

KOKOTEK
(Poland)

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This is a dance for a set of two cpls, in 2/4 meter, known all over Upper Silesia in southwestern Poland, often under different names. This version comes from the area of Rybnik and Pszczyna, the name derives from the word kogut -- rooster. The music is comprised of three melodies, each in a different tempo.

Dance was introduced in the Fall of 1974 at a workshop with the Cornell University Folk Dancers by Ada and Jaś Dziewanowski, who learned it in Cieszyn, Poland, from a noted Silesian folklorist, Janina Marcinkowa.

Pronunciation: koh-KOH-tehk

Record: DR-7167 Tańce Śląskie (Polish Folk Dances from Silesia), side A, band 3. 2/4 meter

Starting Pos: Cpls in a circle (W on R of ptr) facing CCW: inside hands joined down, outside hands on own hips; two cpls work as a set only in Parts II and III.

Styling: Throughout the dance when hands are placed on hips, fingers are fwd and thumbs back.



Meas

Pattern

1-4 INTRODUCTION.

PART I. (Melody A: 8 meas played twice)

- 1 Cpls move in LOD around the circle: (ct 1) step fwd on R ft; (ct 2) close L ft to R ft.
- 2 Repeat action of meas 1.
- 3 Turning to face ptr, still holding inside hands: (ct 1) with a slight leap onto R ft in place, thrust L ft fwd with toes touching the floor (this step is called the "szkrobok" from the verb skrobać, to scrape, to scratch); (ct 2) repeat "szkrobok" thrusting R ft fwd.
- 4 (ct 1) "Szkrobok" thrusting L ft fwd; (ct 2) hold.
- 5-6 Hooking R elbow with ptr, L hand on own hip, with 8 light running steps, starting L ft, turn once CW.
- 7-8 Three "szkrobok's" as in meas 3-4, but this time start with a leap onto L ft and thrust R ft fwd, both hands on own hips.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8, except for meas 13-14 in which 2nd cpl of the set does one and a half CW turn putting the W on the inside of the circle.



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KOKOTEK (continued)PART II (Melody B, slow, 4 meas played twice)

1-4 Set of two cpls forms a R hand star: starting with R ft move CW with 16 smooth steps (2 per ct); L arms, raised overhead and slightly rounded, waving 8 times: "in" on ct 1 and "out" on ct 2 of each meas; on the last step turn inward to form a L hand star.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4, Part II, in opp direction, R arms waving now; on the last step close ft together and face ctr of the set.

PART III. (Melody C, fast, 8 meas played twice)

1-2 Hands on own hips, do three low jumps, keeping knees relaxed and ft together, moving twd the ctr of the set; on last jump W hold ct, bending knees lower, M jump higher and kick heels up in back, knees bent.

3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2, Part III, moving away from ctr of set.

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4, Part III.

9-10 With same three jumps and a hold (as W did in meas 1-2), Part III), do one solo CW turn in place. Styling point: ft should stay together, at the ct "hold" upper body turns slightly in the direction of the turn.

11-12 Repeat action of meas 9-10, Part III, in opp direction.

13-16 Repeat action of meas 9-12, Part III.

1-2 INTERLUDE: All get into the starting pos, second cpl changing places with ptr to put the W again on the outside of circle.

The dance is repeated from the beginning.

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Presented by Ada Dziewanowska