CLOGGING (Western North Carolina Style)

Clogging consists of a basic walk enhanced with embellishments according to the desire and skill of the dancer. Feet are kept under the body, knees slightly bent, toes turned out a little. Steps are done flat-footed, with one foot always on the floor (no leaps, jumps, etc.)

For basic walk R: step on R with slight pull (chug) bkwd, at same time straightening R knee sharply, and bringing L leg slightly fwd, knee bent, ft hanging naturally just above floor. Next basic walk would begin L. Continue, alternating ft, 1 ct for each step. The feeling in clogging should be of pulling ft bkwd on each step.

A quick step may be added thus: do 1 basic walk R (ct 1), step on L toe beside R, with L knee bent (ct &), 1 basic walk R (ct 2), pause (ct &). Repeat with opp ft.

A characteristic "shuffle" may be added: quickly brush toe fwd and back

before each basic walk:

Do not clog all the time, Reserve it for the times when you are not working with partner. For example, Circle left and right would be "smooth".

Ladies (gents) to the center would be clogging. Queen's (King's) Highway would be "smooth" when moving with partner, and clogging when moving individually. Use arms as you wish; there are no rules. Keep body "loose". It's your own style that counts, not having everyone doing the same thing at the same time. However, the rhythm should be the same.

These notes were prepared by Vera Jones.