

Huayno or Wayno

(Andean Mountains)

This festive social dance is done at parties and celebrations by the peoples of the Andes mountains in Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, and down into Chile and Argentina. I learned this pattern from the Raices del Ande ensemble in Chicago. There are other partner and set-dance formations. (It is pronounced as though spelled "Huayño," but the word is Quechua, not Spanish.)

Pronunciation: WINE-yoh

Music: FSP CD98-1 Band 6; Sanna Longden Video "Favorite Folk Dances of Kids & Teachers
Huayno is a generic dance rhythm, like waltz or tango. It appears on many recordings of
Andean music. 4/4 meter

Steps: There are two forms to this version, the couple and the group. Both are improvisational within a basic structure, as are social dances in most cultures. Traditionally, they are done in this order, but it is of course possible to do just the group or just the couple formation. The steps below are suggestions.

Basic Step: 4 running steps to each meas. Steps are flat-footed rather than up on balls of feet, and should be kept quite small. There is a slight down-up motion.

I. COUPLES (traditionally M with W, but it doesn't matter)

With ptr, and keeping to the run, run, run, run rhythm, try these figures: turn to L, then R, holding two hands; turn with hooked elbows; come toward and go away from ptr, holding two hands, etc.

Special turn: Holding one hand (M L, W R), one ptr turns twd the free arm and goes under that arm. Come up facing ptr (don't turn too far) and raise joined hands for ptr to tun under (CW). The repeat with other person. Keep the run, run, run, run basic step during this figure.

II. GROUP

The leader and his/her ptr join hands with another pair and lead around the dance until everyone has formed into one or more circles. Hands are held down (V-pos) as group circles in one direction and then the other, using the basic (small!) running steps.

Leader calls or clearly initiates these changes of arm position (not necessarily in this order):

- a. Hands on the shldrs in front of you.
- b. Change directions and place hands on the shldrs now in front.
- c. Let go and clap to beat as you circle one way.
- d. Same thing the other way.
- e. Hands on waist of person in front.
- f. Change direction, put hands on waist of person now in front.
- g. Other hand and arm positions.

At this point, usually when dancers are joined at waists, the leader breaks the circle and begins to lead a snake, coiling and uncoiling around dance space. This goes on until the music ends.

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Presented by Sanna Longden.