

DZUKU POLKA
(Lithuania)

Dzuku Polka (DZOO-koo POHL-ka) is a medley arranged by Vyts Beliajus using steps typical in the dances of Dzukija, a province in southern Lithuania. It was first exhibited in America on Lithuanian Day at the Century of Progress World's Fair of Chicago in 1933. Vyts presented it at the 1954 Folk Dance Camp at University of the Pacific, Stockton.

Music: Piano: The Dance of Lietuva, Clayton F. Summy, 1951.
Record: Folkraft 1129A "Dzuku Polka" 2/4 meter

Formation: Cpls facing LOD in cross-back-hold pos*.

Steps: Slide*, Leap*, Hop*, Lithuanian Polka: Hop R (upbeat of preceding meas ct &), Touch L (ct 1), hop R (ct &), small leap L keeping ft close to the floor (ct 2). Next step starts hopping L & touching R. The polkas should be done with ft close to the floor. The Lithuanian polka is the only type polka used in this dance.

Lithuanian Dance Position: Facing ptrs, M R around W waist, M L on W R upper arm, W L on M R shoulder, and W R on M L shoulder.

Note: M hds are on hips, or arms akimbo, W holds skirts unless otherwise specified.

*Described in Volumes of Dances from Near and Far published by Folk Dance Federation of California, 1095 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94103

Meas

Pattern

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INTRODUCTION

I. POLKA AND SLIDE

a. Polka Forward and Turn (Dzuku Sukinis)

- A 1-8 Starting with hop on inside ft, dance 8 polkas fwd LOD.
A 1-8 (rptd) Take 8 polkas turning CCW in place. Finish with backs to ctr of circle, W on M R.

b. Slide

- B 9-16 All join hds in a single circle facing out, slide 16 sliding steps RLOD, starting R.
B 9 (rptd) Release hds, take 2 slides twd ptr.
10 Step twd ptr (ct 1), touch outside ft (M L, W R) in front of inside ft and nod to ptr (ct 2).
11-12 Reversing ftwork, repeat slides and touch twd corner and nod.
13-16 Repeat action of b rptd, meas 9-12.

c. Polka with Ptr

- A 1-8 In Lithuanian dance pos, starting with hop on M R, W L, dance 8 polkas turning CW in place.

DZUKU POLKA (continued)CHORUS: HEEL-SLIDE (Noriu Miego)

- C 1 W hold skirts, go to the ctr and form an inner circle, M with hds on hips in outer circle, all face ctr.
Leap M R, W L and simultaneously extend heel fwd (M L, W R).
- 2 Leap M L, W R extending heel fwd (M R, W L).
- 3-4 W join hds, M hds on hips, take 4 slides M CCW, W CW.
- 5-8 Repeat action of Chorus meas 1-4 starting leap M L, W R and sliding M CW, W CCW.
- 9-16 Repeat action of Chorus meas 1-8.
- C 1-16 (rptd) Release hds, W hold skirt, turn 1/2 CW to face ptr. All repeat action of Chorus meas 1-16 both starting leap R and slide to R (M CCW, W CW).

II. POLKA, HEEL-TOE SLIDE, AND HOP STEPa. Polka and Heel-toe Slide (Kokietka)

- A 1-8 In Lithuanian dance pos dance 8 polkas turning CW while progressing CCW. Finish facing LOD, M behind W.
- A 1 (rptd) Join L out to side, R joined on W R hip, hop R simultaneously extend L heel fwd.
- 2 Hop R pointing L toe in front of R.
- 3-4 Take 4 slides twd ctr of circle, turn on last slide to face away from ctr, raise joined L hds curved high overhead, R remains on W hip, W finishes on M L.
- 5-8 Repeat action of Fig. II. A rptd, meas 1-4 reversing ftwork and direction of slides out of circle. Finish with M on inside circle back twd ctr, ptrs facing R hds joined.

b. Hop-Step and Turn (Mikita)

- B 9 Hop L raising R knee high (upbeat of preceding meas). Step R across in front of L (ct 1), hop R raising L knee high (ct &), step L across in front of R (ct 2).
- 10 Hop L extending R heel fwd (ct 1). Leap R placing L heel fwd (ct 2).
- 11-12 W turns twice CCW under joined R with 2 polkas while M polkas in place. Both start hop R and accent last polka step stamping 3 times.
- 13-16 Repeat action of Fig. II meas 9-12, reversing ftwork and with M turning twice CCW under joined R and W dancing in place.
- B 9-16 (rptd) Repeat action of Fig. II meas 9-16.

c. Heel-toe Slide (Kokietka)

- A 1-8 M behind W, all face out, join L out to side, R joined on W R hips. Repeat action of Fig. II, A rptd, meas 1-8, sliding first LOD then RLOD.

CHORUS: HEEL-SLIDE (Noriu Miego)

- C 1-16 Repeat entire action of Chorus, M dance W steps W dance
- 1-16 (rptd) M steps, M with hds on hips forming inner circle, W holding skirts on outer circle. Start leap M L, W R extending heel (M R W L) and sliding M CW, W CCW.

DZUKU POLKA (continued)III. POLKA FORWARD

- A 1-16 Double circle, cpls facing LOD in cross-back-hold pos,
dancing 16 polkas fwd starting with hop on the inside ft.

Presented by Vyts Beliajus