

HRECHANIKI
(Buck Wheat Cake)
Ukrainian Square Dance

It seems that all dances no matter how traditional, when performed by ethnic groups, regardless of nationality, interpret that particular dance according to the whims of the leader of that group. The general pattern will be the same among all groups, but each demonstrating group adds a personality of their own to that dance. This is true of the Ukrainians, too, even when dancing such stables as Zhaporozhets, Katarina, Arkan, or others. This familiar Hrechaniki has added the seldom-used "grinding of the buckwheat" to its set of patterns which converts a dance of almost general participation to a nice demonstrational dance.

Source: V. F. Beliajus
Record: KISMET 107
Steps: Running pas de basque, rocking step, fling steps, toe & heel, pawing, shoupak, pazirok (or duck steps).
Partner hold; M-R H around ptr's waist, her LH on M R shoulder: L-R H over heads, M-L H on hip.

Meas: Pattern
8 Entrance & Formation
FIGURE 1
Choice #1: Cpl behind cpl Dance on with Ukrainian running PDB steps, reach corners to form a square.
Choice #2: Enter in two lines of two cpls in each (4 M), first 2 cpls turn about to face cpl behind them and separate into a square.
Elbow Swings:
8 Hook R elbows with ptrs, swing with 8 PDB steps
8 Hook L elbows and swing.
FIGURE 2
Girls With rocking steps (also called "cut step") Ct 1: Fall on RF; ct 2; kick RF with L, displace it and land on L - 1 M. 3 running steps, R, L, R, - 1 M. (2 M in all-4 such steps) to get to center of square.
Men At the same time all the men do a fling step in place.
Hop on LF with R toe behind L heel (ct 1)
Hop on LF and fling RF to R side (ct 2)
Hop on LF and fling RF in front of L knee (ct 1)
Hop on LF and fling RF frontward (ct 2)
With a quick change of wt to RF repeat above with reverse ftwork.
Girl's Mill
8 Girls join both Hs with the opp girl, forming a two-hand mill, move CW with pawing steps - Step L with RF and raise LF bent at knee (ct 1) Step on ball of LF and, at the same time raise RF (ct * &), continue 16 times.
8 Reverse above direction and step.
Men continue with above fling step in place.
Girls Return
8 Women return to ptrs (face) with heel-toe steps.
Hop on LF and at the same time extend R heel fwd, toes up (ct 1)
Hop on LF and at the same time extend R toes downward (ct 2)
Reverse above and continue until partners are met
Men: Continue with fling step.
Elbow Swings: As before, 8 M. with each elbow.

PatternFIGURE 3Men to Center

8 Do rocking (or cut) step, with greater emphasis. (Stamp down on RF, turning sharply R elbows to center of set, etc. Same sharp turn to Ctr when LF begins step.

Girls

At the same time the girls do the same type of step as the boys performed during the previous figure, but instead of flinging do toe-heel (4 cts - 2 meas per step: while hopping on LF place toe behind L, place heel to R of LF, place toe in front of LF, place heel in front of LF.

Men's Mill

8 M join R, dance 4 sets of Shoupaks moving CW (with a slight hop land downward on ball of feet and knees bent to sides ct 1, with a slight hop rise, extending RF fwd ct 2, continue with reverse kicking of feet.

8 M quickly around CCW and join a LH Mill, do 4 sets of Shoupak steps CCW.

Girls:

continue with their toe-heel steps.

8 M return to their partners with the same step they used to enter ctr, girls continue toe-heel step.

Elbow Swings

as above, 8 M. R elbows, 8 M L elbows.

FIGURE 4

Same pos as during entrance, all face ctr of square.

8 This is a different type of fling for entering ctr.

Both hop on LF and at the same time raise RF, M flex it in front of knee, women in front of shin near ankle (ct 1) Hop on LF and extend RF twd (ct 2) Run fwd 3 small steps, R, L, R, (1 meas, cts 1 & 2)

Reverse: 4 sets in all. Enter ctr until square is shoulder to shoulder

8 Women join hands into a basket behind men's backs, men also form a basket, back, above women's Hs. Do pawing steps moving CCW.

FIGURE 5

8 Join a quick wrist hold, held firmly, as men slip down, bodies erect, feet touching with opp M. Girls spin with basic running PDB steps CW as M move CW with small heel steps (4 to a meas)

8 With help from the women, jerk back to a circle in a squat position (do not rise), girls join Hs in a circle, Men spin around and place their L HS on W's joined Hs (M's own ptr in front of him"). W using basic step, dance CCW, M do either paziroks (kicking of feet alternately without rising) or, if paziroks are too hard, a duck step.

8 W reverse direction, moving CW, man change H hold, (now their ptr is behind them) do Paziroks CCW.

FINALE

8 M rise. Face ptrs. Place RHs around each other's waist, LHs up, curved above head, with 4 PDB steps sing each other in place CW. Change Hs and swing CCW.

16 Assume original entrance position, with the basic PDB step dance CCW for 8 M. Then, following one cpl, dance off the floor.