

# THE RAGTIME DANCE



WORDS AND MUSIC

BY

*Scott Joplin.*

*Composer of  
MAPLE LEAF RAG,  
SUNFLOWER SLOW DRAG,  
SWIPESY CAKE WALK,  
PEACHERINE RAG.*

75

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*Complete directions for all the steps of the "Ragtime Dance" are published by Scott Joplin - and can be obtained where ever this piece is for sale.*

To my friend Bobby Kemp.

# THE "RAG TIME DANCE"

Words and Music by  
SCOTT JOPLIN.

VOICE.

Not fast.

PIANO.

This measure to be vamped until singer is ready.

I at - ten - ed a ball last thurs - day night

Vamp 'till ready.

Gi - ven by the dark town swells..... Ev' - ry coon came out..... in full

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Author of "MAPLE LEAF RAG" "SWIPESY CAKE WALK" "SUNFLOWER SLOW DRAG" "PEACHERINE RAG"  
"A GENTLE BREEZE" "ELITE SYNCOPATION" etc.

dress al - right and the girls were so - cie - ty belles..... The

hall was il - lu - mi - na - ted by e - lec - tric lights it cer - tain - ly was a sight to

see..... So ma - ny col - ored folks there with - out a ra - zor fight twas a

great sur - prise to me..... There was lit - tle Sam' Smith the

*The Rag time dance.*

great "la-dy's man" who had the hon-or of be-ing man-a-ger of the floor.....Told the

people to get rea-dy for the time is near at hand And the dance begins at nine o'clock you

know.... Then the or-ches-tra be-gan to play the sweet entranc-ing mu-sic of the

most pop-u-lar dance of the day Ev'-ry cou-ple took their plac-es all the

*The Rag time dance.*

coons had smil - ing fac - es while they wait - ed for the cal - ler to say well

1. Let me see - you do the "rag time dance" *1<sup>st</sup> Verse, Begin "rag time dance"*  
 2. Let me see - you do the "clean up dance" *2<sup>nd</sup> Verse Begin "Clean up dance"*

Turn left and do the "Cake walk prance"  
 Now you do the "Jen - nie Cool - er dance"

Turn the oth - er way and do the "Slow drag".....  
 Turn the oth - er way and do the "Slow drag".....

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> verses.  
Begin "Worlds fair dance" here.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> verses, Begin.  
"Slow drag."  
here

Now take your la - dy to the  
Now take your la - dy to the

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> verses.  
Begin "Rag time dance!"  
here

worlds fair ..... And do the "rag time dance"..... dance".....  
worlds fair ..... And do the "rag time

1. 2.

Form a "Square"

1<sup>st</sup> verse, begin "Circle"  
2<sup>nd</sup> verse, "Form line"  
here

Now "rag" and "cir - cle to ..... your left" Be care - ful to.....  
Ev' ry - bo - dy now ..... "form a line" Dance noth - ing but the

The Rag time dance.

do.... your best - take your time - stay in line -  
 real rag time - do your best - "forward four steps"

2nd verse, begin "Forward four steps."  
 here

you are the rag time guest..... Take part - ners do the "rag two step"  
 you are all ve - ry fine ..... Let me see you do the "back step prance"

1st verse, begin "Rag two step,"  
 2nd verse, begin "Back step prance!"  
 here

I know you are en - joy - ing your - selves you are rep - re -  
 Be grace - ful at..... ev - ry chance you are now en -

Begin "Rag time dance"  
 here

sent a tives of ,dark town's wealth stop where you are. dance'ev' ry-bo.dy sing.  
 joy - ing the "rag time

1. || 2.

The Rag time dance.



1<sup>st</sup> verse, begin "Cake walk" here

2<sup>nd</sup> verse "Turn to your right" here

2<sup>nd</sup> verse, begin "Dude walk" here

1. "Cake walk" soft and sweet-ly be sure your steps done neat-ly keep  
 2. To your right do the "dude walk" 'tis a wonderful sight is the "town talk" this

up a slow ad- - vance 'twill put you in a trance now  
 is your on- - ly chance en- - joy it while you can now

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> verses, "Form line" here

"form a line" as you did be-fore you're danc-ing with your best beau but the  
 "form a per- - fect straight line" get rea- - dy for the "Stop time" you

Begin "Rag time dance" here.

on- - ly real thing is the "rag - time dance" ev'-ry bo-dy turn dance".....  
 are the "ea- - sy winners" in the rag - time

**Notes.** To get the desired effect of "Stop Time" the pianist will please Stamp the heel of one foot heavily upon the floor at every word "Stamp." Do not raise the toe of the foot from the floor while stamping.

Author.

1<sup>st</sup> Lady ..... "dance!"  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Lady ..... "dance!"  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Lady ..... "dance!"  
 4<sup>th</sup> Lady ..... "dance!"

After the ladies are  
 through dancing then the

1<sup>st</sup> Gent ..... "dance!"  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Gent ..... "dance!"  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Gent ..... "dance!"  
 4<sup>th</sup> Gent ..... "dance!"

"Stop time"

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

The Rag time dance.

1.

*p*

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

Stamp. Stamp.

2.

Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

Pianist will pause until last Gent has finished dancing.

2nd verse, begin  
 "Sedidus walk."  
 Everybody "in line" with last dancer.

here.  
 r. h. *p* All sing. 1. Turn left walk a round,  
 2. We've finish.ed in a prance.

l. h. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

1. || 2.

walk "Se. did. us" now. dance"  
 the "Rag time

*p* Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp. Stamp.

FINE.

The Rag time dance.