

CHAIR AND SLIP BY

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We will discuss the Chair and Slip To Closed Position figure. More specifically, we want to talk about the slip pivot to closed position. These are really two separate figures but many times we think of them as one figure.

ROUNDALAB Definitions: CHAIR AND SLIP (Phase IV)

CHAIR: (Phase III) A one beat stylized forward lunge step. The dancer's body profile is shaped to style a forward lunge to resemble the side view of a straight chair. The stepping leg is best representing the front legs and seat of the chair. The dancer's torso forms the chair's back as the trailing leg simulates the chair's rear legs.

CHAIR AND SLIP: MAN: From semiclosed position check through on right, recover left, small step back on right toe ending in closed position. WOMAN: Check thru on left, recover right, swivel left on right and step forward left into closed position.

NOTE: May be done in waltz, or in 4-4 time either SQQ or QQS.

In many routines we will dance the chair and slip just after completing the Impetus to Semiclosed (or Open Impetus) which puts us in semiclosed position with a forward momentum. Let's assume we are in closed position facing reverse line of dance and we are going to dance: Impetus to Semi; Chair and Slip; and Telemark to Semi. Our Impetus to Semi takes us to a tight semiclosed position facing line and center. Now we are ready for the Chair and Slip.

CHAIR AND SLIP: MAN: 1. Lunge through on right with top of body out over right foot but keeping body still erect without any swaying of top line. He is still looking to line and center without looking at his partner, a forward poise. The lunge should be across the body somewhat rather than straight forward as in a hip-to-hip position for the man and woman. 2. Recover on left beginning left face body turn. 3. Step back small step on toe of right foot continuing left face turn to end in closed position facing line and center high on balls of feet. WOMAN: 1. Lunge through on left with top of body out over left foot but keeping body still erect without any swaying of top line. She is still looking to line and center without looking at her partner, a forward poise. The lunge should be across the body somewhat, rather than straight forward as in a hip-to-hip position for the man and the woman. 2. (Lock thighs in Place) Recover on right swiveling left face toward man. 3. Step forward on left toe toward man with foot just outside of man's right foot as opposed to being between man's feet.

The point we want to emphasize here is that the woman steps forward with her left foot "OUTSIDE" the man's right foot to closed position. We see many dancers execute the slip by the woman stepping directly into the man with her left foot between the man's feet. This is not closed position. We are not sure what position this really is; it just isn't closed position and it causes an awkward entry into the next figure, in this case, the Telemark to Semi.

The Chair and Slip is a very beautiful and comfortable figure when executed smoothly and with style and grace. Remember forward poise on your chair, woman locks her thighs and slips to closed position with her left foot outside of the man's right ready for the next figure.

EDITOR'S NOTE: RICHARD & JO ANNE have given us another well written and descriptive article but if you have any questions, you may write to them at 237 Mamie Lane, Birmingham, AL 35215.

