

Beginning Salsa: Quick Underarm Turn**Pre-requisite**

To complete this segment, you must be able to do basic salsa footwork.

Overview

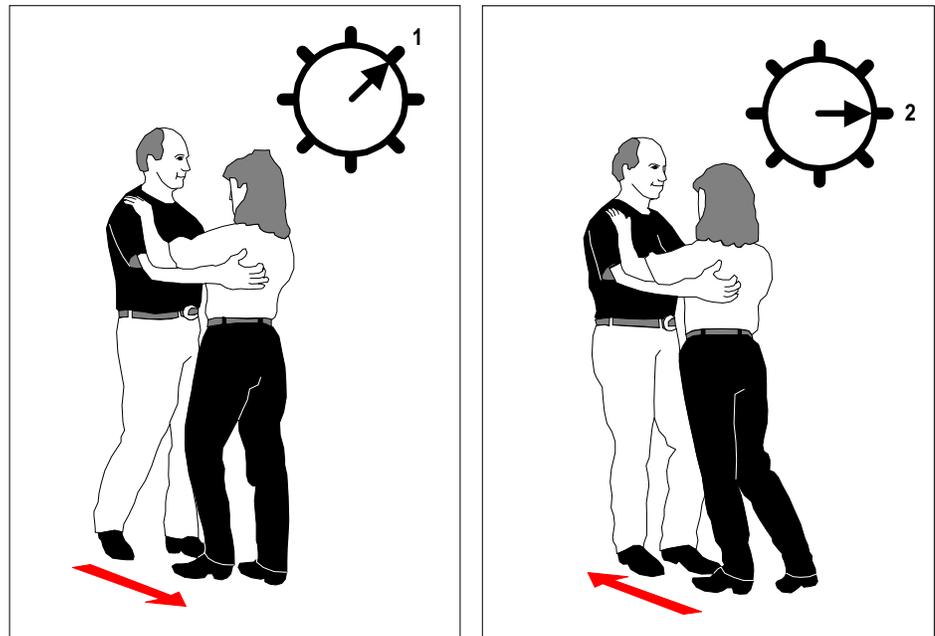
The quick underarm turn is completed on the second set of the basic salsa footwork. Because the dance is so fast, there is normally a two-count lead. The move is a military “about face” concluding with a half-spin rotation on one foot for the lady.

NOTE:

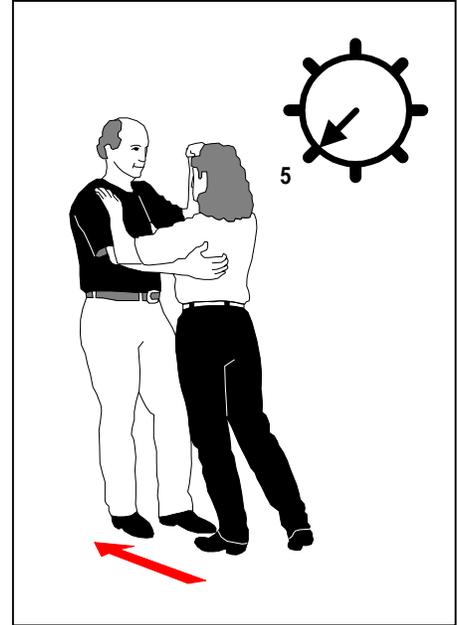
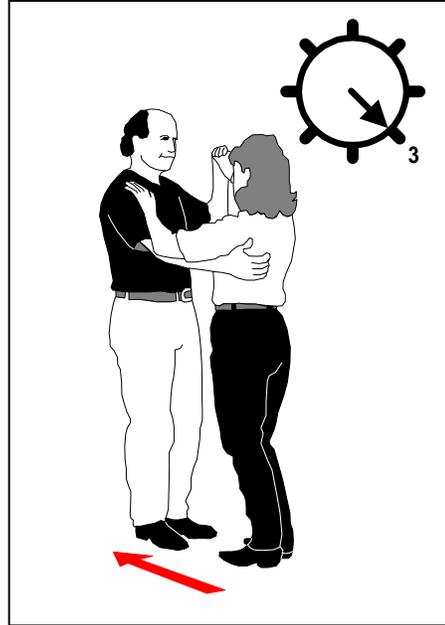
Note that in this segment and all following, we will not illustrate the pauses in the beat. However, you must not fail to pay attention to them and execute them as taught in the basic salsa.

