

THE BRAID - Pletyonka
Slavic Circle Mixer

FORMATION -

Circle of couples.

STARTING POSITION -

Double circle, partners facing, Girls in INNER circle, backs to center. Boys' arms folded across in front of chest. Girls' hands on hips (knuckles on hips, wrists curved forward), elbows forward. Left foot free.

MEASURES

- 1 Hop on Right foot and touch LEFT TOE TO SIDE, toe turned in heel up. Look at partner over left shoulder (counts 1 and); Hop on Right foot and EXTEND LEFT FOOT FORWARD, turning to face partner (2 and).
- 2 Hop on Left foot and touch RIGHT TOE TO SIDE, toe turned in, heel up. Look at partner over right shoulder (1 and); Hop on Left foot and EXTEND RIGHT FOOT FORWARD, turning to partner (2 and).
- 3-4 REPEAT pattern of Measures 1-2.
- 5-8 RIGHT ELBOW SWING WITH PARTNER. Hook right elbows with partner, raising left hand high, and swing once and three-quarter times around, clockwise, with eight Running steps. Finish in a single circle, boys facing out, girls facing in, and keeping right elbows linked, hook left elbows with neighbor.
- 9-14 CIRCLE CLOCKWISE with six Two-steps or Polka steps OR twelve Running steps. Circle clockwise with all arms interlocked, turning body and toes in line of direction, looking over left shoulder at new partner.
- 15-16 LEFT ELBOW SWING TO PLACE. Release right arms and swing one-quarter way around with four steps to finish in original starting position facing new partner.

Repeat entire dance with new partner each time.

Dance Descriptions by OLGA KULBITSKY
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