

CZECH MAZUR
(Czechoslovakia)

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Although this dance is called the Czech Mazur, it is an interesting combination of both mazurka and polka steps and is from the region of Silesia. Vonnie R. Brown learned the dance in 1979 from Dr. František Bonuš, Prague, Czechoslovakia.

RECORD: Tanz EP 56430 a Mazur

FORMATION: Cpls in a circle facing LOD in varsouvienne pos: W to R and slightly in front of M, hands joined at shldr height. W holds her hands about head height with palms fwd and elbows bent. M takes W L hand in his L and reaches behind W shldr to join R hand to R hand.

STEPS: Czech polka (L): Almost like our familiar two step, except with a slight hop on end. Step on L (ct 1); close R to L (ct &); step on L (ct 2); slight hop on L (ct &). Hop is more evident when cpl is doing a turning polka step in closed social dance pos as in Part III-A. Other places in the dance, when a polka step is called for, it will be helpful to think of it just as a "triple step" or L,R,L.

Czech polka (R): Reverse ftwk.

Mazurka (L): Step fwd on L (ct 1); step fwd on R (ct 2); hop on R (ct 3);. Step repeats with identical ftwk.

MUSIC 3/4, 2/4

PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION (3/4)

1-2 No action.

PART I-A: MAZUR (3/4)

- 1 In varsouvienne pos slight plié on R (ct &, preceding meas); walk three steps fwd in LOD L,R,L (cts 1-3).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk.
- 3 Move to reverse varsouvienne pos - W behind M on his L_i keeping hands joined and with three steps L,R,L, M leads W across in front of him so W ends on L side and behind M, both facing LOD. W makes one CCW turn under joined R arms to end with her R arm behind M shldr (cts 1-3).
- 4 Repeat meas 2.
- 5 Repeat meas 1.
- 6 Move to orig varsouvienne pos - W in front of M on his R_i keeping hands joined and with three steps R,L,R, M ducks under joined R hands and leads W across in front of him so W ends on R side and in front of M, both facing LOD. W makes one CW turn under joined R arms, L arms held low during turn (cts 1-3).

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- 7 In orig varsouvienne pos, cpl step L to L (ct 1); close R to L (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); touch ball of R ft fwd and W turns to look at M over her L shldr (ct 3).
- 8 Repeat meas 7 with opp ftwk but M moves behind W to R side, joined L arms held high, R arms low. W remains in front of M and looks at him over her R shldr.
- 9 Repeat meas 3 (Move to reverse varsouvienne pos) but on ct 3 touch L to R, no wt.
- 10 Repeat meas 7 in reverse varsouvienne pos.
- 11 Repeat meas 8 with W moving behind M to R side.
- 12 Move to orig varsouvienne pos: keeping both hands joined and with two steps L,R, M ducks under joined L arms and W makes one CCW turn under joined L arms to end in orig pos (cts 1,2); touch L to R, no wt (ct 3).

PART I-B: POLKA (2/4)

Note: the "roadmap" and turns under the joined arms in this part remain the same as in Part I-A, meas 7-12; however, the steps are changed to polka steps.

- 1 In orig varsouvienne pos, M and W do one polka step beg on L ft, W looking over her L shldr at M, R arms held high, L arms low (cts 1,&,2).
- 2 With one polka step beg on R ft, M moves behind W to R side and W looks over her R shldr at M, L arms held high, R arms low (cts 1,&,2).
- 3-4 Repeat Part I-A, meas 3 but do so in four steps, L,R,L,R, progressing slightly fwd in LOD.
- 5 Repeat Part I-A, meas 1 in reverse varsouvienne pos.
- 6 Repeat Part I-A, meas 2 with W moving behind M to R side.
- 7-8 Repeat Part I-A, meas 12 but do so in four steps L,R,L,R.
- 9-16 Repeat Part I-B, meas 1-8 but on meas 16 W makes only a 1/2 CW turn and ptrs end by releasing hands and facing each other about three ft apart, W facing RLOD, M facing LOD.

PART II-A: MAZUR (3/4)

- 1 Ptrs face with hands clasped behind back. Step L to L (ct 1); close R to L (ct &); step L to L (ct 2); point R toe fwd (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction.

