

Bohemian Mazurka (Czech Republic)

Bohemian Mazurka is a couple dance composed of patterns well-known over all of Bohemia and northern Moravia. The waltz part of the dance (Fig. IV) is known as "minuet" or "minet." Bill and Louise Lidicker learned this dance from Radomil Rejšek and Eva Rejšková in Benešov, Czech Republic, July 1996. They taught it at a workshop for the Berkeley Folk Dancers (Feb. 1998), at an institute in Taiwan (March 1998), and at the Peninsula Heritage Festival (January 1999).

Cassette: Dvorana 1996 workshop cassette (Side A/6; "Mazurka"); Dvorana 1998 workshop cassette (Side A/8). 3/4 meter

Formation: Couples in Varsouvienne pos, facing LOD (CCW)

Steps and Styling: Waltz*, Varsouvienne pos*.

Semi-open pos: cpls in ballroom hold, but facing fwd in LOD.
Except for Fig. II, the style is lyrical and flowing.

*Described in the "General Glossary" of *Steps & Styling* (rev. 1996), published by the Folk Dance Federation of CA, Inc.

Measures	3/4 meter	PATTERN
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INTRODUCTION: None (dancers can start with meas 3 if desired)

I. SIDE STEPS AND PEEKS AT PARTNER

- 1-4 Beg L ft move diag fwd L and sway moderately: step to L on L (cts 1-2), close R to L taking wt (ct 3); repeat ftwk of meas 1 but don't take wt on on R (meas 2). W move gradually to M L side and on last ct peek at ptr over R shldr. Repeat meas 1-2 moving diag fwd R with opp ftwk.
- 5-6 With 3 steps (L,R,L) in place M move joined R hands above W head in a CCW arc turning W so she looks at ptr over L shldr. Repeat with opp ftwk (R,L,R), L arm moving fwd in arc and W look over R shldr at ptr.
- 7-8 Drop L hands, M turn W to her R (CCW) with joined R hands, both dancing 6 small steps (1 to a ct), and end in Varsouvienne pos facing LOD as in meas 1.
- 9-12 Again move diag fwd L twd ctr, step L to L with a slight emphasis (ct 1), close R to L taking wt (ct &), step L to L (ct 2), step on R across in front of L (ct 3). Step on L to L (ct 1), step on R next to L (ct 2), step on L in place (ct 3). Repeat meas 9-10 diag fwd to R with opp ftwk.
- 13-16 Repeat meas. 5-8, but end facing LOD in Semi-open pos (W turn to R 3/4 turn on meas 16).

II. CZECH MAZURKA

Stamps in this Fig all take wt.

- 1 Move strongly in LOD, stamp outside foot (M L, W R) fwd, bending slightly fwd (ct 1), straightening up close trailing ft (M R, W L) near heel of leading foot (ct 2), hop on closing foot while bending knee and lifting lead foot in front, toe down (ct 3).
- 2-3 Repeat meas 1 twice.

- 4 Beg M L, W R, stamp three times turning twd ptr to face RLOD (CW).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and moving in RLOD., M L and W R hands are joined and held up behind. On stamps of meas 8, turn as a cpl to face ctr.
- 9-12 Repeat meas 1-4 moving twd ctr of circle. On the stamps of meas 12, turn twd ptr to face out of ctr.
- 13-16 Repeat ftwk of meas 5-8, moving away from center. On the stamps of meas 16, M turn W with L arm (1/4 or 1 1/4 turns) , and switch hands to end in Varsouvienne pos facing LOD.

III. SIDE STEPS AND PEEKS

- 1-8 Repeat Fig. I meas 1-8, except end with partners facing, M with back to ctr and R hands joined (W turn at end is 3/4 turn).

IV. MINET

Ptrs hold R hands throughout this Fig.

- 1-4 Both starting with R foot, waltz twd ptr (meas. 1) and back (meas. 2), pass to R of ptr. (passing L shoulders) under joined R hands, looking at ptr. (meas. 3), both turn over R shoulder to face ptr. on opposite side (meas. 4). W L hand is on her waist and M L hand is held behind his back.
- 5-8 Repeat meas. 1-4, returning to original side.
- 9-16 Arch R arms high to form "window" with L hands behind ptrs back, dance 7 turning waltz steps (M starting with L, W with R). Swing free foot out in graceful arc and bend bodies slightly away from arcing foot. On meas. 16, M turn W with R arm so ptrs face each other (M on inside facing out).
- 17-24 Repeat meas 1-8.
- 25-32 Join in same pos as in meas 9-16. Dance turning waltz with arcing free ft (meas 25); M turn W CW (meas 26) as she moves a little fwd and to right out of circle; meanwhile M move fwd with 3 steps (R,L,R) to regain starting waltz pos next to ptr. Repeat 3 more times (meas 27-32). End sequence in Varsouvienne pos facing LOD.

V. FINALE

Ptrs hold both hands throughout this Fig.

- 1-4 Repeat Fig I, meas 1-4.
- 5-8 M step in place while leading W in front, around and behind (steps 1-8), turn W CCW into Varsouvienne pos on his R side (steps 9-10); both emphasize steps 11 and 12 (meas 8, cts 2, 3) while facing LOD.
- 9-16 Repeat meas 1-8 except on steps 9-10 (meas 15, ct 3, meas 16, ct 1) turn W CCW (1 1/4 turns) to face ptr (M turn 1/4 to R), and acknowledge with two emphatic steps (steps 11-12).