

Veseni khorovod

(Russia)

Veseni khorovod, translated as “springtime round dance,” shows a typical braiding pattern but is not a traditional dance. It is an example of late 19th century interpretation of much older round dance forms.

Pronunciation: vyeh-SYEH-nee hoh-roh-VOHD

Cassette: Russian Dances Stockton 1994 4/4 meter

Formation: Circle of dancers (about 10 or 11), hands joined in V-pos. One dancer is designated as leader (#1). Dancer #2 is to the L of leader (CW).

Steps: Basic Pattern: Moving in desired direction, step on R (ct 1); step on L (ct 2); step on R (cts 3-4) (Q,Q,S). Step repeats with opp ftwk. This Basic Pattern continues throughout the dance. When traveling, the Basic pattern moves fwd; when dancing in place, the Basic Pattern moves side to side with very small steps.
Dance repeats with a new leader each time—the dancer to the L of the previous leader.

Meas

Pattern

8 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. CIRCLING AND ARCHING

24 meas Circle CCW using Basic Pattern for 1 or 2 meas. Leader release R hand from last dancer and put on own R hip.

Leader lead line through an arch made by the last and the 2nd to the last dancer. Leader continue to lead line in a CCW direction. As the 3rd-to-last dancer goes through the arch, the 2nd-to-last dancer step in front of last dancer to face, lowering joined hands to waist level. Standing dancers dance Basic Pattern with very small steps side to side.

Repeat arches, leader going through arch formed by 3rd-to-last and 4th-to-last dancers. At end, 4th-to last dancer step to face 3rd-to-last dancer.

Continue arching until all have arched except last few dancers. If there is an uneven number of dancers, the last arch is made by dancers #2 and #3 (counting leader as #1). Leader go through this arch and stand by dancer #3.

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1	3	5	7	9	11
2	4	6	8	10	

If there is an even number of dancers, the last arch is made by dancers #3 and #4. Leader go through this arch and stand by dancer #3, facing dancer #2.

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2	4	6	8	10
1	3	5	7	9

All continue dancing side to side until end of the 24-meas phrase.

Veseni khorovod – continued

II. UNWINDING

- 8 meas All raise joined hands and leader lead line through the “tunnel” and moving CCW reform original circle, joining hands with last dancer. Circle for 1-2 meas and new leader release R hand from L of neighbor (old leader) to start arches again.
- 64 meas REPEAT Fig I and II twice more (total of 3 times).

III. ENDING

- 16 meas Leaders lead CCW forming one large circle, all hands joined. Dance Basic Pattern CCW. On last meas, face ctr and bow from waist.

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