

Kaczor from Kurpie

(Poland)



Kaczor is from the Green Kurpie Region of Poland located in the East Central part of Poland. The name means drake (male duck) and the dance has evolved from a wedding march into a show-off dance for men. A variation of steps allows us to incorporate women into the dance so that it can be done either as a couple dance or as an individual dance for men. The version described below is for couples and does not involve the more complicated walking in a squatted position that the men would do if dancing alone. Choreographed by: Richard Schmidt (2007)

Pronunciation: KAH-chohr from koor-PEE-eh

Music: *Folk Dances from Poland, Vol. 5, Band 6.*

2/4 meter

Formation: Closed circle of couples.

Steps: Side-Singles: This step can be done to the R or L. Begin with both feet side-by-side. When going to R, begin by taking a step to R with R ft flat on floor approx 1 ft from L, keeping feet parallel (cts 1,&). While doing this step, bend torso slightly from waist twd R (keep neck straight). Straighten body and step on L next to R (cts 2,&). When travelling L, use opp ftwk and body movements.

Side-Doubles: Similar to the Side-Single Step, it is done in double time: Step on R to R with ft flat on the floor approx 6 inches from L (ct 1); keeping feet parallel, torso erect, bend head to R. (ct &); step on L next to R, torso erect and bend head to L (cts 2,&). Repeat ct 1 and on ct &, when bring L ft alongside, stomp with L keeping wt on R.

Single-File Pull Step: (2 meas) Meas 1: Facing LOD, step fwd and to R with R, bending torso at the waist to L (cts 1); drag L ft so it ends beside R ft (ct &); stomp L leaving wt on R (ct 2); pause (ct &). Meas 2: Facing LOD, step fwd on L to L, while straightening torso to stand erect (ct 1,&); stamp R twice beside L leaving wt on L (cts 2,&).

Single-File Marching Step: Meas 1: Step fwd with flat R ft (cts 1,&); step fwd with flat L ft (ct 2); leaving L ft flat on floor, bend L knee and lift R ft off floor (ct &).

Meas 2: Place R heel fwd, leaving wt on L and straightening L leg (ct 1); bend L knee and lift R ft off the floor (ct &); repeat cts 1,& (cts 2,&).

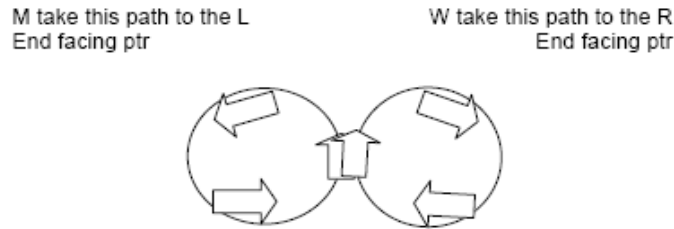
Meas 3: Repeat meas 1 bkwd.

Meas 4: Similar to meas 2 except instead of heel fwd, place ball of R ft behind body.

Single-File March/Skip Step: Meas 1: Step fwd with flat R ft. (cts 1,&); step fwd with flat L ft (cts 2,&). Meas 2: Take 1 Forward Polka Step (step-together-step motion). Begin with step fwd on R (ct 1); step on L next to R (ct &); step fwd on R (ct 2); pause (ct &).

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Meas 3-4: Take 3 steps beg with L (cts 1,2,1); meas 4, bring R ft next to L and place wt on both ft (cts 2 &).



Styling:

Hands: With partner in Circle position: Closed Social-Dance pos (see def. below) with extended arms (M's L arm, W's R arm) bent 90 degrees at the elbow, M back to the ctr, W facing ctr of circle.

Individual: Fists on the hips with thumbs facing back.

Single-File position: W stand directly behind ptr with R hand on ptr's R shldr and L hand flat on ptr's L waist. Leading M keeps hands in Individual pos. Cpls link up, one behind the other with M using same hold as ptr behind W of preceding cpl. *Note: The circle should not be closed, but should consist of several groups of cpls following the LOD.*

Closed Social-Dance hold: Facing each other M's R arm extended behind W holding her back at waist level while W's L hand is on M's R shldr. M extends L arm in front parallel to floor and diagonally twd ptr, taking W's R hand in his.

Meas

Pattern

2 meas

INTRODUCTION. No action.

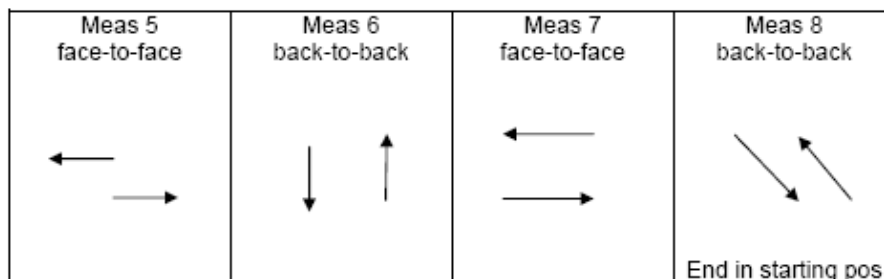
I. SIDE TO SIDE

1-4

With ptr in Circle pos, M travelling L and W R, take 4 Side-Single steps in LOD.

5- 8

Release ptr and stand with hands in individual pos. Each dancer travels twice using Side-Double step R,L,R,L (W in LOD, M in RLOD). At end of each step, make ¼ turn CW so ptrs end up making a square around each other as displayed below:



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9-16 Repeat meas 1-8.

I. SINGLE FILE POSITION

1-8 During Meas 1 and 2, form the Single-File pos. Several M take the lead, followed by any number of cpls from 4 to 8. Take 4 Single-File Pull steps (each step requiring 2 mea

9- 12 Remain in Single-File pos and perform the Single-File Marching step.

13-16 Execute Single-File March/Skip Step ending back in the starting pos for Fig I.

The whole dance is repeated from the beg 2 more times (3 total).

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