

AZUL CIELO

(Mexico)

Azul Cielo (ah-SOOL see-AY-loh) is a Mexican Schottische from Northern Mexico. It was presented at the 1976 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp in Stockton, California by Sra Alura Flores de Angeles of the University of Mexico. As with many currently popular folk dances performed in their indigenous setting, the dance is done differently in different locations. Another version of this dance (using the same music) was introduced by Al Pill in 1966.

MUSIC: Record: RCA Victor 75-9624, Express Azul Cielo

FORMATION: Couples in closed position with M with back to center of the hall and facing ptr.

STEPS: Walk*, Grapevine*, Step-hop*.

STYLING: The dance should be performed utilizing typical Mexican styling including rocking shoulder movements and exaggerated knee and ankle movements. Directions are described for the M, W does counterpart.

*Described in Volumes of Folk Dances from Near and Far, Published by Folk Dance Federation of California, Inc., Hayward, CA.

MUSIC 4/4

PATTERN

Measures

4 meas INTRODUCTION No action.

I. GRAPEVINE

A 1 Move to M L (LOD). Step to L on L ft (cts 1-2) (slow step); step on R ft across behind L (cts 3-4) (slow step).

2 Step to L on L ft (ct 1) (quick step); step on R ft across in front of L (ct 2) (quick step); step to L on L ft (cts 3-4) (slow step).

3 Step on R ft behind L (cts 1-2) (slow step); step on L ft to L (cts 3-4) (slow step).

4 Step on R ft across in front of L (ct 1) (quick step); step on L ft to L (ct 2) (quick step); stamp R ft beside L (cts 3-4) (slow step).

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 with opp ftwk in opp direction.

9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.

II. STEP-HOPS

B 1 Assuming Butterfly pos (opposite hands joined and held out to sides at shldr level), M step-hop in place on L ft (cts 1-2); step-hop on R ft (cts 3-4). Turn CW on step-hops, as much as M desires.

2-3 Repeat action of meas 1 (Fig II) two more times.

4 Stamp L, R, L (cts 1, 2, 3); hold (ct 4).

5-8 Repeat action of meas 1-4 (Fig II) but using opp ftwk and turning in opp direction.

9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig II) and end in Butterfly Pos but both facing LOD.

III. HEEL AND TOE

B 1 Keeping leading hands low, place L heel fwd with toe pointed LOD (cts 1-2); place L toe across R ft with heel pointing RLOD (cts 3-4).

2 Walk LOD, L, R, L (cts 1, 2, 3); hold (ct 4).

- 3 Place R heel fwd with toe pointed LOD (cts 1-2); place R toe back with heel pointing RLOD (cts 3-4).
- 4 Walk LOD, R, L, R (cts 1, 2, 3); swing L ft around twd ptr, face RLOD, lower hands pointing RLOD (ct 4).
- 5-6 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (Fig III) in opp direction but do not cross R ft with L on meas 5 (cts 3-4).
- 7-8 Repeat action of meas 3-4 (Fig III) in opp direction but cross L ft with R on meas 7 (cts 3-4).
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig III) but end in closed dance pos.

IV. GRAPEVINE

- A 1-16 Repeat action of Fig I but end with both hands joined straight across, arms extended downward.

V. ROCKING STEP

- C 1 Step L behind R ft (ct 1); hop on L (ct 2); step R behind L (ct 3); hop on R (ct 4).
Note: It will be necessary to move fwd slightly on the hops in order to avoid moving away from ptr.
- 2 Step L behind R ft (ct 1); rock fwd on R (ct 2); rock bkwd on L (ct 3); hold (ct 4).
- 3-4 Repeat action of meas 1-2 (fig V) using opp ftwk.
- 5 Holding hands twd LOD low, slide in LOD with L ft (ct 1); close R to L ft (ct 2); repeat action of cts 1-2 (cts 3-4).
- 6 Slide in LOD with L ft (ct 1); lower trailing hands, turn to face RLOD and stamp R ft beside L (ct 2); stamp R beside L (ct 3); hold (ct 4).
- 7-8 Repeat action of meas 5-6 (fig V) using opp ftwk and direction.
- 9-32 Repeat action of meas 1-8 (Fig V) 3 times, 4 times in all.

VI. GRAPEVINE

- A 1-16 Repeat action of Fig I.