

Danish

HORNFIFFEN

This is sometimes done with partners starting on opposite feet, and also with alternating feet. However, in olden times it was usually done with either cross hand hold or in side hand hold, both beginning on left foot each time. This is somewhat simpler when first learning the hornpipe way.

RECORD: TANZ EP 58402

FORMATION: Couples stand side by side facing in Dance direction.

Meas. 1-8 Hornpipe step: Step L, place R foot behind.
Step again to L, place R foot forward and to side
Place L foot crossed behind. R, hop on it, swinging
R foot around behind L.
Come down with L foot in front and R foot crossed
behind it (hold)

Couples do 4 hornpipe steps to 8 measures of music
Meas. 1-8 4 more hornpipe steps (Usually the hornpipe steps are started on
Repeated the same foot, and each step is started
on this same foot, usually left.)

Meas. 9-16 Take partners in regular dance position and polka around the room.
(and repeat)

Danish

Danish Family Circle
(Familie Sextur)

Here's another mixer from the fun-loving Danes which occurs at every Festival and at most parties anywhere in the Scandinavian countries. If there is a Dane, Swede, or Norwegian in your group, ask him to teach everyone to count to seven in his language so everyone may call out the numbers while dancing - this is half the fun!

RECORD: TANZ EP 58402

FORMATION: Partners in a single circle, hands joined nearly shoulder high, all facing in. In a large group, have one circle within the other.

ACTION:

Measures 1-8 16 buzz-steps to the left. This step is done exactly like pushing a scooter down the street - the right foot forward as though on the scooter, and the left foot acting as the "pusher" behind. This introduction occurs only at the beginning of the dance. From here on this part of the music is used for the swing.

Measures 9-16 Starting on the right foot, everyone walks 4 steps to the center, and 4 steps back, counting, "1, 2, 3, 4; 1, 2, 3, 4." This is repeated in and out.

Measures 17-23 Partners face each other and take right hands for a grand right and left. Counting one's own partner as "one," take the hand of a new partner on the beginning of each measure (there are only 7 measures). Everyone counts loudly until he comes to the seventh person, then he stops, for this is the lucky number.

Measures 1-8 Swing (using the same buzz step on the right foot) in place with this new partner for 16 counts, ending all facing the center to begin the dance with 4 steps to the center.