

Nord-Norsk Masurka

(Norway)

This is a very simple dance that can serve as an introduction to masurka and to turning. This dance was collected and written down by Egil Bakka, Dag Vårdal, and Tormod Lunde. A description has been published in *Dansetradisjonar frå Nordland og Troms*, Rådet for folkmusikk og folkedans, Trondheim, 1985, ISBN 82-991268-0-0.

Pronunciation:

Music: Any Norwegian masurka, but preferably a fast one. (A different kind of masurka dance is done in Gudbrandsdal—known in the U.S. as Døla masurka. The mazurkas from that area are especially slow and should not be used.) 3/4 meter

Formation: Couples in shoulder-waist or ballroom position, M back to center of circle.

Steps: Masurka step: Step on L to L (ct 1); close R to L (ct 2); bounce on both (ct 3). Alternatively: Step on L to L (ct 1); step on R beside L, L ft moving a little to the side (ct 2); lift on R, bringing L ft in to R again (ct 3). Either step can be used.

Styling: 3 even bounces in each meas; that is, no ct is especially accented.

Meas

Pattern

Introduction.

1-2 Two masurka steps to M L, W R.

3-4 With 6 light running steps, turn once CW (or alternatively, once CCW). Stay more or less facing ptr, R ft between ptr's feet. M often begins by stepping slightly bkwd in order to lead his ptr around.

Usually, this four meas pattern is repeated over and over. Occasionally, a dancer will turn longer, most commonly for 6 meas.

Presented by Alix Cordray