

KOROBUSHKA — THE LITTLE BASKET

Russian

This is a popular Russian folk song of many generations. It relates the story of a peddler who describes the numerous articles for sale in his basket. Until the Bolshevik revolution the dance to this tune was popular throughout the Russian dominion as a well-loved ballroom dance. The description is as it was danced in Eastern Europe, as I have danced it and as the Russian emigres dance it.

RECORD: Kismet 106, Michael Herman 1059, Folkraft 1135

POSITION: Partners hold hands, crossed in front (skating position). Boy's R hand holds girl's R and L hand holds her L. Both face forward.

PART ONE:

Meas. 1-2: Beginning with the outside foot (boy L, girl R) walk three steps forward, pause and swing inside foot forward, pause and swing inside foot forward (on 2nd beat of Meas. 2).

Meas. 3-4: Same movig backward beginning with inside foot.

Meas. 5-6: Two polka steps forward.

Meas. 7-8: Point outside foot forward in front of the other foot (1), point outside foot directly to the side (2), close outside foot to inside clicking heels together (1), pause (2). Hop with each movement.

PART TWO:

Position: Hands on hips facing partner. Each dancer will move to his own right.

Meas. 9: Place R foot to the right (1), bring L foot to R (2).

Meas. 10: Step again with R foot to the right (1) and touch L foot (no weight) near R.

Meas. 11-12: Same as Meas. 9-10 beginning with L foot to left. Finish facing partners.

Meas. 13-14: Partners join R hand gracefully and change places with two slow walking steps.

Meas. 15-16: Partners facing, point front, side, together, as in Meas. 7-8.

Meas. 17-18: With hands on hips repeat Meas. 9-16, starting with the R foot to the right. Each dancer thus finishes in his original place. Join hands once more in skating position and repeat dance as often as desired.

NOTE