

THE MADISON

Song: 'Madison Time' by Ray Bryant



The Madison was the first line dance and originated around 1957 in Ohio, USA. Teenagers showcased this cool dance on the 'Buddy Deane Show' before it was epitomised in 1988 in the movie 'Hairspray.'

Although other line dances would follow quarterly movements facing the wall, The Madison faces forward throughout the dance and figures are prompted by the 'caller.'

Other dances like the 'Shim Sham' which contained 1920's jazz patterns were originally performed by only one or two dancers at a time, unlike the resurgence of Lindy-Hop today. The Madison on the other hand was the first social dance where people danced independently in lines and danced as a group.

Basic Step (Video 1)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward on your LEFT foot and tap with your RIGHT foot, clapping at the same time.
- Now step back onto your RIGHT foot.
- With your weight now on your RIGHT foot, cross your LEFT foot over your RIGHT towards the 1 O'clock position. Then take the LEFT foot back to the 12 O'clock open position.
- Step forward with your LEFT foot again and REPEAT until you receive the NEXT INSTRUCTION.

1st Element - Two Up, Two Back and Big Strong Turn (Video 2)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind to tap.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind (Two Up).
- Step back with your RIGHT foot and then back with your LEFT foot.
- (Repeat) Step back with your RIGHT foot and then back with your LEFT foot and TAP (Two Back).
- Step forward on your LEFT foot and then your RIGHT.
- Turn anti-clockwise (LEFT) on to your LEFT foot and step forward with your RIGHT foot (*Big Strong Turn*).
- Turn anti-clockwise (LEFT) again onto your LEFT foot to start your basic step again.

2nd Element - Two Up, Two Back, Double Cross into The Rifleman (Video 3)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind (Two Up).
- Step back with your RIGHT foot and then back with your LEFT foot.
- (Repeat) Step back with your RIGHT foot and then back with your LEFT foot and TAP (Two Back).
- Step forward on your LEFT foot,
 - Crossover RIGHT foot over LEFT.
 - o Crossover LEFT foot over RIGHT.
 - Crossover RIGHT foot over LEFT.
 - o Crossover LEFT foot over RIGHT (Double Cross).
- 3 Hops backwards on your LEFT foot.
- Place your RIGHT foot down behind you and lean back to cock the rifle.
- Lean forward on your LEFT foot and point your rifle as you tap with your RIGHT foot.
- Step back onto your RIGHT foot and start your basic footwork again by crossing your LEFT foot over your RIGHT.

3rd Element - Big Strong 'M' and Erase It (Video 4)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind to make the first straight side of the 'M.'
- Sharp turn to your RIGHT to make the diagonal part of the 'M' and step RIGHT foot, tap LEFT and RIGHT foot, tap LEFT again.
- Second diagonal of the 'M' by making a sharp LEFT turn and stepping LEFT, tap RIGHT, stepping LEFT, tap RIGHT.
- Turn to your RIGHT to make the last straight side of the 'M' step on your RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, step on your RIGHT foot, and tap LEFT.
- Go back the way you came and erase the 'M' Step on to your LEFT foot and tap right then step on to your LEFT foot and tap right to erase the straight side of the 'M.'
- Turn to the RIGHT and erase the diagonal side of the 'M' by stepping on to your RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, step onto your RIGHT foot, and tap LEFT.
- Turn to the LEFT and erase the other diagonal side of the 'M' by stepping on to your LEFT foot and tap right then step on to your LEFT foot and tap right.
- Finally, erase the last straight side of the 'M' by stepping onto your RIGHT foot and taping LEFT, step onto your RIGHT foot and tap LEFT.
- Step onto your LEFT foot to start your basic step again.

4th Element - 'T' Time (Video 5)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind to tap.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind to tap.
- Jump as you split your feet LEFT and RIGHT and with your arms make a 'T' shape by putting them out to the side at shoulder height. Finish the move by landing with your feet together.
- Move backwards leading with your RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, RIGHT foot back and tap LEFT again.
- Now step forward with your LEFT foot to start your basic step again.

