

SHAG ETIQUETTE

1. Its ok for women to ask men to dance just as it is for men to ask women to dance.
2. Typically it's a good form to accept an invitation to dance, but if you don't want to dance say so politely.
3. If someone turns you down, accept it graciously. Ask someone else to dance.
4. Lead your partner to the dance floor by the hand and be sure to thank them at the end of the dance.
5. Keep your opinions about your partner's dancing to yourself. It is not good form to offer instruction to someone in a social dance setting. It could be that you are not doing the step correctly. If someone does ask for help, take them away from the other dancers.
6. If you are in a dance class, let the instructor teach. The instructor will ask for your help if needed.
7. Establish a slot and continue to dance in it. Usually the first couple on the dance floor will establish the slot.
8. Dance small. Don't dance all over the floor.
9. Leaders are responsible for looking out for the safety of their partners. Keep them out of danger. Be aware of the dancers around you.
10. Bumping into other dancers is inevitable. Always apologize even if it is not your fault. Make sure no one is hurt.
11. If you are leading someone with fewer skills, dance to their skill level. Don't showboat.
12. If you must give verbal leads, do so quietly so only your partner hears you.
13. If you are not dancing, stay off the dance floor. Move off the floor to carry on a conversation.
14. Don't take beverages onto the dance floor.
15. Pay attention to the beat of the music. Being able to count does not mean you are on beat.