

Korobushka

(Russia)

Formation: Couples in a ring with partners facing. Man has back to center of Ring.

Part I

Join both hands with partner. Man moves fwd away from center with a schottische step (L, R, L hop) as Lady moves backwards away from center, with a schottische step (R, L, R hop).

Repeat all in opposite direction, this time Man goes backwards with a R, L, R hop and Lady forward with a L, R, L hop.

Repeat once more with Man going forward (L, R, L hop) Lady Backward (R, L, R hop). This makes for 3 schottische steps in all.

Now the Man steps back on R ft for count 1, points L toe to L side for count 2. Then brings L ft down beside R ft for count 3.

Lady does the same, but she steps forward on L ft, points R toe to R, then brings R ft down beside L ft.

Alternate easier ending, just take 3 stamps in place.

Part II

Drop joined hands. Move to own R around rim of circle with a schottische step . . . R, L, R, hop on R foot. Move to own L with a schottische step . . . L, R, L hop on L foot.

Give R hand to partner, holding L hand high overhead. Step-hop $\frac{1}{2}$ fwd towards partner, then step-hop away from partner. Change places with partner with 3 walking steps. Drop hands and repeat Part II once more in new position. At the end of Part II, you should be back in starting place.

The dance is usually done as a mixer (change partner dance). To do so, each dancer moves one place over to the Left to repeat dance with new partner. Men in order to make this change comfortable as they move to new partner try to do a R, L, step-hop R ft. This releases the L ft to start the dance a-new.

Note: This dance originated around the turn of the century in the United States when Russian immigrants composed the dance to an old Russian folk song. The dance later found its way back to Russia and has become a traditional folk dance there too. The word Korebushka means a sort of "pack" usually toted by a peddler. English Translations of the words are found in many folk song books.

Incidentally the description is the way the natives do the dance. In some American folk dance circles, a clap and twirl is added in the second part, which detracts from the beauty of the dance and the social character of the dance. We know Americans think the twirling and clapping adds "pazzaz" to the dance, but good dancers don't need to "jazz" it up. In the second part, use arms freely in air to give ethnic styling to dance. It is not necessary to change partners in this dance, but most folk dance circles do. Have fun!