

Swedish Schottische

(Sweden)

The Swedish Schottische is one of the most popular folk dances of this particular country. Like the schottisches of other nations, it uses two basic step pattern - the schottische and the step-hop in various combinations and designs. It is quite similar to the Norwegian Reinlendar in step pattern and style of execution with only slight variations in several of the figures comprising these two dances. The first figure in the Swedish Schottische has a whimsical sort of charm in that it begins with a bouncing walking step which develops into a more vigorous step-hop, indicative of a change of dynamics between the A and B parts of Figure I. The figures which follow are danced in a vigorous, spirited manner characteristic of this traditional dance form common to many countries.

Formation: Any number of couples in a double circle facing CCW in open social dance position, M on L of partner, outside hands on hips. M's part is analyzed, W's part is opposite with a reversal of feet and directions throughout.

Figure I

- 1-4 1 Beginning on outside feet (M L) (W R), couples move fwd around the circle with a step L.
 & Bounce lightly L (with a slight bending and straightening of the knee and ankle), swinging the free foot fwd.
 2&,1&, Repeat 7 times alternating R, L, R, L, etc.
 2&, etc.
- 5-8 Continue to progress fwd with 8 step-hops (L, R, L, R, etc.)

Figure II

- A
1 In closed social dance position, M's back twd center of circle, W dances to L side of M WHILE M dances in place with 1 schottische step.
2 W then returns to place WHILE M dances in place with 1 schottische step.
B
3-4 Couples turn CW while progressing CCW in large circle with 4 step-hops.
5-8 Repeat A and B.

Figure III

- A
1-2 Partners facing in single circle, R hands joined, L hands on hips, fingers to front, W moves bkwd, beginning R, WHILE M moves fwd, beginning L, with 2 schottische steps.
- B
3-4 Continuing to move in large CCW circle, W makes two CW turns under arch formed by joined R hands WHILE M continues to dance fwd with 4 step-hops.
5-8 Repeat A and B.

Figure IV

- 1-8 Repeat step patterns, analyzed for Figure III, with M folding arms across chest, elbows shoulder level, W holding skirts with both hands.

Figure V

- A
1-2 In open social dance position with outside hands on hips, facing CCW, beginning on outside feet (M L, W R), W progresses around Man in a CCW circle WHILE Man turn CCW in place with 2 schottische steps.
- B
3-4 Both move fwd with 4 step-hops.
5-8 Repeat A and B.

Figure VI

- A
1 1&, 2&, 1& Partners stand side by side, M to L of W, with arms crossed behind backs, both hands joined (M holds W's L hand -n his L, her R hand in his R). Beginning on outside feet, both move diagonally fwd L twd center of circle with 3 step-hops.
2 2 Touch inside heels to floor, toes up (M R, W L), bending slightly fwd to look at each other and shouting "Hey!"
& Hold.
- B
3-4 1&,2&, 1& Beginning on inside feet (M R, W L), couples move diagonally fwd R away from the center of the circle with 3 step-hops.
2 Touch outside heels fo floor (M L, W R).
& Hold.
5-8 Repeat A and B.

Figure VII

- A
1-2 Partners join R hands and M stamps L foot fwd to kneel on R knee, Remaining in this position, WHILE W (beginning R) dances around partner in a CCW circle with 2 schottische steps. On ct 2 of meas 2, M rocks weight back to R foot and assumes erect position.
- B
3-4 In open social dance position, outside hands on hips (M beginning L, W R), partners move fwd CCW around the circle with 4 step-hops.
5-8 Repeat A and B.

Figure VIII

- A
1 With M's arms folded across chest as in Figure IV and W holding skirt in both hands, partners begin on outside feet to dance diagonally fwd away from each other (M moving L twd center of circle, W R away from center of circle) with 1 schottische step.
2 1& Partners dance diagonally fwd twd each other (M moving R, W L) with 2 steps (M R, L, W L, R).
2 Stamp, facing partner (M R, W L).
& Hold.
- B
3-4 In shoulder-waist position (M beginning L, W R), partners make 2 turns CW while progressing CCW around the large circle with 4 step-hops.
5-8 Repeat A and B.

Figure IX

- A
1-2 Couples dance A as analyzed in Figure II.

B

3-4

In shoulder-waist position (M beginning L, Woman R), partners make two turns CW while progressing CCW around the large circle with 4 step-hops.

5-8

Repeat A and B, making one CW turn with two step-hops and substituting a toss-up of the W for the last two step-hops. W helps to gain elevation by bending knees and pressing down upon M's shoulders, straightening her arms as he lifts her into the air (ct 1&). W lands in position on R of M (ct 2).