The Steps

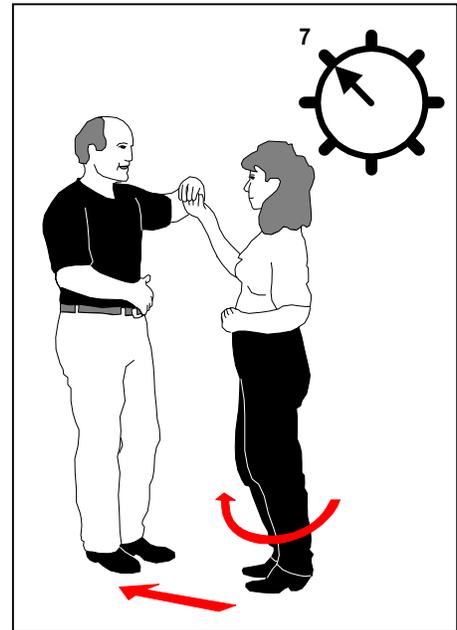
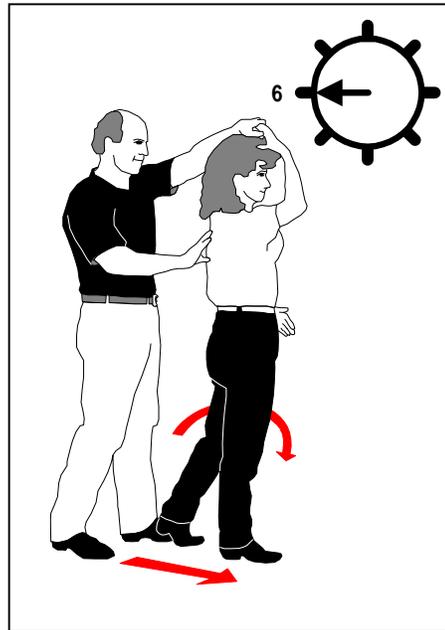
The first two steps are the same as in the basic salsa. There is a rocking motion with a change of weight. Gentleman rocks forward and replaces. Lady rocks back and replaces.



On step 3, as the partners return to the starting spot, the gentleman raises the clasped hands to the level of the lady's eyes for a turn signal. On count 4, he rocks back but maintains the clasped hands at the eye level of the lady.



On count 6, the gentleman leads the lady to pivot 90° counter-clockwise in what is called a military "about face" (she does not pass her feet.) with his lead hand arching over her head. At the same time, he takes his replace step with his left foot beside her anchored left foot. She has her weight on her right foot.

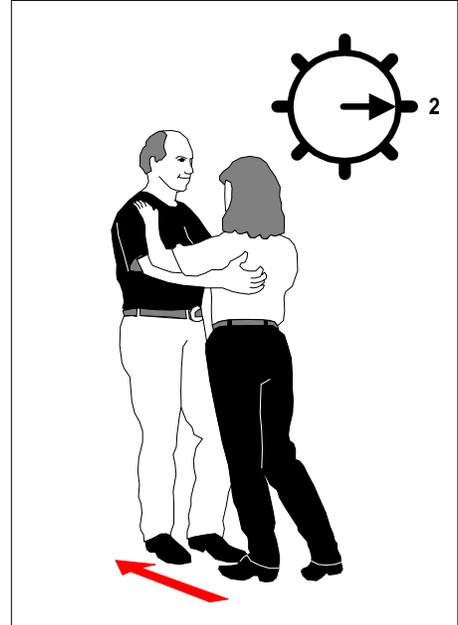
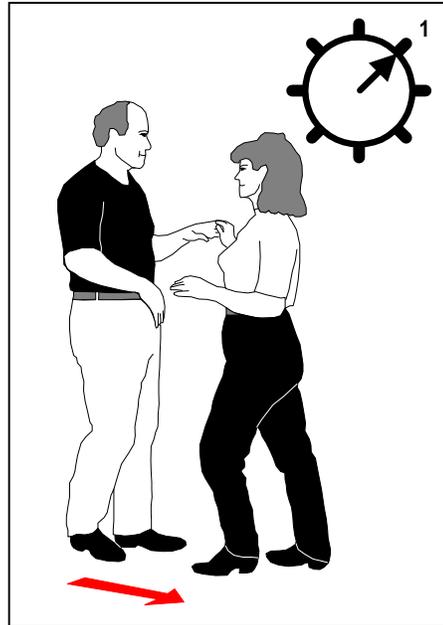


On count 7, he leads her to turn 180° to face him. She spins on the ball of the right foot and brings her feet together on her spot. He brings his feet together for his spot.

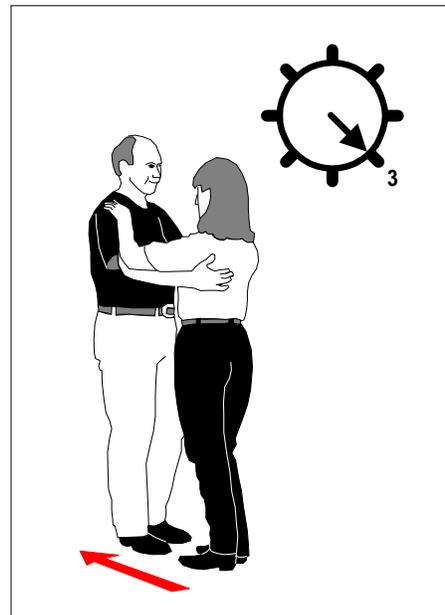
There is then a pause on count 8.

The recovery

On count 1 on the following basic, the gentleman and the lady take their normal first step as he reaches for her. They close up on count 2 as they rock back to the replace step.



They finish this half of the basic on count 3 as the partners each return to their spot with their feet together.



Conclusion

The material presented here is not all-inclusive, but only touches the high points. There are many other tips to help in your cha-cha technique. Some of these tips will be presented in the course of other dance segments, while others may have to be taught in conjunction with an instructor present.

This concludes the segment on Salsa Quick Underarm Turn.