

## Kak pri balkye Russia

Kak pri balkye (KAHK pree BAHL-kyeh) is a traditional dance from the Orenburg region of southeast Russia whose title translates as "how by the gully." The dance shows the influence of the Ural Cossacks who live in the region. Research for the dance was done by Hennie Konings who introduced it in Germany in 1993. Hennie presented it at the University of the Pacific Stockton Folk Dance Camp in 1995.

Cassette: Russian Dances Stockton 1994 Side B/7 2/4 meter

Formation: Single circle of dancers, hands joined in V-pos.

Steps: Walk (2 to a meas): Each walking step takes 1 ct.

Scuff Step (2 to a meas): Low leap fwd onto R (ct 1); scuff L heel fwd (ct &); repeat with opp ftwk (cts 2,&).

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Meas	2/4 meter	PATTERN
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4 meas INTRODUCTION No action. Start with vocal.

### I. CIRCLE IN LOD

1-4 Beg R, dance 8 Scuff Steps in LOD (CCW).

Note: Fig I may be danced with other stamping patterns:  
Stamp Variation (1 to a meas): Low leap fwd onto R (ct ah); stamp fwd (with wt) L,R,L (cts 1,&,2); scuff R heel fwd (may be omitted) (ct &).

Hennie suggests the dancers be encouraged to dance a variety of patterns. In class, W danced 8 Scuff Steps and M danced the Stamp Variation 4 times. On the next repeat the steps were switched with the M dancing the 8 Scuff Steps.

Another suggested pattern: Dance 2 Scuff Steps and 1 Stamp Variation (2 meas). Repeat (2 meas).

Because all these patterns are compatible, any pattern may be danced by any dancer at any time.

### II. INDIVIDUAL CW CIRCLES

1-4 Releasing hands, walk 8 quiet steps (beg R) in an individual CW circle to the outside of the big circle. Follow your R shldr with arms down and out from the body.

III. TOWARD CENTER AND BACK

- 1-2 Rejoin hands and beg R, walk 3 steps twd ctr; fall fwd onto L, bending knees and lifting R ft up in back. Gradually raise the joined hands fwd about to about waist level.
- 3 Walk bkwd R,L, lowering hands and then releasing them.
- 4 Walking R,L, turn alone once CW, moving back to the original circle. At the end, join hands to reform the large circle.

SEQUENCE: Repeat dance as written until music ends. At the end, bow from the hips twd ctr.