

Notes on the **Detroit Hustle**.

The *Detroit Hustle* is a social dance and a line dance.

A **line dance** is a choreographed dance with a repeated sequence of steps in which a group of people dance in one or more lines or rows, all facing either each other or in the same direction, and executing the steps at the same time. Unlike circle dancing, line dancers are not in physical contact with each other.

Line dancing is a form of dance that takes place with a group of people. Participants line up in rows and execute the same movements in a synchronized manner.^[1]

Everyone dances alone, side by side, facing the same direction in lines or rows. Each dance consists of a sequence of steps that are repeated throughout the music.

Line dancing involves people standing in lines and performing dance movements together. It consists of patterned foot movements that are usually performed to a number of counts per sequence, and then the sequence is repeated. The dances are done one-wall, two-wall, or four-wall.^[2]

A line dance which was called *hustle* became an international dance craze in 1975, following Van McCoy and the Soul City Symphony's song "The Hustle".

The Detroit Hustle is a four-wall dance.

In a *four-wall dance*, the direction faced at the end of the sequence is 90 degrees to the right or left from the direction in which the dancers faced at the beginning (quarter turn). As a result, dancers face each of the four walls in turn at the end of four consecutive repetitions of the sequence, before returning to the original wall. The hustle line dance is an example of a four-wall dance because in the final figure they turn 90 degrees to the left to face a new wall. In some dances, they turn 270 degrees, a "three-quarter turn," to face the new wall.

Here is a link to the music that accompanies the Detroit Hustle.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wruvlpMHT7s>

Here is an example of a group of people of all ages doing the Detroit Hustle.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rd4iQarJX8w>

1. Knight, Gladys L. (2014). *Pop Culture Places: An Encyclopedia of Places in American Popular Culture*, p.102. ABC-CLIO. ISBN 9780313398834.
2. Lane, Christy (2000/1995). *Christy Lane's Complete Book of Line Dancing*, p.2-4. Human Kinetics. ISBN 9780736000673.