

TREFFNERTANZ

The Leader of the Dance: He differs in no way from the others, but announces the beginning of all figures by lightly stamping on the last measure of the previous figure.

Starting Position: Four couples (possibly six or eight) make a normal circle, with all facing the center of the circle and holding hands. The woman is on the right of her partner.

Steps: A smooth waltz step on every measure.

Figure 1. "Big Circle" -- 16 measures.

8 measures: The circle moves clockwise.

8 measures: The circle moves counterclockwise

Figure 2. "Einfangen" (Cage) Left -- 16 measures.

8 measures: On the first measure, the man raises his left arm along with the right arm of the woman on his left over her head, so that his left hand rests on her shoulder. This figure circles clockwise.

8 measures: On the first measure, the man reassumes the original holding of the hands and the circle moves counterclockwise.

Figure 3. "Einfangen" (Cage) Right -- 16 measures.

8 measures: Assume the same position as described for the first eight measures of the previous figure. This time with the woman on the right side. Circle counterclockwise.

8 measures: On the first measure, the man reassumes the original holding of the hands and the circle moves clockwise.

Figure 4. "Burschenstern" (Men's Star) - 16 measures.

8 measures: On the first two measures, every man turns a half circle to the right (clockwise) under his own up-raised left arm, without breaking the hold. Upon completing this turn, the left arm is lowered so that it crosses the right one. The men all have their backs to the center of the circle. The circle then moves clockwise with the men using side steps

8 measures: On the first two measures, the men turn themselves back to the original position. Circle counterclockwise.

Figure 5. "Dirndlstern" (Woman's Star) - 16 measures.

8 measures: The women now execute the same "star" as the men in the previous figure, but with the difference that they turn

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a half circle to the left (counterclockwise) under their own up-raised right arm. This figure circles counterclockwise with the women now using the side steps.

8 measures: On the first two measures, the women turn themselves back to the original position. Circle moves clockwise.

Figure 6. "Men Slide Through" -- 16 measures (24, 32): (The number of measures for six or eight couples are, where necessary, given in parenthesis).

The women: Break the hold and take three short steps to the center of the circle, while they raise their arms at the same time to about head level with palms facing sideways so that they touch the palms of the women on either side. The women then remain in this position.

The men: Take four steps toward the center of the circle, passing under the arched arms of their right and left partners and clap their hands on the first quarter of the fourth measure. Then, they pass through the next arch to the left. The men come into the circle again through the third arch and clap their hands on the twelfth measure and leave the circle through the fourth arch. (With 6 or 8 couples, the men proceed in and out of all the arches.)

Figure 7. "Big Circle" -- 16 measures.

8 measures: While at the beginning, the men still stand on the same spot, the women move backward, joining the circle of the men, and all assume the original hold. After this, on about the third measure, the circle moves clockwise.

8 measures: Circle moves counterclockwise.

Figure 8. "Women Slide Through" -- 16 measures (24, 32)

The men create the arches as in Figure 6, and the women assume the role of the men.

Figure 9. "Big Circle" - 16 measures

8 measures: The creation of the common circle follows Figure 7, with the men moving backwards this time. Circle moves clockwise.

8 measures: Circle moves counterclockwise.

Figure 10. "Tor" (arch) - 32 measures (with 6 or 8 couples - 48 measures)

8 measures: The leading couple stretches the held inner arms in front of them, without breaking the hold with the other couples, and go through the center of the circle to the couple exactly opposite, who create an arch by raising

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(Last Night I Dreamed We Were In Dayton)

(Miami Valley Folk Dancers, David Rosenberg, Nancy Kane, Oct 26-27, 1957)

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Treffnertanz (cont.)

their arms. The remainder follows through this arch and forms, after going through the arch, a circle with backs facing inward.

It is important that the couple who forms the arch dances against the chain of couples going under the arch so that the center of the circle remains the same.

8 measures: In the above position, circle clockwise.

8 measures: The leading couple moves backwards through the same arch through which they came and forms the original circle again.  
(16)

8 measures: Circle moves counterclockwise.

Figure 11. "linking of Men" - 32 measures (48, 64)

16 measures: The women break the hold and step towards the center during the first four measures and make arches as in Figure 6 ("The Men Slide Through"), The men move clockwise up to the man who is the leading dancer and all men join hands. This chain of dancers is led clockwise through the arch formed by the leader's right and left partners in the original circle. The leader then takes the chain out through the next arch to the left and in again through the next arch to the left and out through the last (traveling clockwise).  
(24, 32)

16 measures: The leader leads the chain forward in the same direction (clockwise) around the circle of women. When reaching his partner, he takes the hand of the last man in the chain and forms an outer ring around the women, all facing toward center of circle.  
(24, 32)

Figure 12. "Double Circle" - 16 measures.

8 measures: The outer circle moves clockwise, while the inner circle of women, who have lowered their arms in the meantime to a normal position, moves counterclockwise.

8 measures: The outer circle moves counterclockwise, while the inner circle moves clockwise. On the last beat, each man should be standing behind his partner and slightly to her left.

Figure 13. "Linked Circle" - 16 measures.

8 measures: On the first beat the men lift their hands, without breaking the hold, over the heads of their right and left partners and lower them. Circle moves clockwise.

8 measures: Circle moves counterclockwise.

Treffnertanz (cont.)

Figure 14. "Dirndltragen" (Carrying of the Women") - 16 measures.

8 measures: At the beginning, the circle moves clockwise with small steps, remaining more or less on the same spot, during which the men lift their held hands over the heads of the women and lower them to the rear, so that they form a seat for the women. Simultaneously, the women lift their held hands back over the heads of the men, break holds, and rest them on the men's necks, fingers on the far shoulder. On the fourth measure the women, with a light springing motion, sit on the seat formed by the men's linked hands. The men immediately assume an erect position and circle clockwise.

Note: The men should take tight grasp at the beginning of action.

8 measures: Circle moves counterclockwise. On the last measure, the men help the women down through a light, quick upward movement of the arms. The hold is broken when all the women are again standing.

Figure 15. 16 measures

Couples waltz.