

Welcome to Wicked Westie! When you are taking a class, we ask that you review the following information to perform a quick self-assessment as to which class you should take. If you have questions, you can ask any of our teachers. We do suggest that you start in the beginner's class. Good dancing starts with good foundations!

The Beginner Class is best for you if you:

- Are relatively new to partner dance;
- Are relatively new to west coast swing;
- Need to think about rhythm, timing, or pattern work when on the social floor; or
- Have not danced west coast swing in a while.

We recommend taking all four beginner classes at least twice and taking at least one 30-minute private lesson to receive personalized feedback about your dance to fill in any gaps and prepare you for the Beyond Beginner Class.

The Beyond Beginner Class is best for you if you:

- Consistently demonstrate the basic concepts (stretch, compression, and basic anchor);
- Consistently demonstrate basic patterns (sugar push, right side pass, left side pass, sugar tuck, left side pass with an inside turn) and can perform them successfully in social dance most of the time;
- Can dance the beginner movements with a partner or solo;
- (If leading) express clear signals to your partner and safely adapt moves if a miscommunication occurs;
- (If following) listen for and interpret your partner's signals;
- Are building connection skills; and
- Are building your knowledge of movements, patterns, and pattern variations.

We recommend taking all eight Beyond Beginner Classes at least three times and taking at least two 30-minute private lessons to receive personalized feedback about your dance to fill in any gaps and prepare you for the Specialty Class.

The Specialty Class is best for you if you:

- Are highly skilled in all the basic concepts and demonstrate them consistently throughout your dance;
- Can easily dance with and without a partner all the movements taught in the Beginner Class (sugar push, right side pass, left side pass, sugar tuck, left side pass with an inside turn) without hesitation;
- Can easily dance with and without a partner all the movements taught in the Beyond Beginner Class (whip, starter step, side tuck, roll-in/roll-out movements (sweetheart, wrap, fold), and variations of each of those movements) without hesitation;
- Can demonstrate and explain 6 count and 8 count timing;
- Can spin while staying on balance and time; and
- Are working to build musicality and higher level partnering into your west coast swing.

We appreciate you reading this and taking steps to make your dance journey fun!