

# G.I. Jive IV Hicks 2019

If you talk around with round dancers, you will find that some feel really deprived. We haven't had our usual dancing for over A MONTH. Sorry for yelling, but this hasn't happened to me since 1988 (when we first started). Well, there was one year when we drove across the country and up into the Canadian Rockies -- we were away from home for five weeks, and we did not dance. It's true. So, maybe we can weather this -- although on our road trip we did have a lot to distract us.



Yes, some feel deprived and anxious. Others are okay. Actually, it feels like a vacation. We don't have to rush dinner to get to the grange by 7:00, fight the traffic, study our cue sheets (ha-ha -- little joke), another grange the next night, Becky's Barn, then a Fun Dance on Saturday. Gasp. These folks are relaxed, reading trashy novels one after another like candy, or maybe finally finishing War and Peace, Moby Dick, and In Search of Lost Time. These folks are relaxed.

Given all that -- if you would like to -- I have a new dance for you. It is compact and doesn't travel too far. You can dance it in a medium-sized kitchen. As usual, everything you need is at [rounddancing.net](http://rounddancing.net), and I just discovered that if you simply click on a music or video link it plays in your browser. Don't laugh at me. I have always downloaded the file and played it in a separate player. I didn't know browsers could do that.

And, if you like, let's begin with a little ballroom instruction. Our friend, Egils, at <https://youtu.be/-JCJUaoRPLI>, talks us through some familiar figures with an emphasis on the up and down nature of jive, rather than side to side. For instance, on your "rock recover" don't rock back and so travel but rock under the body in a Latin sort of way (heel in) for an up/down look. In the "kick ball/change" don't kick out but stab down. Here are two other examples of jive figures danced with good technique, a second session with Egils, <https://youtu.be/Gkd2UDLrxIQ>, and something to Ex's and Oh's, music we have loved in the past, <https://youtu.be/o5abLX6wWOQ>. Note the up & down and the compact chasses -- the faster the music, the more compact we need to be.

I believe G.I. Jive was presented at the National SD Convention last year. The video (Glen & Helen) was shot at the Fontana (NC) dance hall. We went to that festival for several years running while we were in the east, so we know that hall well (nostalgic sigh). The dance starts in Open Facing Position (OFP), trail hands and feet. Step together, bump trail hips, recover, 2X. Triple toward RLOD to SCP, and rock for our first challenge. Let me say that I initially cued this at full speed, 34m/m, which is where Tampa Jive is. It feels fast -- it's a good test of how compact you can be. I also offer a slower version at 32m/m, about where Calendar Girl and Pink Cadillac are.

Part A starts with a triple to LOD, point the trail foot, and then step on that trail foot. Do it again. So this little figure starts with the lead foot each time, and I think we'll do it 8 times in the dance. The rest of part A looks familiar. Notice that we do progress down LOD, so think about doing the Fwd Triples more in place; don't travel as much as you're used to, and don't throw her away with your usual gusto. Now, let the Chicken Walks bring you back to your starting point.



Part B starts with two Kick Steps (kick first). The Turning Triple to face RLOD is a solo turn. The man stays on the inside, and you end in LOP both facing RLOD. Well, you can see the Worlocks doing it. I'm just telling you what I would say if I had you with me. Dance your Kick Steps to RLOD and continue. The Rock Apart 2X is not written as Progressive Rocks, but I would probably dance them that way if I had room.

Here, we can take a break for a little more technique. We have a lesson on Kick Steps, <https://youtu.be/RjHmGcFNGzI>, that again are up and down. He also says, put two hops into each Kick Step: hop, kick across, hop, step. For each hop, bend the knee and straighten -- it's in the knee of the standing leg, so it is two hops on the same (supporting) foot for each Kick/Step. Count a/1, a/2 -- rise and hop on the "a" kick and lower on the "1" rise and hop on the "a" step and lower on the "2". Actually, let's wait until we are in Open Position sometime to develop this idea fully -- hard to coordinate all that with your partner in SCP. The second lesson is on Chicken Walks, <https://youtu.be/miWQ9imm1uM>, with a lot of swivel and hip.

Back to G.I. Jive -- part A-modified is mostly a repeat of A, but at the end, after the Side Break Apart and Together, we start a Change L to R. The cue sheet doesn't tell us, but let's rock, recover, dance one triple taking the lady under to LOFP Wall, and sharp close the trail foot, point the lead foot to LOD, hold. The music stops.

Part C is standard. The End has a Vine and a couple Step Kicks (step first). We end with a full Triple Wheel to face COH. In the last measure of music, spin her on the 1a2, take both hands, then rock, wrap the lady (3a4), and smile.