

ORIGINAL DANCE FOR 2010 “LATIN COMBINATION”

Choice of Rhythms :

Mambo, Cha Cha Cha , Samba, Rhumba

The current rules apply – the Original Dance will consist of two (2) rhythms of the skaters choice as listed above. NOTE: a couple can repeat the first rhythm they have chosen, as the third change, BUT IT MUST BE THE SAME MELODY AND TUNE AS THE FIRST.

Length of time – 2 ½ minutes +/- 10 seconds

Mambo

Origin - This dance emerged in the 1930s from Cuban rhythms. It is a relative of the Cha Cha Cha, and the Cuban Rhumba. The tempo is faster than the Rhumba and there is a different musical emphasis with less hip motion.

Tempo – 4/4 – (4 beats to a bar of music) - time not set – a great variety can be used.

Music – in Mambo you don't move on the first beat but by not moving it is still counted as a step, the primary accent being on the 2nd count. Some count the movement as quick-quick-slow, but it is probably better to think of the Mambo movement as Step, Rock, Close, Pause. Staccato style music.

The beat count is:-

1	2	3	4
hold	step	step	step

Instruments – Features timbales (a drum played with sticks on the rim of the drum), which gives a “tinny” sound, and other percussive instruments such as claves and cowbells.

General Interpretation – Origin Cuban with a mixture of Swing and Cuban music and should give the impression of having fun together, saucy, staccato style, to an upbeat tempo. Steps should be kept small, with a slight hold on the first beat. sexy dance, skated close together with constant eye contact with the couple projecting as one.

Cha-Cha-Cha

Origin - The Cha Cha Cha is a dance rhythm that originated in Cuba with a type of “skipping step”, but has been “Americanised” to the version we know today.

Tempo – usually played in 4/4 time (may be played in 2/2 or “cut time”) time not set but is fairly fast.

Music – can be either Cuban music, Latin Pop, Latin Rock and is energetic with a steady beat. Usually the Cuban Cha-Cha-Cha is more sensual.

Instruments – varies depending on the tune chosen. Originally in Cuba, violins and flute were prominent, now great variety with brass and percussion featured (e.g. Bongo drums, maracas, cow bells, timbales etc.)

General Interpretation – Danced in a lively, playful, manner with actions of seduction and pursuit. The Lady is “hunted” and the Man “Huntes” There should be close connection with the Partner, a lot of forward and back or one side and back . Hip actions occur at the end of every step – for steps taking a single beat the first half of the beat constitutes the foot movement and the second half is taken up by the hip movement.

Samba

Origin – Originated in Africa, and was taken by slaves to Brazil plantations. Later, at carnival time was introduced to the Cities as a Carnival and street Festival Dance. It is the National Dance of Brazil – A Samba dancer is known in Brazil as a “Sambista”.

Tempo – **2/4 time of 2 beats per measure – may be written in 2/2 or “cut time”**

Music – varies from medium to fast – beat count :-

1 “and” 2 2 “and” 2
step quick step step quick step

Instruments – Often accompanied by Latin instruments especially the cabaza (gourd with beads), conga drum.

General Interpretation - Flirtatious, animated, bouncy and exuberant dance performed together by a couple with rocking motions of the body, with variations of hold, travels across the floor a lot.

Rhumba

Origin – It is an Americanised version of the Cuban Danzon and Spanish Bolero. It is an Afro-Cuban rhythm. The Rhumba rhythm is the spirit and soul of Latin music.

Tempo – **4/4 time with four beats to each measure. Two measures of music are required to complete one full basic step.**

Music – usually slower than the other rhythms listed within this group.

Instruments - The basic Rhumba is brought out by the bass instruments. Features Latin percussion instruments such as maracas, conga drums and bongos.

General Interpretation - Romantic, sultry, sensuous, smooth. Lady is the focus – and in particular the rhythmic body and hip action and the steamy tease in routines that can be close to X-rated. Unlike the Cha-Cha-Cha which effects a happy, carefree, party-time-like dance expression, the Rhumba effects a more serious and intense expression.

Less travelling across the floor than Cha-Cha-Cha or Samba.

REMEMBER – WE ARE AN ARTISTIC SPORT AND THE OD SHOULD BE SKATED TO THE MUSIC WITH STEPS, EDGES, FLOW, RHYTHM AND TOGETHER, NO MATTER WHAT MUSIC IS SELECTED