- 3 W: Make one CW turn in two steps L,R (cts 1,2); touch L to R, no wt (ct 3).
- (3) M: Stamp L ft fwd, no wt (ct 1); clap hands at chest level twice (cts 2,3).
- 4-6 Repeat meas 1-3, except M and W put wt on L ft on final ct of meas 6.
- 7 Ptrs come together and assume closed social dance pos, R hips adjacent. Turning CW, step fwd on R (ct 1); step fwd on L (ct 2); close R to L (ct &); step fwd on L (ct 3).
- 8 Repeat meas 7.
- 9 Release closed social dance pos and M turn W once CW under joined hands (M L and W R). Step R,L (cts 1,2); touch R to L, no wt (ct 3).
- 10-12 Repeat meas 7-9 but on meas 12, step R,L,R, with wt, and W make 1 1/2 CW turn so ptrs end facing LOD in orig varsouvienne pos.

PART II-B: POLKA (2/4)

- 1 In orig varsouvienne pos, M and W move to L with one polka step beg L (cts 1,&,2).
- 2 Stamp R in place (ct 1); stamp L beside R, no wt (ct 2).
- 3 Touch L heel fwd to L twice (cts 1,2).
- 4 Stamp L,R,L and M moves to opp (R) side of W (cts 1,&,2).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 reversing ftwk and direction.
- 9-12 Repeat meas 1-4.
- 13-14 Repeat meas 5-6.
- 15-16 W turns 1/4 CW under joined L hands to end facing M or inside of circle, M faces outside of circle. Both M and W step R,L (cts 1,2); R and release hands (ct 1); hold (ct 2).

PART III-A: MAZUR (3/4)

- 1 Ptrs face about three ft apart, hands clasped behind back. Step L ft to L with accent (ct 1); close R to L (ct 2); hop on R and click L heel to R heel (ct 3).
- 2 Jump with ft apart (ct 1); jump closing ft together (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 3 Stamp L in place (ct 1); stamp R in place, no wt (ct 2); hold (ct 3).
- 4-6 Repeat meas 1-3 reversing ftwk and direction.
- 7-8 Ptrs hook R elbows and turn once around CW with two mazurka steps (L).
- 9 Ptrs release elbow hold. W steps L,R in place facing ptr (cts 1,2); hold (ct 3). M turns alone once CW with three steps L,R,L (cts 1-3).

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- 10 M: Drops onto R knee, L knee up and claps hands at chest level (ct 1); claps twice in kneeling pos (cts 2,3).
- (10) W: With hands clasped behind back W does one mazurka step (L) circling CCW around M (cts 1-3).
- 11 M claps three times in kneeling pos and W continues circling M with another mazurka step (cts 1-3).
- 12 M claps three times in kneeling pos and W continues circling M CCW with three steps, L,R,L (cts 1-3).

PART III-B: POLKA (2/4)

- 1-2 M stands up and both M and W do two polka steps, M beg L, W R. On second polka step assume a modified closed social dance pos: M R arm around W waist, W L arm on M R shldr; M places W R hand on his L hip with his L hand and holds it there as they polka.
- 3-7 Cpl turns CW in LOD with polka steps.
- 8 Cpl continues polka step but release closed dance pos with W ending in front of M facing him, M facing LOD.
- 9-16 M: Hands clasped behind back, eight step-hops fwd beg on L ft.
- (9-16) W: Hands clasped behind back, turn alone CW with 8 polka steps beg R, progressing in LOD. Make 1/2 turn on each step and keep eyes on ptr.
- 17-23 Repeat Part III-B, meas 1-7, turning polka in closed pos.
- 24 To end, cpl stops turning and M stamps R,L, with wt; W stamps L,R, with wt (cts 1,2).

* M variation for PART III-B, meas 9-16

- 9-10 Hands clasped behind back, two step-hops fwd in LOD, beg L.
- 11 Jump with ft apart and parallel (ct 1); click ft together in air (ct &); repeat cts 1,& (cts 2,&).
- 12 Repeat meas 11, cts 1,& (cts 1,&); land on R ft (ct 2).
- 13-16 Repeat meas 9-12.

Dance notation - Vonnie R. Brown

Presented by Vonnie R. Brown,
1981 Texas Thanksgiving Folk Dance Camp