

Teaching Square Dance in Germany

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Just what is square dancing?

Misconceptions and stereotype “Hillbilly”
Styles of music used in MWSD

Language problems – younger versus older dancers

English as second language taught in schools
Learning time increases with age
Literal translations do not help

Definiton problems

KISS– as much as necessary, as little as possible
Demonstrating rather than just talking
Providing translations

Commitment problems – same as everywhere

Work/school
Family/other interests/hobbies

Ratio of men to women in class

Partner activity but singles welcome?
Learning and recognizing the “other” part

Teaching to the slow learners

Mixing beginners with experienced dancers
Giving extra time to those who need it

Issues with position in the square

Using hands and hand positioning
Counting the walls
Showing symmetry and mirror image