

**PALOTÁS**  
(Hungary)

Palotás is a dance of high society; dance in the ballrooms of Hungary in the middle of the 19th C. It became "national" dance.

**MUSIC:** Hungarian Folk Dances, Vol I, Folkraft LP-28 B

**FORMATION:** W to M R. Inside arms extended at shoulder height. W L hand resting on M R. Outside hand placed, fingers fwd, on waist.

**STEPS and STYLING:** Palotás step: Step may move either to R or to L. Step sdwd R with an outward semi-circular arc-movement (ct 1). Step L across and behind R bending both knees and keeping a very upright body pos (ct 2). Step again sdwd R (ct 3). Close L to R (ct 4). *2 "jandz"*

Back-cross cifra variation step: M: Leap sdwd R (ct 1). Step L behind R (ct 2). Small jump on balls of ft (ft about 12" apart, heels 1/2" from floor), knees bend slightly, toes turned inward (ct 3). Close heels with a click (ct 4). Hold (ct 4).

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

Measures

1-8 INTRODUCTION: No action.

1 1. SLOW MUSIC

Begin R. Move fwd 3 stately walking steps (ct 1, 2, 3). On the 3rd step lift the L heel in back, knee bent. Brush ball of L fwd, pointing toe and turning ft outward slightly (ct 4). Outside hand remains on hip.

2-3 Repeat action of meas 1, Fig I, two times.

4 W: Hop on L extending R fwd, toe pointed (ct 1). Small leap back on R, extend L fwd (ct 2). Close L to R (ct 3). Hold (ct 4). This step is like a scissor step.

M: Step on L, turn R heel out and click R to L (ct 1). Click L to R (ct 2). Click R to L (ct 3). Hold (ct 4).

5-7 M lead W around in small CCW circle. W move fwd around M with action of meas 1-3, Fig I.

8 W turn CCW with 3 walking steps (LRL). Close R to L.

5-8 M: M stays in place while leading W around in CCW circle and dances action of meas 4, Fig I, 4 times.

9-11 Cpl move sdwd R with 3 Palotás steps.

12 Repeat action of meas 4, Fig I.

*Continued...*

*1, 2, 3 - bring (3x)*  
*5-7 (around M) CCW Turn*  
*9-11 (around M) CCW Turn*

Palotas - 2

13-16

M change W L hand to his L and leads her in small CCW circle.  
W: Repeat action of meas 5-8, Fig. I.  
M: Repeat action of meas 5-8, Fig I, making a complete turn CCW. M accompanies W in the turn. M R arm is behind W back, extended with hand palm upward, slightly above shoulder height.

17-22

Move in CCW circle with 6 Palotas steps. Begin W R, M L. Dance 'face to face' on steps 1, 3, 5, and 'back to back' on steps 2, 4, 6. Outside arms (W R, M L) move outward in a wide sweep from hip to a little above shoulder height (cts 1-4) on 'face to face' steps. Return to hip (ct 1) and remain there on 'back to back' steps. Inside joined hands sweep down and up in an arc to shoulder height on 'back to back' steps and return to extended arm pos (shoulder height) on 'face to face' step.

23

Dance 2 back cross-cifra steps. M (L, R). W (R, L).

24

Repeat action of meas 8, Fig I.

25

Inside hands joined, shoulder height. Move fwd. Begin M L, W R.

M: Walk L, R, L bending L knee on ct 3. Pivot on L, turning in twd ptr, changing hands and raising R ft 6" from floor (ct 4). W DOES COUNTERPART.

26-27

Repeat action of meas 25, Fig I, reversing ftwork and direction.

28

Move away from ptr with 4 walking steps, making a semi-circle. M moves outward CW. W CCW.

29-31

3 Palotas steps. Begin M R, W L. Move away from ptr, toward ptr, and away from ptr; on last ct (meas 31) close ft and take Turning shoulder-waist pos.

32

4 walking steps RLRL. Make 1 complete CW turn.

33

W: Move in small CW circle with 2 running steps (R, L) and 1 cifra step moving fwd (RLR).

34

Repeat action of meas 33, Fig I. Begin L.

35

Face M. Dance 2 back-crossing cifra steps (R, L)

36

3 walking steps (RLR) in small CW circle (ct 1,2,3). Close L to R (ct 4).

33

M: Step L across R and close R to L with heel click (ct 1, 2); take wt on R. Repeat action of meas 33 (ct 1, 2) for (ct 3, 4).

34

Step R across L. Hop on R and click L to R three times.

35

Cross L over R (ct 1). Hop and click both heels in air (ct 2). Land on L (ct 2). Repeat action of meas 35 (ct 1 & 2) reversing ftwork and direction.

36

Step on L. Make 1 complete turn CCW (ct 1). Go down onto R knee (ct 2). Hold, extending R hand, palm up, twd W (ct 3-4).

Continued...

*M+H*  
*and J turn*  
*CCW*  
*17-22*  
*face to face*  
*(6x)*  
*W turn CCW*  
*26-27*  
*reversing*  
*29-31*  
*3 Palotas*  
*33*  
*34*  
*35*  
*36*  
*33*  
*34*  
*35*  
*36*

Palotás - 3

37-40

W: Repeat action of meas 5-8, Fig. I.

37-39

M: Remain on knee. Lead W CCW around M.

40

Stand. Step fwd on L (ct 1-2). Close R to L (ct 3-4).

**FAST**

II. Inside hands joined and down. Outside hand on waist.

1-4

M: Does 4 back-cross cifra variation step.

W: Does counterpart of back-cross cifra variation step.

5-8

Both M and W. Begin R. Dance 4 back-cross cifra variation steps in Turning Shoulder-waist pos. except M L arm is extended 135° (between shoulder and high pos), and W holds skirt with L thumb and forefinger. ALL 4 back-cross cifra varia steps are done to the R, turning 1 complete CCW turn.

9

In turning shoulder-waist pos. Begin R. 4 walking steps (RLRL).

10

M turn W CW (2 complete turns) under L arm of M. M L, W R hand joined. W: 4 walking steps. M: stands in place.

11-12

Repeat action of meas 9-10, Fig II. On ct. 4 change joined hands.

13

Repeat action of meas 25-26, Fig I.

14

1 running cifra step fwd. Begin M L, W R.

15-16

1 running cifra step back to turning shoulder-waist pos. Begin M R, W L.

17-20

4 running cifra turning CW 2 complete turns.

4 back-cross cifra varia. steps. Begin M R, W R. Alternating direction.

21-23

12 walking steps CW. Make 3 complete turns. Begin R (M-W).

24

Repeat action of meas 10, Fig. II.

25-28

M kneels on R. M leads W around him CCW with 4 running cifra steps (R, L, R).

29

M stands and closes R to L. M turns W CCW with 1 L cifra step. M aids W on turn.

~~30~~

W close R to L (ct 1-2). Bow to ptr (ct 3-4, 1-4). Face ptr on bow. Inside hands joined and down.

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