

AUPRES DE MA BLONDE

(French-Canadian)

Source: Although Aupres de ma Blonde (My Favorite Blonde) is very French in character, the dance itself is considered French-Canadian. In style it is related to dances seen in France, particularly to the Ronde Lorraine.

Record: Folkraft 1090B

Formation: Form a circle with as many cpls as desired, hands joined. Figures change after every 8th ct, which is two per meas.

<u>Measures</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
(6/8)	
A	I.
1 - 4	8 skips to L.
5 - 8	8 skips to R.
B	
9 - 12	With 8 steps W walk twd ctr joining hands and forming an inner circle, M join hands in outer circle.
C	
13 - 16	M circle moves R with 8 steps, W move L.
17 - 20	8 skips in reverse directions.
A	
1 - 4	Without releasing hands W move bwd and outward raising their joined hands as M (with hands released) move twd ctr of circle under the W arches. Once inside they turn to face W and join hands, retaining separate circles.
5 - 8	Each circle moves to its own R with 8 steps.
B	
9 - 12	Reverse directions.
C	
13 - 16	In 8 steps everyone releases hands, M coming between their own ptr and next W. All join hands. All M with backs to ctr of circle.
17 - 20	8 skips CW.
A	
1 - 4	8 skips CCW.
5 - 8	Release hands and to 8 cts M only turn to face ctr of circle joining hands to form arches. W mark time in place.
B	
9 - 12	W enter ctr of circle, face to turn ptr and curtsy extending L ft front, bending R knee and with both hands spread skirt, 8 cts.
C	
13 - 20	During the next 16 cts W weave in and out, leaving circle on the L side of ptr, and entering in from behind next M, etc. At the end of the 16 cts W face new ptr.
A	
1 - 4	M stamp R ft, W L on first ct, pause on second, bow-curtsy during the next two cts and with 4 steps turn alone describing a small circle in place.
5 - 8	Repeat the above twice more.
B	
9 - 12	

Continued...

AUPRES DE MA BLONDE
(French-)

Measures **Pattern**

- C
13 - 16 Join both hands with ptr and skip in place with 8 skips CW.
17 - 20 With 8 skips turn CCW.
Repeat dance with the new ptrs.
Note: This record repeats one entire stanza (meas 1-20) of music which can be spent in serpentine on the floor, at which time the leaders can use their own discretion in creating floor patterns.

Presented by: Vyts Beliajus

SHAKE THEM 'SIMMONS DOWN

An Alabama play party game.

Music: "Merrily Dance" by Vyts Beliajus

Formation: Any number of cpls form a circle, all hands joined.

Pattern: All walk to L 16 steps
All walk to R 16 steps
Four steps to ctr, four steps back, repeat
Do-si-do twice around your ptr
Do-si-do twice around your L hand lady
Promenade with the same L hand lady, who now becomes your new ptr.

Words: Circle left, do, oh, do, oh, circle L do, oh, do, oh,
Circle left, do, oh, do, oh, Shake them 'simmons down.

2. Circle right, do, oh, do, oh...

3. Balance all, do, oh, do, oh...

4. Round your partners, do, oh, do, oh...

5. Round your corners, do, oh, do, oh...

6. Promenade all, do, oh, do, oh...

Presented by: Vyts Beliajus