

Date	Review Journal Notes	



## ARGENTINE TANGO PROGRAM

### Origin

Argentine Tango originated in the late 1800s in Buenos Aires, Argentina and was a fusion of the various ethnicities of the immigrants to Argentina including many Europeans and Africans. It was then considered a dance only of the impoverished and was not accepted by the upper classes until the famous Tango singer, Carlos Gardel, became a hit in Paris leading to the popularity of Argentine Tango in Europe as well as Buenos Aires. The "Golden Era" of Tango in the 1930s and '40s saw the dance halls of Buenos Aires overflowing with dancers but the onset of Rock and Roll caused Tango's popularity to wane and it wasn't until stage shows like Tango Argentino and Forever Tango began to tour the world in the late 1980s that Argentine Tango entered it's latest phase of popularity. Today you can find communities of Argentine Tango dancers in every major city in the world.

### Music

The music of Argentine Tango is the heart of the dance. It can be calm or rhythmically driving and it has lyrical intensity. Tango is unique in world music because, although it is popular, it has the depth usually associated with classical music. Argentine Tango dancers enjoy a wide range of music from the Golden Era recordings of Carlos DiSarli, the more dramatic orchestra of Osvaldo Pugliese, and the classical sounds of Astor Piazzolla to today's "techno" Tango groups like BajoFondo. Sometimes the dancers enjoy "non-tango tangos" which are songs of any genre that are enjoyable for dancing Argentine Tango. Another form of Tango music is the beautiful Argentine Vals as performed by many of the famous Tango orchestras.

### Characteristics:

The Argentine Tango is characterized by its passion and sensuality. Since it is an improvisational dance, both in its patterning and its musicality, it is always intriguing and never the same from one partner to the next or even from one song to the next. Its seemingly complicated footwork including Ganchos (hooks), Barridas (sweeps), and Sacadas (displacements) for example, makes it very interesting to watch. There are many styles of dancing Argentine Tango including Milonguero Style which is danced with relatively simplistic footwork and a very close embrace, Salon Style which generally uses a more open embrace and more visually interesting movements such as Ganchos, Nuevo Tango which includes more cutting edge movements such as Colgadas (shared axis turns) and Underarm Turns and Tango Fantasia which is Tango for the stage including more showy moves plus theatrical lifts and jumps.

NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
DAY PHONE	EVENING PHONE	
EMAIL		
BIRTHDAY	START DATE	

Argentine  
**TANGO - (Bronze)**

**Fig FP T L/F S**

<b>Bronze IV</b>	<b>Bronze III</b>	<b>Bronze II</b>	<b>Bronze I</b>	1	Basico - Basic					
				2	A) Cambio De Peso En El Lugar - Weight Changes in Place					
				2	B) Paso Al Costado - Side Step					
				2	C) Cadencia - Rock Step					
				3	Caminada - Walking					
				4	Ochos Para Adelante - Figure 8's Forward					
				5	Ochos Para Atras - Figure 8's Backward					
				6	Molinete A La Derecha - Windmill to the Right					
				7	Molinete A La Izquierda - Windmill to the Left					
				8	Basico En El Sistema Cruzado - Cross System Basic					
				9	Caminada Variación - Walking Variation					
				10	Caminada Con Giro - Walking with Turn					
				11	Sacada Con El Pie Izquierdo - Displacement with the Left Foot					
				12	Sacada Con El Pie Derecho - Displacement with the Right Foot					
				13	Boleo Con Cruzada En Espiral - Boleo with Spiral Cross					
14	Parada, Barrida & Pasada Con Gancho - Stop, Sweep, and Pass Over with Hook									
15	Parada, Sandwich al Reves & Pasada Con Media Luna - Stop, Reverse Sandwich, Pass Over with Half Moon									

Argentine  
**TANGO - (SILVER)**

**Fig FP T L/F S**

<b>Silver IV</b>	<b>Silver III</b>	<b>Silver II</b>	<b>Silver I</b>	16	A) Molinete Right with Block					
				16	B) Molinete Left with Block					
				17	A) Back Ocho with Right Foot Barrida					
				17	B) Back Ocho with Left Foot Barrida					
				18	Back Boleo and Forward Boleo					
				19	A) Parada at Position 2					
				19	B) Spiral Cross					
				19	C) From the Cross to Position 2					
				20	Media Vuelta					
				21	Scissors Outside Partner Left					
				22	Molinete with Sacadas					
				23	Ocho Cortado					
				24	Back Sacada					
				25	Gancho Left and Right					
				26	Molinete with Ocho Cortado					
				27	Left Turn Combination					
				28	Barrida from Parada at Position 2					
				29	Boleo from Molinete					
				30	Calecita					

