

Notes: All folk dance groups and many Ukrainian dancers when dancing (B) and (E) instead of drawing the foot back to the toe of the other foot, slide it far behind to the rear on the outside, bending the inside knee to produce an effect somewhat like a fencer's lunge.

Most of the young Ukrainian crowd (but not the Russian folk dance groups) manage to make at least two complete turns in (I) by using a ballet-type spin instead of a polka (two-step) turn.

Most folk dance groups, do a balance-away polka in the first two bars of (M) and two-step the last two bars only. This I seldom see at Ukrainian dances.

Korobushka

Music: Kismet Record #B106; Sonart Record M583

(The Sonart record is labeled "Gremlin Polka")

This dance, I am told by Russian musicians in New York, really originated among the Russians in this country; old steps fitted to an old tune to make a new dance. At any rate it is now done in Russia; and in this country it is a favorite at most Russian and Ukrainian gatherings.

Formation: Couples in facing lines, men in one line girls in the other. (As in the Virginia Reel.) Directions are for man, girl dances counter-part.

(A) Holding both hands with partner, and starting with the left foot, the man takes 3 walking steps forward, and on the fourth count hops on the left foot Bars 1-2

(B) Starting with right foot, man walks three steps backwards and hops on the right foot Bars 3-4

(C) Repeat (A) as above, but on the hop, the right foot is swung sideways to the right Bars 5-6

(D) Hop on the left foot, swinging the right foot to the left (in front of left foot); hop on the left foot, swinging the right foot sideways to the right; hop on the left foot, bringing the heels together Bars 7-8

(E) Men fold arms on chest, girls place hands on hips; all walk 3 steps to the right and swing left foot sideways in front of right, rising (not quite a hop) on right foot Bars 9-10

(F) Starting left foot, repeat to the left, swinging the right foot in front of the left Bars 11-12

(G) Joining right hands shoulder high, both starting with right foot, balance towards partner, pause, and balance back with left foot Bars 13-14

(H) Still with right hands joined, both starting with the right foot, step forward and change places with partner, the man turning the lady under his right arm as he does so, the couples end this facing partner, feet together, and in the opposite line Bars 15-16

(I) Repeat (E), (F), (G), (H) Bars 17-24

Notes: Exuberant individuals at Ukrainian dances often start substituting prysiadkas for the man's part in (A), (B), (C), (D); the girls continue the same routine with vast unconcern. Folk dance groups (that is, American groups that practice international folk dances) usually spin once around clockwise with 3 steps, moving towards the right, followed by the foot swing instead of just 3 steps to the side in (E) of the above; the return to partner is the same spin, but counter-clockwise. And such groups often clap in this part as the foot is swung; I have also seen quite a few Ukrainians doing this .