

## Igolka

Russia

Igolka (ee-GOHL-kah) was originally a woman's dance and is a khorovod (round dance) whose title translates as "the needle." It is from the Archangelsk (ark-HAHN-gelsk) region in northern Russia. It is danced to the round dance song "Pryalitsa." Igolka was introduced in Holland by E. Zasomova in 1987. As is often the case, another dance, Stenka, has been set to this same music. Igolka was introduced by Hennie Konings at the 1993 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, Ca.

CASSETTE: Russian Dances - Hennie Konings, "Pryalitsa" Side B/7 2/4 meter

FORMATION: 8-10 dancers in a circle, hands joined down. One dancer is designated as leader for the first time through. On successive repeats, the next leader is the dancer to the left of the previous leader.

STEPS and Walk\* (2 steps per meas): Step R (ct 1); step L (ct 2).

STYLING: The number of steps for each figure is NOT exact and depends upon the leader and how many dancers are in the circle.

\*Described in Steps and Styling, published by the Folk Dance Federation of Calif., Inc.

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Measures 2/4 meter

PATTERN

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cts 2, & +  
6 meas

INTRODUCTION No action. Beg Fig I with the word "Pryalitsa."

I. CIRCLE RIGHT IN LOD (CCW)

Multiples  
of 6 meas

Beg R, walk in a circle (CCW) to the end of a 6 meas phrase.

II. THREADING THE NEEDLE

Multiples  
of 6 meas

At the beg of a new phrase of the music, leader release R hand with dancer on the R to beg "threading the needle." All other dancers stand in place.

Leader: Walk fwd twd the L and outward under the arch formed by joined hands of the 2nd and 3rd dancers. Continue to weave in and out of the arches leading the line. After passing through the last arch, walk into a CCW circle. Rejoin hands with the last dancer to reform orig circle.

The Line: While waiting to move, dance this stamping step in place: Stamp R heel, no wt, L knee bent slightly (ct &); stamp R with wt, straightening knees (ct 1); step on L bending knees slightly (ct 2). Raise joined hands to make an arch as leader and line approaches. After dancer on the R has gone through his arch, follow along. Keeping R hand low, go under the arch formed with the dancer on the L. Lower L hand and continue going through the arches. Follow the leader until the circle is reformed.

Repeat dance with a new leader each time.

ENDING: End dance with Fig I if possible. As music retards, all bow slowly from hips twd ctr.