

Presented by Gordon Tracie

SEATTLE POLKA
Scandinavian Polka
 Norway

This dance is known in California and elsewhere as "Scandinavian Polka", and "Norwegian Polka" in New York and East Coast areas. It is most probably from Norway, and is an Americanized version of Norwegian "Parisarpolka". As learned from living tradition in Seattle in 1949, by Gordon Tracie and taught at Skandia Folkdance Society, Seattle, Washington. It is a traditional oldtime dance, and only for recreation purposes.

- RECORD: Viking V-806a (45)
- RHYTHM: Duple meter; polka rhythm with even 8 meas phrasing; tempo moderately slow to moderately fast; temperament varying according to musical style.
- FORMATION: Cpls in a circle, W on M's R facing LOD (CCW) with hands (inside) joined at shldr ht.
- STEPS: Walking; pivot-spin.
- STYLE: Animated style; fixed pattern, but with considerable improvisation therein.

METER: 2/4

PATTERN

Meas.

INTRODUCTION:

- PART A: Forward and Back
- 1-2 Beginning on outside ft do 3 steps fwd in LOD, followed by M stamping R (then releasing wt), and W touching L (no wt).
- 3-4 Dropping joined hands, cpls turn inwardly to face RLOD, join inside hands and begin on outside ft 3 steps in RLOD, followed by a touch (no wt), at same time each clapping own hands twice in rapid succession. (Rhythm: step, step, step, clap-clap.)
- PART B: Transition and closed pivot-spin
- 5 M turns CW on his L, then steps between W's ft with his R, into LOD to assume closed shldr-waist hold; during this, W steps R,L.
- 6-8 Cpls proceed to rotate CW with running-type pivot-spins, M dancing L,R; W dancing R,L for 3 more meas, making 3 complete turns.

Dance pattern is resumed at A, and repeated to end of music.

Continued...

VARIATIONS ON A:

- 1-2 One or both of the ptrs can turn outward (to M's L, W's R) on the first 3 steps, and then one or both of the ptrs can turn outward in the opp manner in the other direction. OR:
- 1-2 M can move fwd and back as in basic form, while W twirls as many times as is practicable, in one or both directions.