

# THE LION SLEEPS

**Count:** 32    **Wall:** 2    **Level:** Beginner

**Choreographer:** Michael John Sr. & Michael John Jr.

**Music:** The Lion Sleeps Tonight by The Mavericks

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## STEP SLIDES RIGHT, STEP SLIDES LEFT

- 1-2            Step right to right side, slide left next to right
- 3-4            Step right to right side, slide left next to right (weight remains on right)
- 5-6            Step left to left side, slide right next to left
- 7-8            Step left to left, slide right next to left (weight remains on left)

Optional hand clap on counts 4 and 8

## DIAGONAL STEP TOUCHES X 4

- 9-10           Step forward right at 45 degree angle, touch left next to right
- 11-12          Step back left at 45 degree angle, touch right next to left
- 13-14          Step back right at 45 degree angle, touch left next to right
- 15-16          Step forward left at 45 degree angle, touch right next to left

Optional finger clicks or claps on touches

## SIDE SHUFFLE & ROCK STEP TWICE

- 17&18          Side shuffle to right on right-left-right
- 19-20          Rock left behind right, rock forward on right
- 21&22          Side shuffle left on left-right-left
- 23-24          Rock right behind left, rock forward on left

## SHUFFLES FORWARD, KICK TURN, RIGHT KICK BALL CROSS

- 25&26          Shuffle forward on right-left-right (optional hand movements below)
- 27&28          Shuffle forward on left-right-left (optional hand movements below)
- 29-30          Kick right foot forward, on left foot pivot ½ turn over left shoulder while kicking right foot back
- 31&32          Kick right foot forward, step right next to left, step left across right

## REPEAT

Optional hand movements on shuffles forward to coincide with vocal sections where the words "the lion sleeps tonight" occur (on right shuffle). Place hands together in 'prayer position'. Place hands on right cheek and bend head down to the right as though imitating sleeping. On left shuffle, transfer hands to left cheek, bending head down to the left