

24. BLUES

Music	- Blues 4/4
Tempo	- 22 measures of 4 beats per minute - 88 beats per minute
Pattern	- Optional
Duration	- The time required to skate 3 sequences is 1:14 min.

The Blues should be skated with strong edges and deep knee action to achieve the desired expression. The man begins the dance with a forward cross roll, the lady with a back cross roll moving from partial outside to closed hold. The lady crosses in front on *step 2* while her partner skates a progressive.

The man's cross rolled three turn on *step 4* should be skated towards the side barrier. During this turn the lady skates a cross roll and a cross step - the first behind and the second in front. *Step 4* commences in outside hold and finishes in open hold. *Step 5* is a strong 4 beat backward outside edge for both partners with the free leg extended in front and brought back to the skating foot just before they step forward for *step 6*. It should be noted that this step commences on the third beat of the measure. *Step 7* is a deep cross roll on which the free leg swings forward then returns besides the skating foot for the next step. *Steps 8 to 11* form a double progressive sequence with an unusual timing: the first and the last steps are 2 beats each, the others are 1 beat in duration. - the "Promenade" section. Knee action and an extended free leg are used to accentuate the timing on *step 8*.

Steps 12 and 13 form a closed choctaw and both edges should have the same curvature. The free leg should be held back and brought to the heel of the skating foot just in time for the turn. The choctaw is turned neatly with the new skating foot taking the ice directly under the centre of gravity. *Step 14* is a backward cross roll for both partners. The pattern may retrogress at *step 15*. *Steps 15 to 17* form one lobe with three steps for the lady and four for the man. During the lady's three turn, the man skates a chassé and the partners move into closed hold for the last step of the dance. The pattern may retrogress here.

Inventors	- Robert Dench and Lesley Turner
First Performance	- London, Streatham Ice Rink, 1934

BLUES

Hold	Step No.	Man's Step	Number of Beats of Music			Lady's Step
Partial Outside	1	CR-RFO		1		<u>CR-LBO</u>
Closed	2	LFI-Pr		1		XF-RBI
	3	RFO		2		LBO
Outside	4a	CR-LFO3	1+1		1	<u>CR-RBO</u>
Open	4b				1	XF-LBI
	5	RBO		4		RBO
	6	LFO		2		LFO
	7	<u>CR-RFO-SwR</u>		4		<u>CR-RFO-SwR</u>
	8	LFO		2		LFO
	9	RFI-Pr		1		RFI-Pr
	10	LFO		1		LFO
	11	RFI-Pr		2		RFI-Pr
	12	LFI CICho		2		LFI CICho
	13	RBO		2		RBO
	14	CR-LBO		4		CR-LBO
	15	RFI		2		RFI
	16a	LFO	1		1+1	LFO3
Closed	16b	RFI-Ch	1			
	17	LFO		2		RBO