

How to Build Connection with your Partner on the Dancefloor by Morry Krispijn from Salsaventura

Did you know that women choose 100x Connection over Combinations?

Why is it that around 70% of all men mainly focus on performing their combinations and only 30% are mainly concerned with making a connection with their dance partner?

99% of the ladies choose connection over combinations.

But how do you build the Ultimate Connection with your Dance Partner within a song (average song takes about 3 minutes)?

Below some simple tips that might be helpful

1. Connection starts before the dance

There are many ways to ask someone to dance.

2 Golden tips: Make eye contact and smile.

2. Find a (safe) place on the dance floor

Most songs last 3 to 4 minutes. So take the trouble to find a safe place together where you can dance.

3. Connect with the Music

So don't immediately start on good luck, but listen to the music first. Better a late start to the beat than a quick start outside of it.

4. Make eye contact

All the time? No!

That is also not possible because the man also has the responsibility to safely send the lady from one side to the other during the Cross Body Lead & Turn movements. He does this by looking over his shoulder in the direction of the steering before he uses the steering. In that moment (usually from 3rd count, if you dance on 1st) there is no eye contact.

5. Build the song

Most Salsa songs consist of 4 phases; the introduction, the beginning / melody line / montuno / end. Don't start with your favorite moves in the introduction phase, but wait for the Montuno part to start, for example.

6. Discover the needs of your partner

This is perhaps the most beautiful part of all.

How does this work?

For the men: Instead of performing your own favorite moves, it is fascinating and fun to find out what your partner wants. You can easily discover this by, for example, releasing 1 hand at the end of the Cross Body Lead. If the lady then starts doing some styling with her free hand then you know enough; she likes styling. Then do everything to mainly do combinations where 1 hand remains free.

For the ladies: Imagine that you are dancing with someone who looks anxiously at you when you perform your styling and visibly have difficulty performing combinations with one hand; do a little less styling or even leave it out so that he has the possibility to use your 2nd hand too.

For ladies and gents: Imagine letting go of your hair, or being released by him, and your partner will switch to performing shines. If you see the fear on your partner's face or if he / she just keeps dancing the basic steps, then limit your shines to a minimum. The average song only lasts 3 to 4 minutes. In this way you can optimally respond to the needs of your partner on the dance floor.

7. Have Fun

The most important thing of course is that you have fun. So don't take it all too seriously. Is something going wrong? Then do not ask yourself whose "fault" it is. That is not important at all. Show your partner with a smile that it is all ok and continue to enjoy.

8. Dance at the level of your partner

The best dancer adapts to this. Do you dance as an advanced with a beginner? Keep it fun for both of you. Does your partner panic when performing some shines? Then make sure you don't make it too long.

9. Give your partner some space

If you notice that you are dancing with someone who loves doing something with the music while he / she is dancing, give him / her the space to do so. So as a gentleman you can let go of a lady when you hear that the song you are dancing to ends up in a musical section. As a lady, if you are released, you can do some simple shines. Even if it is not entirely your thing, you can give your partner the space to enjoy this part of the music.

10. Finish the song

Thank your partner for the dance and walk with him / her to the edge of the dance floor.

As you read, it is primarily a teamwork in which you respond together to the needs of the other. Conclusion: "It's not about you! It's about both of you".

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this article. My name is Morry Krispijn, founder and owner of Salsaventura.

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About myself

I started dancing back in 1996 and picked up my first Salsa steps in Cali, Colombia. When I came back to Holland after this great latin adventure I decided to take classes. With a background of martial arts I had received great teachings from great teachers. During that time there were not many great teachers around in the latin scene so after receiving another quit disappointing class I decided to make a change. My main goals then was, and still is, to offer step by step, structured dance classes with an eye for detail and space for fun.

I developed a system called “The 6 Turn Pattern System”. This was till recently probably the best kept secret in the Salsa scene. I am very happy to see how people are picking up on the system using it in their dancing.

My main goal is to spread the passion for Salsa around the globe. So if you are interested in partnering up, let me know. You can reach me at: morry@salsaventura.nl



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