place
QL fwd, QR swd, SL draw to R. |
| 1
2
3 & 4 &
1, 2, 3 & 4 | III LEFT TURN AND DIP: semi-open pos.—slow—slow -1 -2 -3 -4 —dip—recover -step -side —draw
M SL fwd (W SR fwd)
M SR across L, legs crossed, wt on L. (W SL in front of M RF)
M ½ pivot to L, wt on both feet, to face opp. LOD. (W QR, QL, QR, QL around M)
Dip: repeat Patt. II except QL swd (ct. 3) to do ¼ L turn. |
| 1, 2
3 & 4 &
1, 2, 3 & 4 | IV RIGHT TURN AND DIP: semi-open pos.—slow—slow -1 -2 -3 -4—dip —recover -step -side —draw
M SL fwd, SR fwd, toe out ready to assume closed pos.
M makes a full Rt pivot stepping QL to assume closed pos., QR, QL, QR bwd (face LOD)
Dip: repeat Patt. II |
| 1, 2
3 & 4
1 & 2
3 & 4 | V SCISSORS: semi-open pos. —slow —slow -step -close —cross -step -close —cross -step -side —draw
SL fwd, SR fwd.
(face partner) QL swd, QR close to L, SL cross over R (legs crossed)
QR swd, QL close to R, SR cross over L (legs crossed)
QL fwd LOD (lead W in front) QR swd (closed pos.) SL draw to R |
| 1, 2
3 & 4
1 & 2
3 & 4 | VI ROCKING: closed pos. —slow —slow -step -close —back -rock -rock —recover -step -side —draw
SL fwd, SR fwd
M QL swd, QR close to L, SL bwd (keep R in place)
W QR close to L, QL slightly fwd, SR fwd (keep L in place)
Finish this step in side car pos. R hips adj.
Keep feet in place and rock wt. gently, Q fwd on R, Q back on L, S recover on R.
QL fwd in front of R (W R bwd), QR swd, to face W, SL draw to R |
| 1, 2
3 & 4 &
5 & 6 | VII GRAPEVINE: semi-open pos. —slow —slow -1 -2 -3 -4 -step -side —draw
SL fwd, SR fwd.
(face partner) QL swd, QR behind L, QL swd, QR in front L (W same action on opp. feet)
QL fwd LOD (lead W in front), QR swd (closed pos.) SL draw to R. |
| VIII | BUTTERFLY: semi-open pos. —slow —slow (W turns) -step -close —step (W turns) -step -close —step (M turns) -step -close —step (both turn) -step -turn —step -step -side —draw
The action for turn: make a ¼ turn and step R swd (½ ct.) change wt. to L and pivot ¼ turn on balls of both feet (½ ct.) bringing the hips adjacent and take slow step R fwd (1 ct.).
Abb. desc.: QR swd, QL in place ½ turn, SR fwd. |

- 1, 2, 3 & 4 M SL fwd, SR fwd, QL fwd, QR close to L, SL bwd (hips adj. MR WR)
W SR fwd, SL fwd, QR swd, QL in place 1/2 turn, SR fwd.
- 1 & 2 M QR bwd slightly past L, QL close to R, SR fwd. (hips adj. MR WL)
W QL swd, QR in place 1/2 turn, SL fwd.
- 3 & 4 M QL swd, QR in place 1/2 turn, SL fwd (hips adj. ML WL)
W QR fwd close to L, QL in place beside R, SR bwd.
- 1 & 2 M QR swd, QL in place 1/2 turn, SR fwd (hips adj. MR WR)
W QL bwd and swd, QR in place 1/2 turn, SL bwd.
- 3 & 4 QL fwd in front of R (WR bwd), QR swd, to face W, SL draw to R
- IX CROSS OVER:** semi-open pos. —slow —slow -step -close —cross (W -step -over) —slow -step
-close —cross (W -step -over) —slow -step -side —draw
- 1, 2 SL fwd, SR fwd
- 3 & 4 (face partner) QL swd, QR close to L, SL cross over R (face opp. LOD)
- 1 & M holds in place (W steps CW around M, QL and pivots on ball of foot to again face away from
LOD, QR slightly ahead of L)
- 2 SR fwd, full stride, in semi-open pos. opp. LOD
- 3 & 4, 1 & 2 Repeat as above in LOD (CCW)
- 3 & 4 QL fwd (lead W in front) QR swd (closed pos) SL draw to R.
Repeat Patterns I, II, III, IV, V
- X GOING INTO OPEN TANGO POSITION:** semi-open pos. —1 —2 —3 —4 —5 —6 -step -side
—draw
- 1, 2, 3 & 4 SL fwd, SR fwd, SL fwd (W turns CW QR, QL, under M raised L arm), SR fwd and assume open
tango pos: partners will now be on same foot
- 1, 2, 3 & 4 SL fwd, SR fwd, QL across in front of R (slight dip), QR swd, SL draw to R
- XI OPEN ROCKING:** open pos. —slow —slow —point fwd, —step back, -rock -rock —recover -step
-side —draw
- 1, 2, 3, 4 SL fwd, SR fwd, S touch L fwd, wt. on R, SL bwd, as a dip
- 1 & 2 Keep feet in place and rock wt. gently Q fwd on R, Q back on L, S recover on R
- 3 & 4 QL across in front of R, QR swd, SL draw to R.
- XII OPEN GRAPEVINE:** open pos. —slow —slow -1 -2 -3 -4 -1 -2 -3 -4 -step -side —draw
- 1, 2 SL fwd, SR fwd.
- 3 & QL across in front of R, QR almost in place, slightly swd to Rt., toe in (start CCW turn)
- 4 & QL swd and bwd, toe out (turning CCW), QR slightly in front of L (facing opp. LOD)
- 1 & 2 & Repeats cts. 3 & 4 & to face LOD
- 3 & 4 QL across in front of R, QR swd, SL draw to R.
- XIII COMING OUT OF OPEN POSITION AND DIP:** open pos. —slow —slow -1 -2 -3 -hold —dip
—recover -step -side —draw
- 1, 2 SL fwd, SR fwd
- 3 & 4 & M steps L beside R and stands in place (W makes 1 1/2 turn CCW under M raised L arm. QL, QR,
QL, Q hold, to assume closed pos.)
- 1, 2, 3 & 4 Dip: repeat Patt. II
Repeat Patterns VIII and IX
- XIV FINALE:** closed pos. —dip —recover -1 -2 —bow
- 1, 2 SL corté, S recover R
- 3 & M closes L to R and stands in place as W does full turn CW (QR QL) under M raised L arm, hold-
ing WRH
- 4 M bows, W steps back on R

SEQUENCE SUMMARY

<i>First Part</i>	<i>Second Part</i>
I Basic	I Basic
II Dip	II Dip
III Left Turn	III Left Turn
IV Right Turn	IV Right Turn
V Scissors	V Scissors
	X Going In
VI Rocking	XI Rocking
VII Grapevine	XII Grapevine
	XIII Coming Out
VIII Butterfly	VIII Butterfly
IX Cross Over	IX Cross Over
	XIV Finale