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| COTTON-EYED JOE | A traditional American country line dance. There are many variations, this one is done in a simple set of three. |
| STEPS | Heel-push; step-ball-change; two-step (step-together-step) The last two steps are done with a quick-quick slow rhythm. |
| FORMATION | Three people standing in a side-by-side line all facing CCW |
| POSITION | Two outside people place their inside hand on the shoulder of the center person with elbows down the back. The center person puts an arm around the waist of each outside person. |
| VARIATIONS | The dance is a 2 part dance. The “A” part is always the same. The “B” part can progress forward (traditional), do a reverse turn and go the opposite direction, or pivot all the way around in a pinwheel with the center person as the pivot. Adventuresome students might try doing the B part using a polka (hop step-together-step) instead of a two-step. The dance is traditionally a polka which energetic people prefer. The two-step variation (now more common) was adapted for an older, slower crowd of dancers. Once some variations are learned, let the students create their own dance sequence. |
| MUSIC | The music is in 2 (polka rhythm) with a slow introduction. Once the tempo picks up the dancers can really move out. |
| REPETITIONS | Some people prefer to do this dance with parts “A” and “B” done only once before each repeat. Others find it easier to do parts “A” and “B” twice before each repeat. Both work, but the math says you’ll do the dance half as many times. |

A Part

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Push R heel toward the floor 1 | Push R heel again 2 | Step R (quick) Ball of L foot (quick) 3 and | Step R (slow) 4 | Push L heel toward the floor 5 | Push L heel again 6 | Step L (quick) Ball of R foot (quick) 7 and | Step L (slow) 8 |
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B Part

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|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|--------------------|
| Moving forward Step R (quick) Close L (quick) 1 and | Step R (slow) 2 | Step L (quick) Close R (quick) 3 and | Step L (slow) 4 | Step R (quick) Close L (quick) 5 and | Step R (slow) 6 | Step L (quick) Close R (quick) 7 and | Step L (slow) 8 |
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