

# Krakovyak

(Russia)

Krakovyak turned up in Russia in the second half of the 19th century. It originated in Krakow, Poland. In Russian, Ukraine, and White Russia it is known in practically all regions with detail variations from region to region. This version is from the Donbas Region, S.E. Ukraine. In all parts of Russia, the Krakovyak is in general not progressive. However this version is progressive.

Pronunciation: krah-koh-VYAHK

CD: *Russian Dances Selected by Hennie Konings*, Stockton 2006, Band 18. 2/4 meter

Formation: Couples in a circle, facing partner, M's R and W's L hands joined and extended at chest level in RLOD, free hands are on hips. When hands are on the hip, W's hand is with knuckles on hip, fingers back; M's hand is on hip with fingers fwd and thumb back.

Steps: Balance: Step on L with a slight knee bend, (ct 1); step fwd on R, coming up slightly (ct &); step on L close to R, bending knee slightly (ct 2). W use opp ftwk.

Styling: All stamps are with heel.

## Meas

## Pattern

8 meas

INTRODUCTION. No action.

FIGURE I. (Men and Women use opposite footwork. Begin with outside foot.)

- 1 Moving in LOD, dance one Balance step (beg M L, W R) turning away from ptr, swinging joined hands fwd in LOD, free arm extending to the side at waist level.
- 2 Continuing in LOD, dance one Balance step (beg M R, W L) turning twd ptr, swinging joined hands back to orig pos, free hands returning to hips.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.
- 5-6 Dance three steps fwd, bringing joined hands fwd in LOD, free hand out to side as before (cts 1,2,1); stamp inside heel, no wt (ct 2).
- 7-8 Dance three steps bkwd turning to face ptr, bringing joined hands back to orig pos and free hands to hips (cts 1,2,3); stamp free heel, no wt (ct 2).
- 9 Repeat meas 1.
- 10 Dance on Balance step to turn back to ptr and take Ballroom pos, M's back to ctr.
- 11-16 Use six Balance steps to make three complete turns CW in LOD. On meas 16, M takes only two steps to end with wt on L. Cpl ends facing LOD, W's L hand in M's L hand, extended fwd at chest level; W's R hand on hip; M's R arm extended behind W. Both have R ft free.

FIGURE II. (Men and Woman on same ft.)

- 1-2 Dance three steps fwd R-L-R (cts 1,2,1); stamp L slightly fwd, no wt (ct 2).
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk backing up.
- 5-6 Change places with three steps R-L-R (W to inside, M to outside), W turning CW under M's raised L arm to end facing ptr with back to ctr, L hands stay joined in front (cts 1,2,1); stamp L heel, no wt (ct 2).

**Krakovyak—continued**

- 7-8 Reverse the pattern of meas 5-6, changing places with ptr with three steps L-R-L, W turning under M's L arm to end facing ptr, M's back to ctr (cts 1,2,1); stamp R heel, no wt, and join R hands in front (ct 2).
- 9 Balance twd ptr: step fwd on R, on L next to R, on R in place (cts 1,&,2).
- 10 Balance away from ptr with opp ftwk and direction.
- 11-12 Repeat meas 9-10
- 13-16 Do-sa-do progression: Hands in loose fists at waist level moving with steps, dance four steps fwd (beg R) passing R shldr with ptr, (cts 1,2,1,2); take four steps diag bkwd to R to meet a new ptr. On meas 15, M does not take wt on last step (end with wt on R). Return to original pos and repeat the dance from the beginning with a new ptr.

Presented by Hennie Konings