**Fig** Figures **FP** Foot Positions **T** Timing **L/F** Lead or follow **S** Style

Argentine  
**TANGO - (GOLD)**

**Fig FP T L/F S**

<b>Full Gold</b>	<b>Intermediate Gold</b>	31	Revolving Forward Ochos					
		32	Revolving Back Ochos					
		33	Sacada de la Pierna					
		34	Sacada Left, Sacada Right, Sacada de la Pierna					
		35	Promenade with Leg Wrap					
		36	Overturned Forward Ochos					
		37	A) From the Cross to Position 2 with Carpa					
		37	B) Carpa from Outside Partner Left					
		38	A) Enrosque, Lapiz and Block					
		38	B) Enrosque Variation and Back Sacada					
		38	C) Man's Planeo and Barrida					
		39	Grapevine and Media Vuelta					
		40	Walking in a Circle with Sacadas					
		41	Enganche Sacada from Cadencia					
		42	Man's Back Sacada, Lady's Back Sacada, Sacada de la Pierna					
		43	Progressive Left Turn					
		44	Cadena					
		45	Colgada					

**Bronze I**

Once you have completed Bronze I you will have a basic understanding of the first 4 of the 6 fundamental elements including Walking, Cruzadas, Figure 8's Forward, and Figure 8's Backward plus connector steps allowing you to navigate the line of dance. You will also have a clear understanding of the embrace, posture, connection with your partner and the technique of CBM (contra body movement) and CBMP (contra body movement position). At this level leaders will begin to develop their own improvisational skills and musical interpretation. Followers will begin to perfect the art of dancing one step at a time in this improvisational dance. With these 5 figures you will be ready for the Practicá (Argentine Tango practice session).

**Bronze II**

Bronze II adds the 5th of the 6 fundamental movements to your repertoire; the Molinete. This level introduces you to some walking variations that will allow you to begin linking all the figures together more creatively. You will also have full understanding of Normal System vs. Cross System, which is the key to understanding Argentine Tango.

**Bronze III**

Bronze III takes you beyond the fundamental movements and introduces you to the basic figures for Sacadas and technique that will prepare you for the more advanced Silver level Sacadas.

**Bronze IV**

Bronze IV adds the last of the 6 fundamental movements; the Boleo. Plus you will begin to combine figures, add embellishments and a few fun Ganchos to spice up your Tango. By now you will feel comfortable with the lead and follow, embrace, posture and connection with your partner, musicality and improvisation of the figures. You are now truly ready for the Milonga.

**Silver I**

With Silver I you will begin adding to the fundamental movements the next level of elements including Blocks, Barridas, Boleos forward and back, Paradas, the Spiral Cross, and Media Vueltas. You will have a clear understanding of the technique as well as lead and follow for these elements. At this level you will begin to understand the more improvisational aspect of the dance by using precedes and follows for each figure creatively based on your Bronze training.

**Silver II**

Silver II expands your repertoire of Sacadas with new and more challenging Sacada figures. You will also be introduced to the Ocho Cortado, which is an essential figure for Close Embrace Argentine Tango thus preparing you for this other style of the tango dancing.

**Silver III**

Silver III includes advanced Gancho and an advanced combination of Molinete and Ocho Cortado. By this level leaders will have refined your lead (all leaders are strongly encouraged to study the follower's figures as well) as well as connection with partner and be able to clearly "invite" these more advanced elements. Followers will have a clear understanding of the "invitations" offered by the leaders and begin to add their own styling and embellishments to the dance.

**Silver IV**

You will complete your Silver level training with the introduction of Left Turns, which are very useful for Close Embrace style, plus Calecita. The Calecita will help you to develop balance as a follower, control of follower's axis if you are a leader and prepare you for the Gold level. Plus Silver IV will add more advanced figures for the Barrida (sweep), and a Boleo from Molinete. By now you will be comfortable improvising and splicing together all of the figures from the Bronze and Silver levels creatively.

**Intermediate Gold**

Intermediate Gold takes Forward and Back Ochos, Molinetes, Sacadas, and Media Vueltas to a new level. You will also be introduced to Enrosque, Carpa and Planeo. Once completing Intermediate Gold leaders will have developed a clearer lead for more advanced elements and followers will have developed more advanced technique for the 6 fundamental elements.

**Full Gold**

Full Gold introduces you to advanced elements including the Enganche, Colgada, and Follower's Sacada, plus more advanced Sacadas for leaders. Once completing Full Gold you will have a good overview of all of the elements in Argentine Tango. You will have a strong embrace, proper posture, good connection with your partner, and a clear understanding of lead/follow and improvisation for the line of dance. Your musical interpretation will be developing and by listening to the music off of the dance floor as well as on, leaders will be able to "paint" an appropriate picture to reflect that song on the floor for an enjoyable dance for you and your partner and followers will feel more comfortable in their own interpretation including embellishments.

**Fig** Figures **FP** Foot Positions **T** Timing **L/F** Lead or follow **S** Style

