

SZPACYR POLKA [SHPAH-tsihr POHL-kah] from the Region of Cieszyn
(in 2/4 meter)

Cpls around a circle, with ptrs in closed ballroom pos, but standing side by side and both facing LOD, outside hands joined, with arms extended in LOD, at chest level.

PATTERN

Measures

INTRODUCTION

1-2 No action.

I. WALK AND DANCE SMALL TURNS IN PLACE, WALK AND PIVOT (16 meas of Mel A and 16 meas of Mel B)

Mel A

1-2

Beg M-L and W-R ft, walk 4 energetic steps in LOD (1 per ct).

3

Retaining the closed dance pos, with 3 small flat accented steps dance in place: M (LRL) a 1/8 CCW turn bringing ptr in front of you, and W (RLR) a 1/4 CCW turn moving along a small semicircle to face partner (cts 1, &, 2); hold (ct &).

4

Repeat action of meas 3 with opp ftwk and dir of the turn, returning to the starting pos.

5-6

Repeat action of meas 1-2 (4 walking steps in LOD).

7-8

Retaining the closed dance pos but now facing each other, M: beg with L ft and stepping bkwd in LOD, and W: beg with R ft and stepping fwd in LOD, with 4 smooth, swift steps dance tog 1 CW pivot turn, while moving in LOD at the same time.

9-16

Repeat the entire pattern of the preceding meas 1-8 of Mel A.

Mel B

1-16

Repeat action of meas 1-16 of Mel A (it will be 4 sets of the "entire pattern," in all).

Mel C

II. SWING AWAY AND TOWARD PARTNER AND PIVOT (16 meas of Mel C)

1

Release hold of ptr and face LOD and with a sideways step-tog-step energetically move, M: twd the ctr (LRL) and W: away from the ctr (RLR); at the same time, as if to add momentum to the movement, swing both arms M: from R to L, and W: from L to R (cts 1, &, 2); hold (ct &).

2

Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig II) with opp ftwk and dir of the arms' swing (move: M-RLR away from ctr, W-LRL twd ctr).

3-4

Facing each other, M: put R arm around ptr's waist and L hand on her R shldr blade, and W: place L hand on ptr's R upper arm and R hand on the upper part of his L shldr blade and in this firm hold, staying, however, not too close to each other, with 4 smooth swift steps (1 per ct; M beg L, W beg R ft) dance 2 full CW pivot turns while moving in LOD.

5-16

Repeat the entire pattern of meas 1-4 (Fig II) three more times (it will be 4 sets of the "entire pattern," in all).

Repeat the entire dance from the beginning.

Dance taught at the 1995 Memorial Day Buffalo Gap Camp by Ada and Jaś Dziewanowski, who learned it from Zofia Marcinek from Cieszyn, Poland. Music is available on a cassette from Ada.

*Favourite Polish dances
presented by Ada & Jaś Dziewanowski*