

## Avant-Deux des Touches

(Bretagne, France)

Avant-Deux des Touches (ah-vahn-DOO day TOOSH) is from the Nantes area. Germain and Louise Hébert learned the dance from Huguette Bochez and also saw it danced by Triskell in Montreal. Germain taught it at the 1997 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp at Stockton, California. The dance uses the same music as Avant-Deux de Travers.

Cassette: "Si on dansait" French Dances Side B/3. 2/4 meter

Formation: Line of cpls facing a line of cpls, 2 meters (7 ft) between the lines. When hands are free, W hold skirts and M put back of hands on waist or tuck a thumb into an armhole of his vest.

Head of Hall WM WM WM WM WM (W's line)  
MW MW MW MW MW (M's line)

Steps: Chassé (2 to a meas): Slide the ball of ft in desired direction, taking wt (ct 1); close other ft to supporting ft, taking wt (ct &); repeat exactly (cts 2,&).

Buzz Step (2 to a meas): Step on the designated ft, bending the knee (ct 1); step on the ball of the other ft near the heel of that ft (ct &); repeat exactly (cts 2,&).

Basic Pattern (1 to 2 meas): To the L: Touch ball of L ft on floor in front of R (ct 1); beg with L ft, chassé 2 steps to L side (cts 2,&,1,&); step on L ft to L side (ct 2); hold (ct &). To the R: Opp ftwk and direction from Basic Step to L (Touch R ft and beg with R ft, chassé to R side.)

\* Described in *Steps & Styling* published by Folk Dance Federation of CA., Inc.

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Measures	2/4 meter	PATTERN
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8 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. CHASSÉS LATÉRAUX (shah-SAY lah-teh-ROH)

1-2 All the M in the M's line and all the W in the W's line dance 1 Basic Pattern to M L, W R (twd head of hall). On the 1st chassé, move a little diag fwd so as to slide in front of the inactive dancers.

3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction

5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

II. PIVOTS ET CHASSÉS

- Same dancers as were active in Fig I.
- 1-2 M, beg L, dance one Basic Pattern and on the chassé steps buzz turn in place once to own L (CCW). W use opp ftwk and buzz turn in place once to own R (CW).
- 3-4 Beg M R, W L dance 1 Basic Pattern moving twd foot of hall on the chassé steps.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 3-4 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 7-8 Beg M R, W L repeat meas 1-2 but turn only 1/2 (W CCW, M CW) on the buzz turn so as to end facing ptr.

III. PIVOTS

- All dancers are active.
- 1-8 In shldr-waist pos\* with ptr, both beg R ft and dance 16 buzz steps turning CW. On the last of the buzz steps release M L, W R hands and take open-ballroom pos\*, ending in 2 lines facing each other as in Fig I.

IV. AVANT-DEUX

- 1-2 All beg with outside ft (M L, W R). Dance 1 Basic Pattern moving fwd twd other line on the chassé steps.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 but begin with the inside ft and move bkwd to place on the chassé steps.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.

SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written. On the first repeat, the M in the W's line and the W in the M's line dance Fig I and Fig II. Ftwk remains the same but the chassés move twd the foot of the hall on Fig I, meas 1-2 and twd the head on meas 3-4. As before, all the dancers are active during Fig III and IV. This recording has enough music to dance 3 complete sequences (Introduction plus 6 times 32 meas).