

Salsa Rueda Basic Steps and Patterns

Rueda de Casino, or Salsa Rueda comes out of the Cuban social dance tradition. It emerged around 1950's and reflects some influence of French Court Dances (brought to Cuba by Haitians) blended with the Afro-Cuban dance styles (like Son, Danzon, Cha-Cha-Cha, and Mambo). "Rueda" is Spanish for "Wheel," and "Casino" is known outside of Cuba as "Salsa." Two or more couples dance in a circle, guided by a leader who calls and/or signs the moves. For more information and videos, we recommend <http://www.salsaracing.com/about.asp>

P'al medio (lead's left shoulder towards the center; L tap, step, R tap, step)
Una bulla ("hey!")
Caminamos p'arriba (walking forward/counterclockwise)
Caminamos y pabajo (walking backwards/clockwise)
Un taro (leaders move to another partner through the inside of the circle)
Un taro de mentira
Son Montuno (Mambo basic)
... un taro (stay for one basic, then move to another follower)
Lleva p'abajo (Cuban basic for the leads, Cumbia basic for followers)
Exibela (outside turn for the followers, towards center)
Dos/Tres y una (three/four exhibela turns – two/three underarm and one free spin for both partners)
Pasala con las manos
La Flor
Dile Que No (Cross Body Lead)
Guapea (lead's right shoulder towards the center; stepping R out, L in)
Dame (una, dos, etc.)
Un Fly (clap on count "1")
Dos Fly (two claps on 1, 2)
Tres, Quatro, etc.
Mas Alta (jump and clap on "1")
Un Beso
Ping Pong

You can view some of these and other moves online at
http://dame.che.caltech.edu/~daven/salcita_current/index.htm