

OH JOHNNY

American

- PRONUNCIATION: OH JAH-nee
- TRANSLATION: Oh, Johnny!
- SOURCE: Dick Oakes learned this dance at a local dance group when he was in high school in his hometown.
- BACKGROUND: This singing call on the recommended recording was voiced by Fenton "Jonesy" Jones. Though not an old dance, this has been a favorite party mixer at schools, community, and church gatherings all around the country for a long time. Because most everybody knows the tune, it takes little prodding to have the whole crowd singing along with the caller.
- MUSIC: Mac Gregor (45rpm) 2042
You may also find this tune on
Folkraft (45rpm) F 1037
Imperial (LP) FD-24
- FORMATION: Ptrs stand side-by-side facing same dir with hands joined in front, M on the L, hips touching, hands are R-to-R and L-to-L with hand-shake hold, M R arm above W L arm, in a Promenade or Skater's position. The dance may be done as a circle mixer in a large circle around the entire hall (which is the way Dick learned it), but may also be done in squares (four couples).
- METER/RHYTHM: 2/4
- STEPS/STYLE: Walking. Always done looking at your partner with a smile!

MEAS

MOVEMENT DESCRIPTION

INTRODUCTION

1-4 There are 4 meas introduction; no action.

THE DANCE

- 1 Join hands and circle left.
(Everyone in the circle takes hands and rotates in a CW direction.)
- 2 Stop and swing your partner.
(Stop the rotation and do a R arm swing with your partner.)
- 3 Swing your corner.
(Turn to the person behind you and do a L arm swing.)
- 4 Swing your partner.
(Do a R arm swing with your partner.)
- 5 Allemande left your corner.
(Take the L hand of the person behind you and do a complete rotation.)
- 6 Dosado your partner.
(Pass R shoulders with your partner, step around your partner, and step back to where you were.)
- 7-8 Promenade your corner. Sing: "Oh, Johnny, Oh, Johnny, Oh!"
(Step to the inside of the circle to the person behind you, take both hands, and promenade.)

You now have a new partner and a new corner. Repeat entire dance from beg.

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Here's how Fenton Jones interpreted the dance:

(Now you) all join hands and circle the ring.
Stop where you are and you give her a swing.
Swing that little gal behind you.
(And then you) swing your own,
 if you have found that she's not flown.
Allemande left with the corner girl.
Dosado your own.
Now you all promenade with that sweet corner maid,
Singing, "Oh, Johnny! Oh, Johnny! Oh!"

Here's another interpretation:

Now all join hands and circle the ring.
Stop where you are, give your partner a swing.
Now swing that girl behind you.
Now swing your own,
 if you have the time when you get through.
Alleman left with the corner girl.
Do-si-do your own.
Now you all promenade with the sweet corner maid,
Singing, "Oh, Johnny! Oh, Johnny! Oh!"

And yet another interpretation:

All join hands as you circle the ring.
Stop where you are. Give your partner a swing.
Swing that little girl behind you.
Now, swing your own.
 If she hollers swing her harder!
Now, you allemande left with your corner girl.
And do-si-do with your own.
Now, you all promenade with that sweet corner maid,
Singing, "Oh, Johnny, Oh, Johnny, Oh!"
