

## SEXTUR (Denmark)

The Danish Sextur (also spelled Sekstur) with its happy 6/8-time melody is, among American dancers, one of the best-known of Denmark's many, many square dances. It is also one of the simplest, being especially suited for children and beginners groups. Original Danish instructions list no less than 12 figures to the dance, but the exigencies of recorded music have long since limited such things to a few representative figures.

**Source:** Described in "Danske Folkedanse", Vol. I, published by Foreningen til Folkedansens Fremme. Also found in "Scandinavian Dances", 3rd series, published by The Ling Association, London, England.

**Music:** Record: Aqua VIKING 406.

**Formation:** 4 cpls in square, Head cpls facing fore and aft in room, Side cpls facing sides of room.

**Steps:** Buzz-step, two-step, walking step.

**Character:** Lively but smooth and light.

### Measures      Pattern

- FIG I. RING**
- 1-8 All hands joined at shoulder level in ring, 16 side buzz-steps on R ft, to move ring around CW one time.
- CHORUS**
- 9-12 **A. Around Opposite** (this is called "Opføring" figure by Danes)  
Head cpls join both hands with own ptr, arms outstretched, and dance around each other CW with 4 two-steps, as follows:  
M: 1 L two-step to side, 1 R two-step a bit fwd (so as to begin to go around other cpl), 1 L two-step but with L crossing over R (so as to complete going around other cpl), 1 R two-step to return to own place.  
W: 1 R two-step to side, 1 L two-step a bit bwd, 1 R two-step with R crossing over L, 1 L two-step a bit fwd.
- 13-16 Side cpls cross over and back in same manner.
- B. Chain**
- 17-24 Beg with R hands joined at shoulder level, cpls chain one time around ring with 16 walking steps.

- FIG II. SWING PARTNER**
- 1-8 In closed Danish waltz pos (as in regular waltz pos except arms held straight out from shoulder), ptr swing with 16 R buzz-steps, turning CW in place.
- 9-24 CHORUS as before.

- FIG III. W's BASKET**
- 1-8 W move to ctr, joining hands with back hold (R arm over, L arm under, around waist on either side), 16 side buzz-steps on R ft moving CW, back to place.

## SEXTUR (cont)

9-24 CHORUS as before.

FIG IV. M's R-HAND MILL

1-8 M move to ctr, joining own R hand on R wrist of M to his R, and own L hand just above R elbow of M to his L, to form mill. Face squarely in, and move sideways CW with 16 side buzz-steps on R ft, back to place.

9-24 CHORUS as before

FIG V. SWING PARTNER

1-8 Repeat action of Fig II, meas 1-8.

Dance concludes at this point.

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