5th Element - Cleveland Box (Video 6)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind to make the first side of the box.
- Move to your right to make the second side of the box RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, RIGHT foot and tap LEFT again.
- Turn to your LEFT turning inwards to make the third side of the box Step onto your LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind to tap.
- (Repeat) Step onto your LEFT foot and tap with your RIGHT foot.
- Turn to your RIGHT and turn your back on your normal dancing position and make the fourth side of the box RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, RIGHT foot and tap LEFT again.
- Turn anti-clockwise (LEFT) to face your starting point and start your basic step again.

6th Element - Basketball with the Chamberlin Hook (Video 7)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind bouncing your basketball as you move forward with your RIGHT hand.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind bouncing your basketball as you move forward with your RIGHT hand.
- Jumping anti-clockwise (LEFT), make a half turn to put your back to where you started and dunk the basketball in the net with your RIGHT hand.
- Immediately jump back to where you started by turning clockwise (RIGHT).
- Move backwards leading with your RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, RIGHT foot back and tap LEFT again. As you do this make a two finger 'Victory' sign with your RIGHT hand to show you have scored two points.
- Now step forward with your LEFT foot to start your basic step again.

7th Element - Jackie Gleason (Video 8)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward on your LEFT foot and swing your RIGHT leg forward before bending it at the knee and moving it across your LEFT leg. Your RIGHT arm mirrors the action of your RIGHT leg.
- Straighten your RIGHT leg out in front of you again and put your RIGHT foot down behind you.
- Sit back slightly on your RIGHT leg and immediately sweep your LEFT leg across your RIGHT leg by bending it at the knee. Again, your LEFT arm should mirror the action of your LEFT leg.
- Leading with your LEFT foot forward and tap with your RIGHT foot, LEFT foot forward and tap with your RIGHT foot. Your LEFT arm should be held out in front of your body at shoulder height.
- Now Move backwards leading with your RIGHT foot and tap LEFT, RIGHT foot back and tap LEFT again. Your LEFT arm should remain out in front of your body at shoulder height.
- Now step forward with your LEFT foot to start your basic step again.

8th Element - Birdland (Video 9)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward on your LEFT foot and turning to your LEFT step onto your RIGHT foot and tap with your LEFT foot to set the 'Birdland' up. You should be flapping both arms out to the side just above waist height throughout this move.
- Step out to your LEFT and using your LEFT foot as a pivot bring your RIGHT foot behind to face the opposite side. Land your RIGHT foot and tap with your LEFT foot.
- (Repeat) as above as many times as required until the caller tells you to end it.
- When this happens step forward with your LEFT foot to start your basic step again.

9th Element - Two Up, Two Back, Double Cross and Freeze (Video 10)

- When the caller says, "Hit it."
- Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind.
- (Repeat) Step forward LEFT foot and bring your RIGHT foot behind (Two Up).
- Step back with your RIGHT foot and then back with your LEFT foot.
- (Repeat) Step back with your RIGHT foot and then back with your LEFT foot and TAP (Two Back).
- Step forward on your LEFT foot,
 - o Crossover RIGHT foot over LEFT.
 - Crossover LEFT foot over RIGHT.
 - Crossover RIGHT foot over LEFT.
 - o Crossover LEFT foot over RIGHT (Double Cross).
- Turn clockwise (RIGHT) using both feet to pivot around. You end the move by placing both arms out to the side and pause.

The Madison Demonstration (All Elements) (Video 11)

- This video demonstrates all the elements together and is danced to music.
- Please remember it just takes practice to master this dance. The frequency of your practice is more important than how long you spend on each session.
- Just take one element at a time and slowly build on it by adding another element.
- The attached videos will be available to you until 31st October 2023 when we will be advertising the date of another strolls workshop.

Thank you very much for taking 'The Madison' workshop with us, we do hope you enjoyed it. Good luck!

Nicola, Paul & The Surrey Jive Team